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The Canadian Jewish news

56 Pages | Thursday, May 1, 1997 | Nisan 24, 5757 | 75c

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Anglican archdeacon urges Christians and Jews to unite against racism. **Page 3**

New Sun editor Lorrie Goldstein forsees few changes to Toronto daily. **Page 14**

On Campus

Yom Hashoah commemorated at Western. **Page 24**

Arts

English comedian Bernard Mendelovitch proves there's more to the act than one-liners. **Page 34**

Documentary on Israeli soccer team is a nail-biting experience. **Page 41**

Sports

Canada's Maccabi water polo team stands a good chance at winning medal. **Page 54**

Index

Greater Toronto Area 3
Yiddish Column 6
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 20
On Campus 24
Coast to Coast 31
International 37
Travel, Arts & Business 41
CJ Kids 48
Health 50
Classified 51
Sports 54
Crossword 55
Dear Susan 55

Shabbat: Achare-Mot
Candlelighting: 8:01
Nisan 25, 5757
Havdalah: 9:06

Jerusalem: the symbol

By GERALD M. STEINBERG
Special to The CJN

To understand the events taking place in the Middle East today, one must understand the history and symbolic importance of Jerusalem to both Jews and Arabs. However, while the Arab perspective is presented in the media repeatedly and in detail, remarkably few people know about the intense Jewish attachment to this ancient city. The result is a one-sided view, which cannot account for the Israeli insistence on maintaining sovereign control of an undivided city.

The Jewish involvement began 3,000 years ago when King David founded Jerusalem as his capital. For most of the first thousand years, the Holy City was the centre of Jewish life and culture. The First and Second Temples were the focus of religious and political activity for generations, and prophets and other leaders, including Jesus, came to Jerusalem to preach.

Commentary

The destruction of the Second Temple in the year 70 CE marked the end of Jewish sovereignty over Jerusalem, but for the next 2,000 years, Jews prayed for the restoration of Jerusalem three times daily. On Passover, Jews around the world ended their seders with the hope for "next year in Jerusalem."

Throughout the centuries of exile and persecution, Jews trickled steadily back to Jerusalem, always maintaining a presence and often constituting the majority of the city's population.

With the end of Ottoman rule and the establishment of the League of Nations' mandate over Palestine, the ancient Jewish dream of a return to the "city of peace" seemed to have been answered, but this proved

Continued on page 40

SEEKING A MORE DIRECT CONNECTION
During Chol Hamoed, a man pauses during his prayers at the Western Wall to receive a call on his cellular phone. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Mimouna without the mangal

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The aroma of charred meat that has permeated the official Mimouna celebrations in the past will be absent this year, according to Shalom Amoyal, chair of Beyahad, the organizer of the event.

The Mimouna, marked on the evening and day following the last day of Pesach, is a Moroccan Jewish tradition. In Morocco, families would open their homes to Jewish and Muslim guests in the evening and then go out to celebrate in nature on the following day.

However, Amoyal said, the mangal, or barbecue grill, is an Israeli development which does not reflect the traditional spirit of the holiday.

He is especially unhappy about media reports which depict Mimouna celebrations as featuring grilling meat or dancing women.

"We wanted to make a revolutionary change," Amoyal said.

Thus, this year, instead of the free-flowing celebration that has been held in the past in Jerusalem's Sacher Park, there was a restrained gathering Tuesday afternoon in Safra Square, adjoining the Jerusalem Municipality, with seats for 3,000 participants and standing room for another 15,000. Booths represented 10 ethnic groups, including Ethiopians, Georgians, Persians and Yemenites.

Continued on page 39

The Mimouna is a happy, festive celebration, usually accompanied with music and hospitality as seen in this traditional Mimouna setting. *[IPPA/file photo]*

INSIDE

Reporting on the Jewish Film Festival. Please see page 41.

Don't miss an issue. Call 416-391-1836 today to have The Canadian Jewish News

A look at the Baba Sali — please

The News in Brief

ISRAEL

Encyclopedia Judaica

JERUSALEM — The 26-volume *Encyclopedia Judaica* is now available on CD-ROM.

The disk, made available last week, contains all 25,000 entries and 15 million words from the original printed version, along with new multimedia tools. It contains more than 100 video clips, as well as music clips of traditional Jewish songs.

Who's Who in Health

JERUSALEM — The first-ever national directory on health and medicine was recently published by a commercial company. The 600-page directory includes listings of a large variety of individuals and organizations in the field, from hospitals and clinics to doctors and health insurance companies.

The guide, which has the support of the Health Ministry, is being published by the Silver Screen company in Tel Aviv.

Drink to Your Health

JERUSALEM — Grapefruit juice was recently suspected by the British press of causing death in rare cases when taken with certain drugs for hypertension, allergies and heart disease. Now, however, it has been found that drinking that juice can have a welcome advantage: it increases the concentration of the anti-rejection drug, cyclosporine, in the blood.

WORLD

Mission: Possible

ATLANTA — Mission: Possible is the theme of the 1997 annual conference of the Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies, scheduled for May 4 to 6. This year the conference will coincide with the organization's 25th anniversary. The gathering will bring together over 350 lay and professional leaders in the Jewish human service field from across Canada and the United States.

NIF Deplores Vote

WASHINGTON — The New Israel Fund has deplored the recent measures in Israel that would give official sanction to a rising tide of religious intolerance.

The fund announced an initiative that will reinforce its support for non-governmental organizations in Israel working to promote religious freedom. It will also seek to mobilize American Jewry to influence the Israeli government to resist pressure from those who would delegitimize non-Orthodox forms of Judaism.

Cantors Assembly Jubilee

CHICAGO — New melodies for the prayers and rituals that will shape the role of the modern synagogue in the 21st century will highlight the 50th annual convention of the Cantors Assembly to be held here from May 25 to 29.

Award for Bronfman

NEW YORK — Philanthropist Charles Bronfman received the first ever V'shinantam l'vanechah (Teach Them Faithfully to Your Children) award from the North American Alliance for Jewish Youth (NAA) for his commitment to Israel experience programming for Jewish youth.

He received the award at the NAA's debut conference on Informal Jewish Education. The event was attended by 200 professionals in the field of informal Jewish education from across North America.

Holocaust Memorial

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's Catholic church recently honored the memory of the victims of the Holocaust and of anti-Semitic terror bombings in Buenos Aires.

In what church officials described as an unheard-of gesture, the Cardinal Primate of Argentina, Antonio Quarracino, unveiled a Holocaust memorial in one of the chapels of the National Cathedral.

WORLD WIDE WEB

Israeli News on Web

LONDON — The Israel Information Office, operating under the aegis of the Embassy of Israel in London, has just established a Web site on the Internet with links to current news. The site address is: [http://www.isrinfo.demon.co.uk].

Midrash on the Web

NEW YORK — The Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion is offering a Midrash Bibliography, accessible at [http://www.huc.edu/resources].

Yom Hashoah on the Web

JERUSALEM — Callers from around the world will be able to share Holocaust-related experiences and emotions in a special Internet chat room on May 4, the eve of Yom Hashoah. The chat room [http://www.virtual.co.il] will be operated from 5-6:30 p.m. Israel time (10-11:30 a.m. EST) by AMCAA.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday April 28, 1972

EGYPT 'AWASH' IN USSR AID

"A steady stream of Soviet weapons has turned Egypt into one of the world's most formidable anti-aircraft defence zones," according to *U.S. News and World Report*.

The magazine said more than 15,000 Soviet troops are in Egypt, manning missile sites and instructing Egyptians. It said more than 100 Soviet pilots are in Egypt to protect Russian bases, and some fly the highly advanced MIG-23, a plane rarely seen outside Russia.

UJA DRIVE GOES OVER $5 MILLION MARK

The 1972 United Jewish Appeal-Israel Special Fund campaign total sailed well past the $5 million mark this week as the result of an intensive post-Passover campaign involving all divisions.

Synagogues and organizations have been especially active, many of them holding special UJA fundraising functions.

About 50 percent of last year's contributors have already pledged for 1972, many with substantial increases.

"Considering the number of prospects still to be covered," campaign chair Phil Granovsky said, "it seems likely that we can attain our goal of $10,200,000 to help save Soviet Jewry."

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,593 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement April 30, 1996.

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

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Christians urged to unite with Jews in fighting racism

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "Too many words have been spoken and now is the time for silence, for working with the Jewish people and listening to their stories, and the key word is listen," says Archdeacon James Boyles, General Secretary, Anglican Church of Canada.

He spoke at the 17th annual Christian Service in memory of the Holocaust held recently at Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church. Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall took part.

"We can't live in isolation," said Archdeacon Boyles. "We must reach out, not to convert, but to work together. My plea to the Jewish people is to continue to share with us your stories, of faith and of the Holocaust. Though 50 years have passed, we remember."

Each bearing a lighted candle, the large congregation of Christians and Jews walked behind the processional to honor the memory of six million Jews who died in the Holocaust.

"Racism in its many forms continues to thrive in today's world," read a message to the congregation from the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto (CJDT), sponsors of the service. "If we have learned anything from the Holocaust it is that humankind must never again observe the silence of cowardice and complicity."

The theme of the hour-long service was from Psalm 62.1: For God Alone My Soul in Silence Waits.

The service included an excerpt from the book *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, 1994, by Pope John Paul II in which he condemns the anti-Semitism he saw during the Nazi occupation of his Polish homeland.

"Then came the Second World War with its concentration camps and systematic extermination," read the excerpt. "First and foremost, the sons and daughters of the Jewish nation were condemned for no other reason than they were Jewish. Even if only indirectly, whoever lived in Poland at that time came into contact with this reality. Therefore, this was also a personal experience of mine, an experience I carry with me even today.

"Auschwitz, perhaps the most meaningful symbol of the Holocaust of the Jewish people, shows to what lengths a system constructed on principles of racial hatred and greed for power can go. To this day, Auschwitz does not cease to admonish, reminding us that anti-Semitism is a great sin against humanity, that all racial hatred inevitably leads to the trampling of human dignity."

Cantor Ron Graner sang *Oyfn veg shteyt a boym* in Yiddish and recited K'El Maleh Rachamin while the mourner's Kaddish was recited by Rabbi Lawrence Pinsker, Congregation Darchei Noam.

Those called forward to light the candelabrum designed by David Hart of Holy Blossom Temple were: Judy Cohen, survivor; Lillian Schacter, hidden child; Sientje Scholten, child of righteous Gentiles; Father Paul McGill, CJDT board; Ashley Fisch and David Warde-Farley, Jewish and Christian youth; Joanna Wilson, Holocaust Remembrance Committee, CJDT, and Peter Silverman, former resistance fighter.

Readers during the service were Mayor Hall, Michael Herman, chair, Holocaust Remembrance Committee, UJA Federation; Dirk McLean, Holy Rosary Catholic Church; and Eleanor Getzler, past chair of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee, UJA Federation.

MURAL TO BE UNVEILED

A section of *Under the Wings of God and the Shadow of Amalek*, a mural by Toronto artist Dubi Arie, to be dedicated at Beth Emeth Synagogue May 11. Measuring 12 metres long by two metres high, the work depicts 5,000 years of Jewish history and took the Israeli-born Arie 20 years to complete. It was donated to Beth Emeth by the Silver family in memory of Norman and Regina Silver, and will be on permanent display at the synagogue. Keynote speaker at the dedication will be Prof. Yaffa Eliach of Brooklyn College, N.Y.

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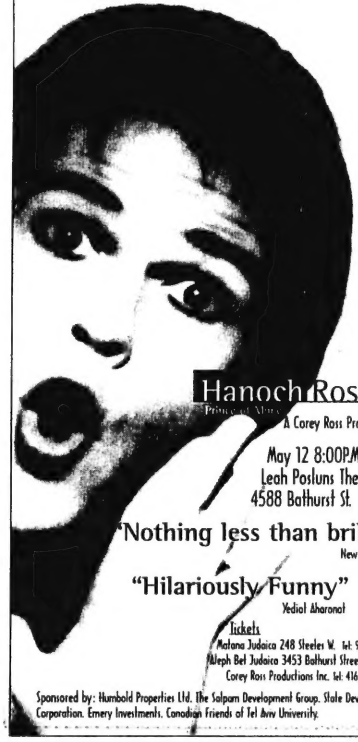
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Greater Toronto Area

Eitz Chaim teaches students importance of respect

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An international program to teach children respect has come to Eitz Chaim Schools in Toronto.

Project Derech is based on the teachings in the Shulchan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law) and according to senior principal, Rabbi Aaron Levine, concentrates on general *derech eretz, kibud av v'aim* (respect for parents) and *yirah* (literally fear, but in this case, meaning recognizing the awe that one ought to have towards parents, teachers and one's elders).

Rabbi Shlomo Mund of Montreal kicked off the program, by explaining to the students and to their parents the significance of observing this mitzvah.

"Boys shoving other people in a store, or on a trip are a chillul HaShem (desecration of G-d's name) both to outsiders and to Jews alike."

On the other hand, he said, parents must be role models, reinforcing the lessons the school is teaching. "I can tell a student all day not to push, but it is no good if on a trip to the country, the parent pushes ahead of other people at a toll booth."

The students should be given recognition for using skills they learned in school, he said. For instance, he explained, the students are taught that when they are asked to do something by their parents, they should answer "with pleasure. Parents should respond the next time the children ask for something, by also answering "with pleasure."

Project Derech, which was begun by Avrum and Shanie Aberback of Toronto, can be found all over the world, including the United States, South Africa, France, England, Switzerland and Australia, and is carried out in six languages: English, Hebrew, Yiddish, German, French and Russian. In Canada, besides at Eitz Chaim in Toronto, it can be found in Montreal.

Project coordinator Susan Soroka and boys' coordinator Rabbi Eli Drebin, an eighth grade teacher at the school's Patricia branch, explained that the program is based on a series of workbooks, which cover some 50 halachot of derech eretz.

"All the grades are working on the same halachah, but at their own level," explained Soroka.

For instance, Rabbi Drebin said, there is a mitzvah to show gratitude to people who do things for you. The elementary level is asked to discuss and then draw what to do when you leave a bus or carpool.

The intermediate level grades discuss and write about how the school secretary gives change for the phone, a more complex matter from a child's point of view, and also about more sophisticated aspects, such as how showing appreciation actually honors G-d.

Other topics include not interrupting or criticizing one's parents or teachers; behaving in shul; standing up for an elderly person; being environmentally conscious; and not staring at someone who is "different," which includes the disabled.

Parents are urged to be involved, and are sent a weekly newsletter each week discussing which halachah was covered.

As well, there are periodic contests, such as to write songs or slogans. (One winning bumper sticker slogan is "You're miles ahead with Derech Eretz.") Incentives and prizes help keep the enthusiasm and excitement high.

At the Patricia branch, children bring in notes saying what mitzvah they did, and a raffle is held every so often. Elisheva Scharf, coordinator at the Viewmount branch (Malky Rabinowitz coordinates the Spring Farm branch) has created a "candid camera wall," with pictures she took of children doing derech eretz.

Children are taught specific techniques for dealing with thorny issues, such as being scolded for something they didn't do.

Although the program has been going for less than a year, results have already been seen, from the janitor and teacher stunned to be thanked by students, to a storekeeper calling to complement a student on behaving well in the store.

"This is a pleasant program," Soroka said, "with lots of stickers, balloons and prizes, and no tests. It is not at all oppressive — it just takes 20 minutes to half an hour of class time a week."

The school hopes to continue Project Derech beyond this year.

Grade 4 students Eli Yunger (left) and Sendy Shorser put their mitzvah notes into the Kotel Wall at the Eitz Chaim Patricia campus. Once a week, the notes are raffled for a prize.

From the editor's desk
Will Return

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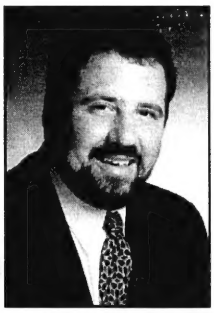

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Greater Toronto Area

PASSOVER FOOD DRIVE

Students at Netivot HaTorah Day School participated enthusiastically in the annual Maot Chittin – Passover Food Drive. Dara Nathanson's grade 1B class (top) and Mary-Martha Starkman's grade 4B class organized the school-wide campaign. Over 1,700 food items were collected, surpassing last year's accomplishments.

Accused war criminal dies

TORONTO — Accused Nazi war criminal Josef Nemsila died in hospital late last month, calling into question legal rulings on his case.

Nemsila, who was 84 and lived in Oshawa, was accused of commanding a unit responsible for the deaths of hundreds of Jews during World War II.

He had been twice convicted in his native Czechoslovakia of war-era crimes.

Ottawa was trying to deport him for lying about his past. In 1995, an immigration adjudicator ruled he could not be deported because he had been a landed immigrant for more than five years. Last year, the Federal Court overturned the ruling, and Nemsila appealed.

Now, the court is asking lawyers for submissions on whether it should still hand down a ruling.

Sol Littman of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Toronto said Nemsila's death "fulfills the government's greatest wish: that all accused Nazi war criminals die before they can be brought to justice."

Nemsila's lawyer, Ron Poulton, said his client died "in a painful way" and that the charges had caused him "misery."

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Dry Bones

ייִדיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

געקומען צו קבר ישראל מט פופציק יאָר שפעטער

פון מייק און סעם טראָורינג

ווען די צוויטע וועלט מלחמה האָט אויסגעבראָכן זיינען מיר געווען אַ הויזגעזינד פון 8 מענטשן: די מאַמע ע"ה און 7 קינדער — 6 ברידער און איין שוועסטער, קענדל. אונדזער פאָטער ע"ה איז געשטאָרבן ווען מיר זיינען נאָך געווען קליינע קינדער. ער איז געווען אַ סאָלדאַט אין ערשטן וועלט־קריג. אויך פיר פון די עלטערע ברידער האָבן געדינט אין דער פוילישער אַרמיי. מיד האָבן גע־וואוינט אין קראָקע, אַ גוט באַקאַנטע יידישע שטאָט אין פוילן.

עד היום איז נאָך שווער צו פאָרגעסן יענעם טאָג פון ערשטן סעפטעמבער, 1939, דער אויסברוך פון דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה. האָלב־פֿאַרשלאָפענע האָבן מיר זיך אויפגעווועקט דעם פאָרטאָג, אויף דער שנעל געוואָגט דעם „מורה אַני", ווען אַ שרעק־לעכער אויפרייס האָט זיך דערהערט. דאָס איז געווען אַן אויפריס, וואָס האָט אַרומגעגאָנגען כּמעט די גאַנצע וועלט. אָלע צייטונגען, יידיש און פוילישע, האָבן אויסגעשריגן די זעלבע נייעס: נאַצי־דייטשלאַנד האָט אַנגעגריפן פוילן און איז אַריבער די גרע־נעצן, מאַרשירנדיק פאָראויס.

יעדער איינער איז געוואָרן פאַרטומלט, נישט געווואוסט וואָס צו טאָן. מענטשן לויפן אין אָלע ריכטונגען, אין אַנדערע געגנטן און אין אַנדערע לענדער. טייל האָבן אַנגעהויבן אייַנקויפן גאָלד און זילבער; טייל האָבן געקויפט ביקסן און רעוואָלווערן. מענטשן האָבן אייַנגעקויפט ליכט, שוועבעלעך, נאָפּט, צוקער, מעל און נאָך ענלעכע פראָדוקטן. מען האָט דאָך אַלץ געמיינט, אַז דאָס וועט נאָר דויערן אַ קורצע צייט. קיינער האָט זיך נישט פאָרגעשטעלט די גרויסע טראַגעדיע, וואָס רוקט זיך אַן אויף דער וועלט בכלל און אויפן יידישן פאָלק בפרט. מיד וויסן שוין זייער גוט דעם סך הכּל פון די קרבנות, וואָס עם ישראל האָט פאַרלוידן אין דער מלחמה.

צווישן די זעקס מיליאָן דערמאָרדעטע יידן האָבן זיך אויך גע־פונען אַ צאָל פון אונדזער משפּחה. אונדזער מאַמע ע"ה, וואָס האָט זיך אויסגאַהאַלטן אין אונטערגרונט, איז פאַרמַסרט געוואָרן דורך א פאָלאָק, וואָס האָט פאַר דעם פארדינט אַ קילאָ צוקער. דעם זעלבן גורל האָט געטיילט אונדזער עלטסטער ברודער. אָבער די מערדערישע היטלעריסטן מיט זיערע פוילישע העלפערס האָבן זיך נישט צופרידן געשטעלט און האָבן כסדר געזוכט נייע קרבנות.

אונדזער טייערע שוועסטער קענדל, 26 יאָר אַלט, האָט זיך אויסגאַבאַהאַלטן אין אַ בונקער מיט אַנדערע 7 יידן, אין דעם דערפל בארואונאָ, איך דער גמינע ליפניצאַ מורָאוואָנאַ, לעבן קראָקע. די פוילישע מערדערס פון דער „אַרמיאַ קראַיאָוואַ" האָבן זיי אַנט־דעקט און זיי דערשאָסן איינעם בונקער. צווישן די באַהאַלטענע האָט זיך אויך געפונען אונדזער קוזין שלמה קאַלפוס. זיין ברודער יוחנן האָט אויסגעפונען ווען, וואו און ווער ס'האָט זיי דערשאָסן.

נאָכן סוף פון קריג האָט יוחנן קאַלפוס, וועלכער וואוינט אין ישראל, זיך באַמיט צו דערגיין, וואו די גופים פון די דערמאָרדעטע געפינען זיך, כדי זיי צו באַערדיקן אויף אַ יידישן בית־עולם לויט דער הלכה. פון אַנהויב האָט ער מורא געהאַט דאָרט אַהין צו פאָרן צוליב גרויסן אַנטיסעמיטיזם, וואָס הערשט אין פוילן. דערצו האָבן די פאַלאָן נישט געוואָלט קאַאָפּערירן מיט אים. ער האָט עטלעכע מאָל פרובירט, אָבער אָן דערפאָלג. ערשט אין 95־1994, נאָכן „שמירן" מיט געלט און דורך דער שתדלנות פון באַקאַנטע און פון יידישן קאָנגרעס, איז אים געלונגען, מיט דער דער־לויבעניש פון דער רעגירונג אויסצוגראָבן די סקעלעטן. מען האָט אין האָנט פון שלמה קאַלפוס געפונען אַ רעוואָל־ווער, וואָס איז איבערגעשיקט געוואָרן אין האָלאָקאוסט מו־זעאום אין יואַשינגטאָן.

די 8 גופים האָט מען קובר געווען אויפן יידישן בית־עולם כּדת וכדין. אַזוי אָרום זיינען 8 יידישע קרבנות ענדלעך געקו־מען צו קבר ישראל מיט 50 יאָר שפעטער. זאָלן די דאָזיקע ווערטער זיין אַ קדיש פאַר די הילליקע נשמות פון אונדזער שוועסטער קענדל און די אַנ־דערע זיבן מאַרטיראָס, הי"ד.

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Greater Toronto Area

Beth Tzedec exhibit explores the Jews of China

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Last summer, Dorion Liebgott intended to mount "a little exhibit" on China, but her project took on a life of its own once word got out about her plans.

The result is Jewish Communities of China: From Kaifeng to Shanghai at Beth Tzedec Congregation's Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum, of which Liebgott is curator.

The exhibit, which opened for a three-month run on March 26, is a mix of artifacts (on loan from the Royal Ontario Museum) and personal items.

Even two days before the opening, people who had heard about the show were calling to offer more items.

The films *Chinese Jews on the Banks of the Yellow River*, produced by Israel's Beth Hatefutsot museum, and *A Place to Save Your Life*, by Toronto filmmaker Karen Shopsowitz, are also part of the exhibit.

The Kaifeng artifacts attest to a long-isolated Jewish community that dates back at least to the eighth century, when a large group of Persian or Indian Jews settled in the central Chinese city. Noteworthy items include a jade gong used to call people to prayer.

An illuminated "Kaifeng megillah" of indeterminate age (possibly as recent as the 18th century) is part of the synagogue museum's permanent collection, although Liebgott hasn't been able to verify whether it is actually from Kaifeng.

Given the Chinese flavor of its artwork, it may well be. Its Hebrew calligraphy was probably done in Italy or a Mediterranean country, or in China by a visiting scribe, Liebgott said.

A more recent epoch in Jewish history began when prominent Sephardi families such as the Hardoons and Sassoons left Persia and India for China in the early 1800s to establish businesses, banks and trade.

Later, Jews fleeing the Russian Revolution settled in Harbin and Tientsin (Manchuria, Central China and Japan). In the late 1930s, German and Austrian Jews found safe haven in the port city of Shanghai, where they needed neither entry visa nor passport.

Torontonian Harry Fiedler was born in Shanghai in 1940 to Austrian Jewish parents. He immigrated to Canada with his parents at age 9.

In Shanghai, "they had everything: synagogues, kosher butcher shops," he recalls.

Among the items he loaned for the display are his Chinese birth certificate and a Chanukah gelt card he received in 1945 from American Jewish soldiers.

Other mementoes and photographs attest to the diversity of the Jewish experience in China: a refugee food ticket, the nameplate of a Jewish doctor's office, photos of students at the Shanghai Jewish School and of a Jewish baby with her Chinese amah.

A wooden-headed doll is one item Liebgott finds particularly moving. Armando and Eva Salinas and their baby daughter, Liliana, then Italian citizens living in Shanghai, were sent to a Japanese internment camp in Weih-Sen in 1943. The doll's head was made by a friend in the camp as a first-birthday present for Liliana. Eva made the doll's soft body and clothes.

Also of note is a photo album depicting the family history of Dolly Beil over four generations in China. Born in Tsingtao, Beil — who sells Chinese porcelain and antiques in her eponymous Eglinton Avenue store — is the granddaughter of Russian Jews. In 1892, her grandfather arrived in Harbin, where he established the Grand Hotel. Beil immigrated here with her husband and son, in 1952, the year when most of the Jews left China.

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

Publisher and Proprietor:
The Canadian Jewish News, a corporation without share capital.
Head Office:
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont. M3B 3K4

Critical Dialogue

A year ago, in Luxembourg, the foreign ministers of the European Union passed a resolution calling on its 15 member states to continue their "critical dialogue" with Iran. Critical dialogue, apart from being beneficial to the European Union in terms of its lucrative trade relationship with Iran, was designed to dilute Iran's support for radical Islamic movements and state terrorism and to reduce its opposition to Arab-Israeli peace negotiations.

On the face of it, critical dialogue — the European alternative to the United States' dual containment policy of Iran and Iraq — seemed like a somewhat positive idea. But in fact, as the European Union discovered last month, following a celebrated three-year trial in Germany, critical dialogue was essentially a hollow shell, a self-serving policy with little hope of significantly modifying Tehran's position with respect to an array of crucial issues.

The coup de grace to critical dialogue was delivered by a judge in a Berlin court on April 10, when he soberly concluded that senior officials in Iran's government, including the president and the foreign minister, had ordered the assassination of Iranian Kurdish dissidents living in exile in Germany, Iran's biggest trading partner. As a result of the verdict, Germany recalled its ambassador in Tehran, expelled four Iranian diplomats in Bonn and announced it would, for the foreseeable future, no longer participate in critical dialogue with Iran. In a gesture of solidarity, the European Union, describing Iran's activities as a violation of international law, invited its members to recall their envoys in Tehran.

Critical dialogue, besides having failed to curb Iran's appetite for state terrorism, has not had any discernible effect in diminishing its support of destabilizing Islamic fundamentalist movements in the Middle East, a region of strategic importance to the West. Nor has it persuaded Iran to acquiesce to the Oslo peace process, which it regularly condemns in inflammatory language. More to the point, critical dialogue has not altered the Iranian regime's unalterable rejection of Israel's very existence. These are not mere words. Three weeks ago, in cooperation with Russia, Iran tested components of a long-range missile capable of striking Israel. Last week, Iran staged its largest-ever military exercises, menacingly dubbed Road to Jerusalem.

Iran remains a clear and present danger, not only to Israel but the West itself, and critical dialogue should be seen for what it is: a misplaced concept. — **S.K.**

Shoah v'Gvurah

The unique duality of Jewish existence, tears and triumph, finds poignant expression in the way we remember the victims of the Holocaust. We join at the heart remembrance of holocaust with remembrance of heroism into one reverently hallowed day, the 27th of Nisan, long ago specially designated as such by Israel's Knesset.

We set aside a specific calendar day for remembrance as a national tribute and a central spark around which to kindle commemorative flame among our youth. Collective memory has always been the force binding Jews to their religion and to their people.

And this is one of Judaism's true greatnesses: surviving upon collective memory even as it inspires personal remembrance, which, as everyone knows, is the only way humanly possible, for individuals to reflect on what — and who — was lost.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"Zionism is simply a peacemaker. And it suffers the usual fate of peacemakers, in being forced to fight more than anyone else."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones

AND THEY SEARCHED IN EVERY DARK AND HIDDEN CORNER
AND THEY EXAMINED EVERY LITTLE NOOK AND CRANNY
THEY WERE HUNTING FOR CRUMBS OF LEAVENED BREAD!
NOPE.
THEY WERE SEARCHING FOR DIRT ON THE PRIME MINISTER

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

April 29, 1985 the first Canadian Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors was held in Ottawa. Many children of survivors also attended the three-day gathering. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Campus issues fall on deaf ears

On behalf of the Jewish students attending post-secondary institutions in Metro Toronto, I want to thank *The CJN* for bringing our concerns to public attention. With all the noise in our community about the importance of "continuity," I thought your articles would result in my phone ringing without pause. Alas, only one person has called. The reality is that the continuity cry is only noise "full of sound and fury signifying nothing."

Toronto Jews are justifiably proud of their many achievements. However, the gross neglect of our campus population will carry a very high price in the future. If we lose our children on campus, who will be the leaders of our community in the years to come? No one cares.

Arthur Kruger
President
Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto

The Star's coverage of Israel

Re: Ron Csillag's article on coverage of Israel in the *Toronto Star*, (*CJN*, March 27).

Your article, in an attempt to skirt the issue, fails to address the fundamental fact that the *Toronto Star* embraces a strong anti-Israel stance.

Of significance is the fact that *Star* publisher John Honderich refused to be interviewed for *The CJN* article. For a major Canadian newspaper to advocate the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and to distort the news to conform to this view is contrary to the basic democratic precepts of publishing.

Meira Zaks
Toronto

Can't spot baby chimp in police lineup

As one of the chimpanzees cited in your recent article "Israeli Tomatoes Help Fight Assimilation," I was disappointed that your reporter, Frances Kraft, was not aware that our group has moved beyond the Hebrew sign language to mastering WordPerfect, and is now scrambling up the Internet.

I am happy to inform you that charges against the baby of our group, Zelda, accused of illegally eating gefilte fish in a "kosher food establishment" were dropped, because she was, at 18 months, under age, and because the only witness, the mashgiach, could not pick her out of the police lineup.

We have learned that preparations are under way to test elephants with the "Tevye-5" isotope. Their renowned memories, confronted with the vast richness of halachic literature, will no doubt create a formidable body of learned scholars.

Meyer Malpa
Montreal

Claims Rabbi Kushner's views are faulty

Re: "God can't stop all tragedies, says Rabbi Kushner" *CJN*, April 10). Harold Kushner may not have the last word on the problem of evil as widely assumed, as I have argued in a recent paper *Theology and Theodicy: On Reading Harold Kushner* (*Modern Judaism*, Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, October 1996).

To the extent that your reporter, Leila Speisman, has accurately distilled the essence of Kushner's recent lecture in Toronto, Kushner continues to see the Book of Job as significant for the broad religious view. As I have argued in my paper, Kushner's reading of Job is found to be faulty, as are other aspects of his argument and his overarching religious view of God, when critically assessed.

Abraham Cohen
Toronto

Seeking Baron Byng graduates

We are hoping to locate two of our classmates, maiden names Lola Lazarus and Jean Roisman, who graduated Baron Byng High School in 1947.

Should any of your readers know of their whereabouts, they can contact me at 3455 Aylmer St., #PH-6, Montreal, Que., H2X 2B5.

Phyllis Amber
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspective

Rabbi Yisrael Abichazira, the Baba Sali

By CANTOR AVIV OUANOUNOU

Who is a tzaddik? This question was once answered thus by Menachem Begin:

"When a man appears, watch his ways, listen to his words and look at his eyes. If you are enchanted by his ways, touched by his words and his eyes are clear and pure, then you may say: This is a tzaddik."

One such tzaddik was Rabbi Yisrael Abichazira, or as he is widely and affectionately known, the Baba Sali.

Baba Sali was famous for his dedication to his people and was one of the great tzaddikim of our times. He always strove to judge every Jew favorably, to never find any evil or wrongdoing in anyone. He saw only the good in human beings, even in those for whom others rarely had a kind word to say. This essay will briefly review the history of Baba Sali and some of the miraculous stories associated with him.

His family history starts with Rabbi Shmuel Elbaz, a prominent rabbi in the city of Arfod, in the southern part of the Sahara Desert in Morocco. Rabbi Elbaz wanted to travel to Eretz Yisrael, but did not have enough money to pay for the passage. The story relates that Rabbi Elbaz pleaded with the captain to allow him to travel to Israel. But the captain did not allow him to board the boat. So determined was Rabbi Elbaz to reach Israel, he took his chazira (little carpet, in Arabic), placed it on the water and sat on it. Miraculously, the story goes, he floated on the water alongside the boat. Thereafter, the family name became Abichazira (Abi=master, chazira=carpet: master of the carpet).

Rabbi Yisrael Abichazira was born in 1890 in the city of Tafillat, Morocco, the great grandson of Rabbi Shmuel. His father was Rav Mesood Abichazira, the eldest son of Rabbi Yaacov Abichazira, also a great zaddik and a well-known kabbalist in Morocco.

While still in his father's house, Rav Yisrael became a magnetic personality, drawing scores of people who were beset with problems and who needed his brachot and advice. He was given his diminutive name, Baba Sali, because in Arabic, it means "our praying father." After his father's death, Baba Sali, who was then only 20 years old, assumed the position of rosh yeshivah of Taffilat.

Despite Rabbi Abichazira's withdrawal from all other public activities, his doors were always open to those who needed his help. He was constantly approached to pray for the ill or for people in trouble. Thousands of stories abound about Baba Sali, all of them dealing with some aspect of miracles. Anyone who visited the tzaddik returned with a story. The following documented incidents have been taken from the book *Baba Sali: Rabenu ha-kadosh* by Rabbi Eliyahou Elfasi, who served for many years as Baba Sali's gabbai.

> Rav Yisrael became a magnetic personality

An admor (chassidic rebbe), came to discuss an important issue with the Rabbi Abichazira. When the admor entered the room, he and Baba Sali began to discuss talmudic subjects. In the midst of their conversation, without any reference to the specific issue which had brought the Chassid to him, the Baba Sali remarked, "Don't worry!" and continued to explain in detail why the admor should not be concerned about his particular problem.

When the admor left the rabbi's room, he was astonished that the rabbi had known what had been on his mind, without his even identifying the subject. He told those around him how the rav had sensed his fear. The members of Rav Yisrael's household however, were not the least bit surprised, because they had become used to things like this happening on a daily basis.

Several incidents related to miracles that occurred with Baba Sali's blessing over arak, a traditional Sephardi drink. It is told by many who visited the rabbi's home that Baba Sali's bottle of arak never emptied. No matter how much of the drink he poured out to his guests, the bottle remained full.

The following is a story that describes the use of arak in Baba Sali's blessing. A young woman once came to the home of the Baba Sali. Because Rav Yisrael did not see women privately, she asked to see the gabbai. She told the gabbai she had a strange dream that she wanted to share with Rav Yisrael.

The gabbai explained that the Baba Sali was very busy; a long line of people were waiting to see him. The best he could do for her was to ask the Baba Sali to bless her.

The woman did not give up, but demanded to tell the Baba Sali of her dream. Since she showed so much determination, the gabbai agreed to relate her dream to the Baba Sali.

The woman then recounted her dream. She had entered the home of the Baba Sali with a sealed bottle of arak, and had asked the rav to bless her through the bottle of arak, in the hope that she would bear healthy children. Baba Sali took the bottle and told her that she had to wait until he had G-d's permission to bless her for the sake of her children. Then, suddenly, in her dream, the cork of the bottle popped open and Baba Sali said, "With G-d's help, this year you shall bear a son!"

The gabbai went to the Baba Sali and told him the woman's dream, at which Baba Sali laughed, and responded, "Through dreams I will speak." The Baba Sali sent word to the woman that he had spoken to her through the dream, and it was not necessary to bless her again. A short time later, the woman visited the Baba Sali to tell him that she had given birth to a son.

Another incident involved a non-religious Jew named Eliyahu from the city of Holon. Eliyahu was ill, and was due to have both legs amputated. At the suggestion of a friend, he went to see the Baba Sali for a brachah. He left the hospital the day before his surgery. No one knew that he was going to see the Baba Sali.

Because of his tremendous pain, Eliyahu could not comply with the proper decorum in the rav's chamber. He could not stand and kiss the Baba Sali's hand (as was the custom) when his turn came to see the Rav. Instead, the rabbanit approached Eliyahu in the name of Baba Sali and asked him, "Do you put on tefillin? Do you observe the Shabbat? Do you make the proper blessings before and after food?" Eli could only respond that he did not, and suddenly began to cry.

Baba Sali told him that if he agreed to become more observant, G-d would hear his (Baba Sali's) prayers. Eli responded that he fully accepted the observance of the Shabbat, and he would do tshuvah (repentance).

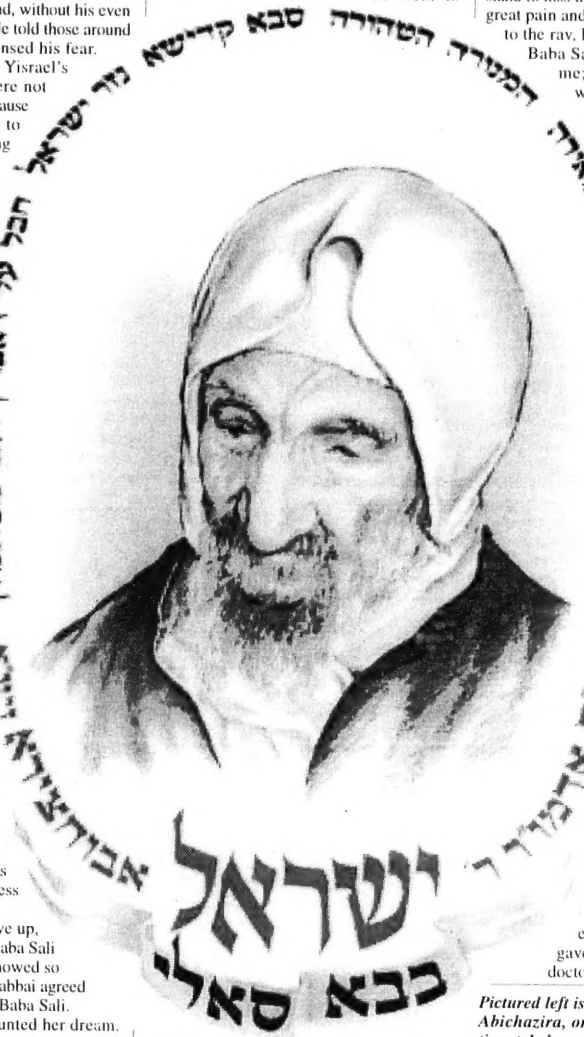
Baba Sali then requested that Eli be served a cup of tea. After Eli finished his drink, the rabbanit suggested that he try to stand to kiss the hand of the Baba Sali. With great pain and difficulty, Eli arose, walked to the rav, kissed him and thanked him.

Baba Sali responded, "Don't thank me; just say 'Blessed are they who sanctify his name publicly!'"

Eli tried out his new legs, and in disbelief walked to Yeshivat HaNegev, near the home of the Baba Sali. The students greeted him with song, dance and praise of G-d.

Later that day, Eli returned to the home of the Baba Sali. He was worried that the miracle would not last. The Baba Sali reassured him. In light of his commitment to keep the Shabbat and other mitzvot, Eli's ill fate had been nullified by G-d.

Eli then called his doctor at the Tchilov hospital in Tel Aviv. The doctor told Eli to stop acting like a crazy person, and asked him to be in the hospital the following morning for the surgery. The next day, Eli went to the hospital, healthy as ever. Several days later, Eli went to thank Baba Sali again, who had a seudat hoda'ah (meal of thanksgiving) prepared. At the end of the meal, the Baba Sali gave Eli a bottle of arak for the doctors to drink a l'chaim.



Pictured left is a drawing of Rabbi Yisrael Abichazira, or as he is widely and affectionately known, the Baba Sali.

Baba Sali's name spread far and wide, and he became known to many rabbis. He also corresponded with scholars and chachamim from Eastern Europe and America. Many of them made special efforts to visit the rabbi at his house.

Baba Sali died on the 4th of Shvat 5744 (1984). He left many students and followers. Over 150,000 people attended his funeral. May his memory be blessed and may he pray for all of the Jewish nation, wherever they are found.

Cantor Ouanounou is the chazzan of Magen David Sephardi Congregation in Toronto.

Opinions

Where exactly is Har Choma?

By Viva Press in Halifax

Lately, the Har Choma housing project has dominated the news. Middle East analysts, historians, and "experts" have had their say about the project and its impact on the peace process. The following is my say.

The term Har Choma is an ambiguous one. Sure, we all know it has been blamed as the cause for the most recent tensions between Israel and the Palestinians.

But, where exactly is it?

A little while ago, I was speaking to my parents, and we got into a debate. I said Israel should continue to build at Har Choma. My mother disagreed. Her arguments covered everything I've already heard on the news.

I've read in the papers, surfed on the Web, seen on TV and heard on the radio all the views rejecting the building of the new Jewish homes: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu just wants to cause trouble, Israel can build elsewhere, Israel is trying to provoke the Arabs, and most importantly, the Har Choma project "is in East Jerusalem."

I repeated those words in my head: East Jerusalem. Then I thought, I wonder how many people really know where East Jerusalem is. The press tells us it's where the Arab villages are; it's part of Arab territory.

But isn't all of Israel surrounded by Arab villages? Isn't that what makes Israel a place with so many hostile relations? Isn't it the land to which the world's three largest religions lay claim?

I cannot accept the reasoning that Har Choma shouldn't be built because it's near Arab villages. The whole land of Israel borders on many Arab towns and villages. That Jews occupy land at all is reason for confrontation according to the Palestinians.

As a journalist, I am aware of the biases that exist in the media.

I know that when a country as volatile as Israel is headline news, there must be more to the story than space limitations are allowing to be told.

From the media we know Har Choma is in East Jerusalem. What does that mean?

Where is East Jerusalem?

When I asked my parents if they remembered staying at Mitzpe Ramat-Rachel in Jerusalem when we were in Israel for my sister's bat-mitzvah in 1989, they said yes.

Then I told them Har Choma was close by.

"Oh," they said. "That changes everything."

Yes, it does. Knowing that Har Choma is in East Jerusalem is one thing. Knowing that it's in East Jerusalem, which is still very much a part of the Jewish homeland's capital city, is another thing.

Now, there is a different perspective on the debate between those who think Har Choma is a bad idea and those who think it's a good idea. Now, we are no longer just talking about an idea; we are talking about a piece of land with which we are familiar.

Should the Har Choma project be built?

I think so. I don't think it has anything to do with the success of the peace process. When the leader of one of the parties involved in the peace process continues to call for jihad, never recants what he says and blames a new housing project on Israel's lack of commitment to peace, I think there's something more to the story about the recent downfall of the peace process than a housing project.

I believe the Jewish people should be able to build on their land.

And they should be able to do so, without all the pressure from the rest of the world.

When Israel and the Palestinian Authority signed the Oslo accords, it was understood that Israel would unilaterally decide the future of Jerusalem and its boundaries. That means that Jerusalem was never put on the chopping block: not the Old City, not the new city, not North Jerusalem, not Southern Jerusalem, not the West, and definitely not the East of Jerusalem.

The Palestinians know that. Now, it's time to make sure the world knows too.

Ah, those hiking and biking days

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

It is my habit to follow events in Israel rather closely, but somehow a fundraising event that involves biking and hiking from north to south had escaped my attention. Now Carol Lavine has sent me the details of this event that is sponsored by Canadian Friends of Hebrew University. Called Third Mission With a Difference, it evokes my envy as well as fond memories.

The envy is easy to explain. I wish I had the *koach* to participate in the event and, manifestly, I haven't got it.

But my memory is quite alive, for as a young man I spent my school days biking and my vacations, hiking. We did not have a car and so most of the time, I used my bicycle to reach my high school and later, the university. I traversed the city of Berlin for three-quarters of an hour to bike to my tennis club, and after a day's tournament I still had to pedal my way back. As for hiking, that was the accepted vacation mode of my early years. Our youth group would travel to some part of the land and then set out on long walking tours, spending the nights at youth hostels. Best (or rather, worst) of all was the way we used to ski: with the few ski-lifts being beyond our economic means, we would climb the mountains for many hours just to have that one downhill run. Skiing, for me, was quite obviously secondary to hiking and climbing.

Now comes this attractive event in Israel. Walkathons are common features of fundraising, and this one has an additional distinction in that the participants have to raise the money before they can join. They will both bike and hike and see the land from a perspective usually not available to the average tourist who goes by bus or car. I have never had that opportunity, and I am sure that it will reveal the land in a very special and to me, largely unknown light.

Here are some examples of the program: May 23: Start your biking in the picturesque lanes of Mt. Carmel. In the course of today's cycling, en route to Zichron Ya'akov, you will pass through charming small villages and vineyards that are the source of the famous locally produced Carmel wines.

The next day is a walking day: Walk along Nahal Oren, on the western slope of the Carmel. On the way, you will see some of the landmarks left by prehistoric people some 12,000 years ago. The charming path winds through a river bed near Nir Etzion, and then the route takes you to the artists' village of Ein Hod, four to five hours of walking time.

And so it goes through the whole program that ends in Jerusalem.

I wish the participants well, and may they find the fundraising not too difficult. Meanwhile, if any reader feels inclined to have a go at this, call or fax Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University in Toronto: Phone 416-485-8000, Fax 416-485-8565. The event is scheduled for May 21 to 30.

Remembering giant Torah scholar

By Justin Korda in Montreal

Last year at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, I had the honor of being one of 20 students who participated in the last Medieval Biblical Commentators course taught by Prof. Nechama Leibowitz.

Before I left for Israel, I had heard of Leibowitz's outstanding abilities as a master teacher and world renowned Bible scholar and commentator.

However, it was not until I met her that I realized why she is considered one of the greatest Torah scholars of this century. Being accepted as one of her students was an honor beyond my expectations.

Once a week for the entire semester, I arrived at Leibowitz' house with my Bible in hand, eager for our lesson. In her humble study, crammed wall to wall with weekly commentaries that she had been writing since 1942, we surrounded her desk in anticipation and nervousness, wondering if we would be able to answer any of her perplexing questions. Nechama, as she preferred us to call her, insisted on doing the roll call every week, despite the challenge that her hearing posed at age 92. As she called out names, students screamed aloud to indicate their presence and then we proceeded with our lecture. As time progressed, it became very clear to me why Leibowitz is considered to have one of the greatest minds ever and my appreciation at being able to hear her words first hand grew steadily.

On the Sabbath of April 12, Nechama Leibowitz died at age 92.

Judaism traditionally sees the study of Jewish text in memory of a deceased person as a fitting way to memorialize him or her. This idea stems from the doctrine of trying to find a positive aspect within every experience. By learning Jewish texts that are saturated with morals and lessons, one acquires these positive elements and thereby changes for the better. When a person experiences a positive change as a result of learning something in memory of one who has died, they ensure that the memory of that person lives on, for it is carried within them.

Leibowitz devoted her life to education. She taught a positive lesson to everyone she had contact with. For me, she exemplifies the capability to break down barriers while at the same time attaining great heights.

At 92, Leibowitz was as sharp-witted as any of her students. With her impeccably good humor, her subtle relish of sarcasm and her abundance of modern analogies, she made it clear that she understood us despite the gap in age.

A Torah scholar who is accepting of any and every Jew interested in learning Torah is unfortunately hard to find these days. Leibowitz, however, would respond to everyone who sent her questions and her weekly commentaries on the Torah portions were distributed to thousands of students, in Hebrew and English, in Israel and abroad. She used to travel all over the country giving speeches in various locations.

As someone who sincerely welcomed every person to explore her fascination with Torah, Leibowitz received a welcome in every walk of Israeli life: the Kibbutz, the army, the school, the home — Orthodox or otherwise. In time, even the Haredim recognized her authority, despite her gender.

For a scholar of her stature, Leibowitz's attributes of modesty, generosity and wisdom have been compared to similar characteristics of Moses. At her funeral in Jerusalem, over 1,000 mourners gathered to pay tribute to her. But, in accordance with her wishes, there were no eulogies delivered.

Aside from opening my eyes to many of the marvels of the Torah, Nechama Leibowitz's unique teaching style taught me a valuable lesson. "Don't write that, put down your pen and listen," she would always cry. She demanded that we spend the time with her developing the skills for analyzing the text so that we would gain the ability to learn on our own in the future.

As a result of her teaching style, we not only understood the content of the course, but we learned how to properly learn. This is a very profound lesson. In every one of life experiences there is something to gain. However, this gain is too often seen as the achievement of a goal. True insight comes from experiencing the process that one follows in order to reach that goal.

It was an honor to have been one of Leibowitz's students, and it is now a privilege to be able to keep her spirit alive. May her memory be eternally blessed.

The Kirshner File

The Holocaust and Sephardi Jews

By Sheldon Kirshner

Since the vast majority of Holocaust victims were Ashkenazi Jews, scholars have tended to focus on their tragedy, leaving Sephardi Jews in something of a lurch.

Del Fuego: Sephardim and the Holocaust (Sepher-Hermon Press, $25 US) makes an attempt to compensate for this error of omission. The book is based on lectures delivered over a six-year period under the auspices of the Jacob E. Safra Institute of Sephardic Studies at the Yeshiva University. It was published in cooperation with the World Zionist Organization.

Consisting of almost two dozen essays, the volume is edited by Solomon Gaon and M. Mitchell Serels.

The essays, which vary drastically in quality, deal in the main with Yugoslavia and Greece, but touch on Bulgaria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Holland, France, Albania, Germany and Austria.

Rachel Dalven's passable essay, entitled *Holocaust in Janina*, concentrates on the Italian zone of occupation in Greece. Italy, she observes, took no measures against the Jews. But once Germany was in charge, the situation deteriorated. By war's end, 91 percent of Janina's Jewish population had been deported.

The fate of Salonica's community — the centre of Greek Jewry — was similar. Between March 15 and Aug. 7, 1943, more than 16 convoys carried 45,659 Jews, or 97 percent of the Jewish population, to Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen, writes David Altabe in a refreshingly thorough essay.

The death toll, he claims, might have been lower had Rabbi Koretz — Salonica's chief rabbi — encouraged Jews to evade the deportation orders.

On the island of Rhodes, wrested by Italy from the Ottoman Empire in 1912, the Jews fared no better, writes Marc Angel in an enlightening article. Severe anti-Jewish measures were already in effect by 1936, but with the German seizure of Rhodes, the status of the Jews plummeted, exposing them to deportation.

Jews in Morocco were deported to Auschwitz

According to Solomon Gaon, less than one-third of Yugoslavia's 75,000 Jews were of Sephardi origin. They, too, were in the wrong place at the wrong time. All told, the Germans and their local collaborators murdered 60,000 Jews. Gaon's documentation of the extermination process is at best skimpy.

In a somewhat better piece, Vicki Tamir explains the survival of Bulgarian Jewry. And in a competent essay on Moroccan Jews, M. Mitchell Serels writes that while the community suffered a minimum of discomfort, stateless Jews were sent off to France and thence to Auschwitz.

Jews in the Italian colony of Libya were subjected to anti-Semitic laws, but in the 1940s several hundred found themselves considerably worse off in Italian and German labor camps, relates Maurice Roumani in an all-too-brief essay.

In a rambling essay on Tunisia, Serels discloses a little-known fact, namely that 2,500 Tunisian Jews died in labor camps.

Regrettably, *Del Fuego*, which lacks even an index, generally falls short of the mark. It's clear that the definitive work on Sephardim and the Holocaust has yet to be written.

Yom Hashoah time for reflection

Yom Hashoah, which falls later this week, is a time for reflection, a time to immerse oneself in the literature of the Holocaust.

There is no shortage of new books about the greatest tragedy to befall the Jewish people. Here, described in capsule reviews, are some of the latest ones.

Every once in a while, a book of sterling scholarship comes our way. *The World Reacts to the Holocaust* (Johns Hopkins Press, $65 US) is one such volume.

Edited by David Wyman, the renowned American scholar, *The World Reacts to the Holocaust* is a major reference work of almost 1,000 pages that chronicles the impact of the shoah on 22 countries ranging from Canada and Germany to Poland and the former Soviet Union.

The highly informative essays, written by first-rate scholars like Meir Michaelis and Irving Abella, deal with a number of issues. Among them: the history of Jewish settlement, the extent of anti-Semitism, the nature of Jewish-Christian relations, the degree of collaboration, the efforts to save Jews, the treatment of Holocaust survivors after 1945, the impact of war crimes trials and the rebuilding of post-war Jewish communities.

The faces of survivors are usually a relief map of the tumult they have borne. In *Written in Memory: Portraits of the Holocaust* (Raincoast Books, $19.95 US), survivors, male and female, pose for Jeffrey Wolin's camera, revealing a wide range of emotions and fragments of their harrowing lives.

Our hearts go out to the children, the poor, hapless souls who perished in the Holocaust. So brace yourself for *French Children of the Holocaust* (New York University Press, $95 US), Serge Klarsfeld's heart-rending memorial to 2,500 Jewish children who were murdered from 1942 to 1944. The children's photographs are accompanied by biographical data.

Charlotte Delbo, a noted essayist, was a French resistance leader — and a Catholic — who endured the infamy of a death camp in Poland. In *Auschwitz and After* (Yale University Press, $16 US), she relates her experiences and breaks new ground by addressing the psychology of survivors.

It is not unusual for the children of survivors to be affected by their trauma. In *The War After* (McClelland & Stewart, $32.99), Anne Karpf, a British journalist, writes a moving account of her mother's torment in Plaszow and Auschwitz and its effect on her own life.

In *Fortress of my Youth* (Telador Publishing, Australia), Jana Renee Friesova, a Czech survivor, poignantly recounts her ordeal, a bitter one leavened by an idyllic interlude, in the Terezin camp.

Erica Fischer tells a true and extraordinary love story in *Aimee & Jaguar* (Harper Collins, $33.75), set in wartime Germany. Elisabeth Wust, the wife of a Nazi officer, meets Felice Schragenheim — a Jewish woman in hiding, as she later learns — in a Berlin coffee shop. They form a romantic relationship which, tragically, is shattered by a betrayal. Fifty years later, Wust looks back at the intense affair.

First published in 1969, Simon Wiesenthal's *The Sunflower* (Random House, $33.50) has resurfaced in a revised edition. When Wiesenthal, the Nazi hunter, was an inmate in a concentration camp, a dying SS officer, haunted by the crimes he had committed, sought absolution from him. What would *you* have done in his place? In this thought-provoking book, 46 thinkers, from theologians to human rights activists, grapple with the problem, delineating the limits of vengeance, forgiveness, responsibility, justice and compassion.

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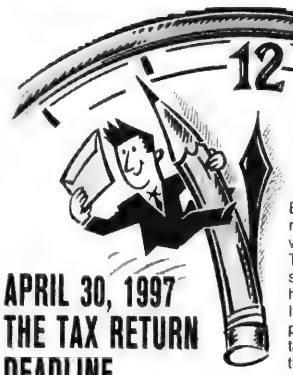

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PRIDE of ISRAEL

In recent weeks, an alarming trend has emerged from within our ranks. Issued have been calls for disunity and separation. The movement to delegitimize Jews based on their choice of worship is not only insulting. It is also frightening and dangerous. Indeed, the demand to see your way as the only way is precisely the one thing that world Jewry does not need at this moment. Nevertheless, we are seeing this here at home and abroad in the chambers of the Israeli Knesset.

What we need now is a continuing stream of positive, coordinated movements towards understanding and tolerance. We need to send forth the messages that all Jews are to be respected, that we can both live together and work together.

'Since they sat silently and said nothing for a defense'
– Talmud Bavli Gittin 55b.

We, the congregation of the Pride of Israel, are lending our voice to the many that are disturbed. We are also determined to remind the community that our Judaism is the only thing that binds us together. There is no *'you'* and *'them'*, there is an *'us'*.

So let us work together to remind the world, and ourselves, that we are *am echad,* one people.

Am Yisrael Chai!

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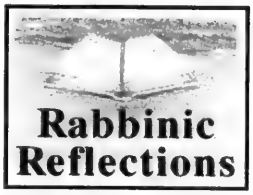


In spite of tamai, God still loves us

By RABBI REUVEN P. BULKA

"And so shall he do for the tent of meeting, that dwells with them in the midst of their being tamai" (Leviticus, 16:16).

The Talmud (Yoma, 56b-57a) reports an incident involving a scoffer who said to Rabbi Hanina — Now (that you, the Jewish people, are in exile), you are surely tamai. Rabbi Hanina responded: Come and contemplate what is written concerning them — "...that dwells with them in the midst of their being tamai" — meaning that even at the time that they (the people of Israel) are tamai, the Shekhinah (Godly presence) abides with them." (Notice that I have not translated the word "tamai." All the attempts at translation, ranging from "defiled" to "unclean," simply do not cut it. Tamai is tamai, period).

Rashi to this verse in Aharay Mot, and basing himself on this episode, comments that "even though the people of Israel may be tamai, the Godly presence still abides with them."

There seems to be nothing unusual about how Rashi explains the biblical words. He merely paraphrases the response of Rabbi Hanina to the heretic as projecting the true meaning of the verse.

Yet that in itself is unusual. Rabbi Hanina's response to the question-challenge was sharp and to the point, and certainly not inconsistent with the verse quoted. But it is quite a jump from deriving an implication from a Biblical passage to asserting that this implication entails the precise meaning of that passage.

After all, the passage refers quite clearly to a process that took place in the Mishkan, the sanctuary. There is no indication that it refers to life outside the sanctuary, or when the sanctuary no longer functions because it has been destroyed.

Jews thrust into exile

Rashi does make that jump, and in so doing challenges us to understand what is the significance of this.

Is it far-fetched to extrapolate that Rashi saw in this encounter, as reported in the Talmud, a powerful statement about the complexity of Jewish life in exile?

If the Jews were thrust into exile, this meant that God had rejected them. If that is the case, how could the Jewish people still pretend to be people of God?

The heretic argued that they were rejected by God because they had sinned, and because of their having sinned, could no longer lay claim to any extraordinary Divine connection.

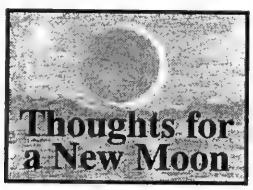
Rabbi Hanina calmly pointed out to him the verse we have herein cited. This verse projects a fascinating reciprocity in the God-Israel relationship. God is with the people even when they are far from perfect.

In the same way as Israel expresses its unconditional faith in and love of God via the Shema (with all your soul — even if God should take away your soul — Talmud, Berakhot, 54a), so too does God express unconditional love of Israel, even if they are "tamai."

Rashi sees in the biblical verse more than a statement. Rashi sees in it a promise, a promise that transcends space and time. It is forever. And it is what the verse intends to convey. It is the meaning of the text.

Is this explanation far-fetched? Hardly. And now that we know how God feels about us, it is important that we not allow anyone, or any group, even of rabbis, to suggest anything to the contrary.

Rabbi Bulka is spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa.



Israel withstands struggle despite the problems faced

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

As the political and social events unfold in Israel, there are some people who feel a shadow hanging over the country as Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day, is celebrated this month.

It has been a difficult year with many conflicts both internally and externally. People wonder what the outcome will be of the religious confrontations, the peace process and the judicial/religious rulings that have been made. Perhaps it is important to take a moment and focus on Israel itself.

The biblical/historical timeline of the country has provided us with several names for this tiny sliver of land. Our ancestors were promised a land which then bore the name Canaan. The land itself has been called both Israel and Judea, sometimes simultaneously and sometimes separately. In and among the many names, there have also been a handful of foreign names imposed upon it. It is interesting that among all the names available for this land, we have chosen to name it Israel. In so naming the country, we have linked the land to the destiny of the people. I do not mean that had it borne another name there would be no link, for we know that our hearts and souls are tied to that land irreversibly. However, the name of Israel has a specific meaning as given in the Bible and that meaning seems to have infused the land.

Our patriarch Jacob returns home (to the land of Canaan) after a lengthy absence. He fled in fear of his brother Esau and a return to his home necessitates a confrontation with Esau. On the evening before this confrontation, Jacob remains alone, possibly contemplating whether tomorrow will bring a joyous or a violent reunion. As he sits alone, he becomes aware of an intruder and grabs this person. He wrestles with him all night.

Just before dawn, the intruder demands to be freed and Jacob demands a blessing in return. The intruder asks Jacob what his name is and then renames him, granting him the name Israel as a blessing. The Bible alludes to the fact that the intruder is an angel and the name Israel is later bestowed onto Jacob by G-d.

The reason the angel gives for the name Israel is that Jacob has wrestled with man and with G-d and was able to withstand the struggle. The word "Israel" appears in the future tense. Thus it is a reflection of their meeting, as well as a prediction for the future; it is a destiny. We have named our country Israel. All too often we as a people are wrestling with man and G-d and we are seeing our tiny land sharing that struggle.

Jacob walks away from his encounter with a blessing, but he also walks away with an injury. Jacob injures his leg and limps as a result of that confrontation.

We struggle with each other over G-d, we struggle with other people in the world and we also bear our injuries. Yet the angel's final statement should not be lost for either the people Israel or the country: we wrestle with man and with G-d yet we can withstand the struggle.

Roots & Remembrance

Paying homage to Avotaynu

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Once every three months, as soon as they receive the day's mail, throngs of dedicated Jewish genealogists around the world drop whatever they're doing to read the latest issue of *Avotaynu: The International Review of Jewish Genealogy.*

Now in its 12th year of publication, *Avotaynu* is an indispensible and definitive source of current information on relevant records in dozens of countries where our ancestors once walked. Weighing in at a minimum of 68 pages, each issue typically contains between 20 and 30 articles on topics as varied as new archival discoveries in Lithuania, Warsaw's sprawling Jewish cemetery, French naturalization documents and how to use photographs to solve family puzzles.

Avotaynu boasts a democratic mix of contributors. They include professional genealogists, leading academics, state archivists from Eastern Europe and elsewhere, noted freelance writers and non-professional genealogists whose descriptions of their own research accomplishments are frequently among the most compelling reads in the magazine. As expected, the articles run the gamut from thoroughly footnoted scholarly studies to warm personal rambles.

Each issue also contains reviews, news, letters and summaries of the contents of newsletters from many of the more than 60 Jewish genealogical societies around the world. Delivered to more than 3,000 subscribers in 25 countries, *Avotaynu* is an important communal bulletin board that always sets off a buzz of comment.

Gary Mokotoff of New Jersey and Sallyann Amdur Sack of Maryland, who have been publisher and editor respectively since jointly founding the quarterly in 1985, are "on a first-name basis" with leading archivists at institutions like Yad Vashem, the Library of Congress, the Mormon Family History Library and the U.S. National Archives and its counterparts in Canada and Israel.

As the 84-page Winter 1996 issue demonstrates – with such items as an interview by Sack of the new Polish state archivist Daria Nalecz – *Avotaynu* particularly excels in keeping readers abreast of the changing availability of relevant collections in various ex-Soviet and former communist bloc nations.

"We're on the leading edge of what archival records are available in Eastern Europe," asserts Mokotoff. "It's now recognized in the American genealogical community that if you have Eastern European ancestors you must read *Avotaynu*, whether you're Jewish or not."

Popular books like Arthur Kurzweil's *From Generation to Generation* and Dan Rottenberg's *Finding Our Fathers* make excellent introductions to the subject, but if you want to remain current there's no substitute for Mokotoff's and Sack's publication, which they co-own.

In recent years, Avotaynu, Inc. has branched out into publishing important reference works. In April, the Association of Jewish Librarians named a recent Avotaynu publication – Alexander Beider's 570-page *Dictionary of Jewish Surnames From The Kingdom Of Poland* – as Outstanding Reference Book of the Year. The award is to be handed out in June.

It's the second time that Avotaynu Inc. has been so honored: one of its earliest books, *Where Once We Walked: A Guide to the Jewish Communities Destroyed in the Holocaust*, won the same award in 1991. A gazetteer of 21,000 localities, arranged alphabetically and indexed through the phonetic Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex System, *Where Once We Walked* has proven to be one of the most useful aids in helping researchers pinpoint ancestral shtetls.

One of Avotaynu Inc.'s current book projects is *Eliyahu's Branches* by Israeli researcher Chaim Freedman. It's a compendium of more than 17,000 descendants of the famed Vilna Gaon – including a brother-in-law of Vladimir Lenin, an ex-wife of actor Leonard Nimoy, and Freedman himself.

Publication is slated for September or October, and coincides with the 200th anniversary of the Vilna Gaon's death.

The entrepreneurially-minded Mokotoff, who served six years until 1995 as head of the worldwide Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, is planning to produce a CD-ROM containing all back issues of *Avotaynu* to date. Its 1,500 to 2,000 pages of information, he contends, will be the most powerful and comprehensive reference work available on the subject of Jewish genealogy. The estimated publication date is 1998.

To reach Avotaynu Inc., call 1-800-AVOTAYNU.

* * *

Paris in July: Serge Klarsfeld, Alexander Beider, Batya Unterschatz and Sallyann Amdur Sack are among the scheduled speakers at the next International Seminar on Jewish Genealogy, July 13 to 17 in Paris. Numerous post-seminar trips to Eastern Europe are planned. For details, contact the Cercle de Genealogie Juive, 14, rue Saint-Lazare, 75000 Paris France. 01-40-23-04-90.

THEN, NOW, AND ...

By Sarah Karpen Shapir

Memories are flowing in my mind,
One the other chasing wild,
Streaming and asking: "Imprint the past,
Events are covered with years of dust,
Already unbelieved, shadowed with age,
Pen me down on this page."

And I recall the summer day,
hot, sweaty, heavy in air
tired of breathing, choking the throat;
how tiny and helpless I was against all.
Looked around begging for help,
for a voice, a hand, a might, a will.

BUT IDLE, INDIFFERENT
THE WORLD STOOD STILL.
On this day plunged degraded of human face
I was orphaned to the lowest disgrace.
In one day — no parents,
no brothers all vanished in death.
Taken away without witness or trace.
Where did they take you? where did you go?
Are you an enemy? to be killed in war?
Are the Germans afraid of my little brothers,
with their skeleton bodies, lamed on crutches?
What did you do? What is your sin?
That you were born Jewish and alive still?
Me — I died with you on this day.

Orphaned my soul of belief and faith,
Emptied of hopes and trust in man.
Alone I was — and never the same.
With no tears, complaints or cries?
Just one word stayed and nagged — WHY?

Birds sing lovely on heavy trees,
rivers flow in sweet streams,
Flowers blossom in fragrance and fun,
Meadows color bathing in sun.
The clock ticks tacks measures the time
And memories become yesterday's crime.

Here I am young and strong,
With my first baby a new born son.
Kissing and hugging him in my tights
I see a better future rise.
Pinky and rosy like his cheeks,
I hope for a world of love and peace,
in his eyes of deeply blue,
I see babies laughing through.
O! — yes reborn in his myth
Again restored is my wit.
And for children still to come,
Please give love and care for everyone:
For this I pray to you in my words;
PLEASE LISTEN TO ME G-D.

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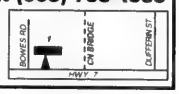

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The Honourable Robert Kaplan
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No big changes at *Toronto Sun*, as Goldstein takes editor's chair

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If Lorrie Goldstein had his way, the headline to this story might have read, *Sun, CJN Scribes in Gab-Fest.*

Well, not really. Even though Goldstein was recently named the Toronto *Sun*'s editor, he doesn't oversee headlines, story assignments, reporters' comings and goings or (sorry guys) page 3. Rather, he's in charge of the *Sun*'s many and (sometimes) sharp-tongued columnists, Donato's cartoons and about half its daily editorials.

Daily newsroom goings-on are the task of the editor-in-chief, Peter O'Sullivan. Both he and Goldstein report to publisher Hartley Steward. But it's Goldstein's job to make sure the *Sun*'s rather distinctive voice comes through loud and clear; and with voices like John Downing, George Jonas, Peter Worthington, Walter Stewart and Allan Fotheringham, the job might seem easy.

Lorrie Goldstein

Goldstein, 44, is not the scrappy tabloid's first Jewish editor — Barbara Amiel held the post in the '80s. He joined Toronto's Little Paper That Grew in 1978 as a general assignment reporter and rose through the ranks, from the police blotter to City Hall, feature writer, Queen's Park bureau chief, city editor and as of April 1, (no fooling), editor.

In addition to combing through the 27 pages of opinion the *Sun*'s columnists produce each week, Goldstein himself will pen a twice-weekly column, and will be a regular pundit on radio station CFRB.

Goldstein foresees little, if any, change under his stewardship. He says he wants to write better editorials but otherwise, columnists will be allowed to keep their wide latitude. And despite the often anti-Israel tone sounded by writer Eric Margolis, Goldstein says the *Sun* "is one of the strongest, perhaps the strongest, supporter of Israel of any paper in North America."

But, he told *The CJN* from his King Street offices, that doesn't mean the paper will be a blind cheerleader for Israel.

"I'd match our coverage and support [for Israel] with just about anybody. In fact, one of our original mandates was to be pro-Israel. But being supportive doesn't mean continuing, uncritical applause. I can point to times when we are often looked askance by both sides in the debate." For a newspaperman, that means he's doing something right.

A recent column by Goldstein recalled his being adopted, and it touched a nerve city-wide. He was the only son of Al and Rose Goldstein, both now deceased. Al ran Al's Menswear on Yonge Street; Lorrie attended Beth Sholom's afternoon school five days a week, and was bar mitzvah at Beth David congregation under the late Rabbi Albert Pappenheim. Goldstein's son Alan recently marked his bar mitzvah at Shaarei Zedec synagogue on Markham Street.

The *Sun* has also been strong on the community's pursuit of Nazi war criminals. "If you don't pursue Nazi war criminals," Goldstein says, "then you won't pursue modern-day war criminals. And we have to do both."

Like all print journalists, Goldstein faces increased newsprint costs, competition from the Internet and tight budgets. But with an average daily readership approaching 1 million, "we'll continue to be a clear voice on the issues."

CORRECTION

An article in last week's *CJN* on the community's Yom Hashoah commemorative service to take place May 4 indicated that Irena Leskowicz will be honored posthumously as Righteous Among the Nations for having saved Jews during World War II.

Although Mrs. Leskowicz will indeed be honored at the ceremony, it will not be posthumously. Thankfully, Mrs. Leskowicz is alive and well.

The CJN regrets the error. Incorrect information was supplied to us.

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Ontario Jewish Archives seek bits and pieces of history

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Berkeley Street Shul, Eastern Children of Israel, on Berkeley north of Queen Street, was demolished in the early 1960s to make way for the Moss Park housing development. But one family, the Solomons, who had a scrapyard on Parliament Street, managed to save the cornerstone and the marble tablets.

These are preserved along with a remarkable province-wide collection of documentary records, artifacts and photographs amassed by the Ontario Jewish Archives (OJA) in the Lipa Green Building on north Bathurst Street.

The OJA mandate, says director Stephen Speisman, author of *The Jews of Toronto*, is to collect, preserve and document the heritage of the Jews in Ontario.

"We want our collection to represent the record of Jewish life in the province in all its aspects, including those which may embarrass us," says Speisman. "We collect in a non-political manner, from any element of the Jewish community, regardless of where it stands in the political or religious spectrum."

In the Toronto area, the OJA is a department of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. Beyond the GTA, it is under the aegis of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region.

The archives had a modest beginning.

Within Canadian Jewish Congress central region, a not very active archives committee, probably instituted in the 1950s, collected records, mainly from Congress, and sent them to national headquarters in Montreal.

Around the same time, the Toronto Jewish Historical Society (TJHS), a group of lay people, were meeting to explore Jewish history.

In the early 1970s, responding to pressure from would-be researchers, representatives of Congress and the TJHS merged to form a viable archives committee. Victor Sefton, an executive member of Congress and president of the historical society, was appointed chair.

Thus, Canadian Jewish Congress Central Region Archives (later to be changed to Ontario Jewish Archives) was born. Speisman, then a graduate student in history at the University of Toronto, became its first director, a position he holds to this day.

A space at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue that served a double purpose — it was also used as a changing room for the waitresses — was the first home for the archives.

"We had to knock on the door before entering to make sure that the waitresses were out," Speisman recalls.

In 1974, there was a move to the old Chudleigh House on Beverly Street, which also accommodated the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society. The archives was allotted one cramped room at first, but by 1976,

[Cont'd. on page 17]

Members of the Spencer family include Sammy with violin, Toronto, 1920. [Photo courtesy Ontario Jewish Archives]

ב"ה

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Moshe Ronen, Associated graduate and graduate of CHAT and York University; former student activist, President of Network and Vice President of World Union of Jewish Students; current Chair of the Ontario Region - Canadian Jewish Congress; writer, lecturer and frequent traveler to Israel; father of two, successful lawyer and High Holiday Ba'al Tefilah.

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Jews for Judaism

Greater Toronto Area

OJA was relocated to Lipa Green in '83

[Cont'd. from page 16]

it occupied the entire second floor.

In 1983, plans to settle into offices with a temperature/humidity controlled storage area or "vault" in the new Lipa Green Building were put on hold for 10 weeks until the facility could be completed.

During that time, Speisman was left alone to guard the heritage treasures in the two buildings comprising the now-deserted Chudleigh House. "I ran around putting on lights to give the illusion of full occupancy and called everyone I knew on the street to park cars in front of the building," he recalls.

Speisman works with his assistant, archivist Howard Markus, and a committed corps of volunteers who have been with him for many years. There is also close cooperation with the Jewish Genealogical Society.

Particularly relevant in the collection are minutes, financial reports, newsletters and pertinent artifacts from organizations, synagogues, burial and loan societies; military records and medals; immigrant memorabilia including "schiffscarten;" early photographs and letters.

People ask, "Why should I contribute to the archives? Why shouldn't I keep these cherished possessions at home?"

Speisman answers, "In your home, many items will eventually disintegrate. Here, we are equipped to preserve them."

He tells the story about rescuing "wonderful records" literally from the garbage truck when the Folks Farein was moving out of Cecil Street. The people who were taking over the building were unaware that these records had been promised to the OJA and had put them out at the curb. Someone in the area noticed them and called Speisman.

Some of the papers had already been picked up, but Speisman quickly contacted Sol Edell, then OJA chair, who rounded up a couple of young men from the city of unemployment office. He also called the Works Department to find out where the garbage truck would be heading and the chase was on. They saved more than 20 percent of the records just before the crusher came along. The memory is still vivid, he says.

The archives serves a cross-section of individuals and organizations, Jewish and non-Jewish, students, genealogists, writers, all interested for diverse reasons in recapturing a colorful past.

The earliest original document in the collection, dated 1855, is the deed to a plot of land on Market Street near the St. Lawrence Market purchased by Abraham Nordheimer, a piano maker from Bavaria.

Correction

In the poem, "God's Left Hand Man" in the Passover literary supplement, we inadvertently substituted the word "graves" for "groves." The second last verse should have read: "Late that evening, Noah's wife wondered why/ her husband had not come home. She searched/ for him amongst the groves. Found him fast asleep..."

The CJN regrets the error.

NATIONAL BIBLE CONTEST

For the second year in a row, Ben Strauss, (left) a student at the Downtown Jewish Community School, has won first prize at the National Bible Contest, supplementary school division, grades 5,6 and 7. Strauss won a $500 Israel Bond, Ethan Orwin, another member of the team, was in the top 10. Seen here (from left) Strauss, Cliff Orwin, Esther Lexchin, Sigal Tuch (coach), Ethan Orwin and Sam Strauss.

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Wednesday, May 7	6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 8	6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 1	8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. *and* 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
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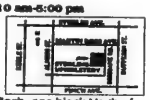

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Applications will be accepted for grants ranging from $1,000 to $5,000 per project up to a possible maximum of $30,000 in total grant awards.

For an application and guidelines call Lil at (416) 635-2883 ext. 111. Completed applications must be submitted **by June 27, 1997.**

UJA FEDERATION

Importance of family life often forgotten, says prof.

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO —The Jewish community is often remiss in exercising its responsibility to family life, the director of the Jewish Studies Program at University of Toronto charged recently.

"If we don't do our job to strengthen the moral integration of the family, then we don't deserve G-d's presence among us," said Prof. David Novak.

Novak was the first speaker in a three-part symposium on The Jewish Family as it Faces the Challenges of the Future, sponsored by Canadian Friends of Shalom Hartman Institute.

Judaism recognizes the importance of family life, he said, but traditionally the Jewish community has not done what it can to enhance it.

If a child comes from a non-observant home and studies in a religious school, said Novak, his teachers must not turn him against his parents. "In the zeal of teachers, the message might come across that these students should make a break from their parents.

"Bringing a Jewish child into the world is a mitzvah and that [alone] is the object of respect. The message might come through that their parents are a negative influence and the student should be separated from them. That is contrary to Jewish law."

It is important, he stressed, that Jewish parents are given the respect they deserve. "In terms of non-observant parents, it is the duty of the community to influence young people to lead a good Jewish life and also [give] gratitude and affection to their parents.

"No matter how much we encourage our young people to be baalei tshuvah we must emphasize the importance of parenthood."

Within its educational institutions, he said, the Jewish community must be careful not to undermine the parent-child relationship "which is so crucial to the Jewish family."

The Jewish community is also neglecting its responsibility towards agunot said Novak. "Jewish law says that when a woman marries, the marriage is not meant to be exploitive. With the breakdown of a traditional community however, Jewish men are able to abandon their wives and refuse to give them a *get*."

It is a situation, he said, that mainly affects religious women. "Non-observant husbands can usually be persuaded. The worst offenders are [usually] religiously observant Jews.

"If this continues to go on, we are [essentially] telling Jewish women that entering into a marriage is a dangerous proposition."

The problem of agunah is our internal problem, said Novak, and "Jewish internal problems are to be resolved within the community, not outside. The fact that we have to go to secular courts is an immoral indictment."

One solution to the problem, he said, is a mechanism by which rabbis can have a marriage annulled. "It has to be done carefully but it does have a basis in Jewish law."

If we encourage people to understand their rights and make their voices heard, a solution can be found, he said. "This is something about which a national forum should be held and leaders of the organized community should be called on the carpet.

"When marriage is under attack and we refuse to do what we can, it is an moral indictment of a community. It is not serving the family as it should."

NATIONAL BIBLE CONTEST

Jeremy Litvick (right) of USDS's Richmond Hill campus placed second in the grade 5-6 division of the recent National Bible Contest held in Montreal. Yona Katz (left) prepared him for the contest. *The CJN* hopes to publish photographs of all the contest winners.

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Greater Toronto Area

Music used as tool in healing process

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Illness is isolating, says Etta Ginsberg McEwan, coordinator of the Toronto Jewish Healing Project.

The project was inaugurated two years ago by Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple to combat that isolation and offer spiritual solace in a Jewish context. The group is not affiliated with any particular stream of Judaism; the core group of organizers represented all denominations, said Ginsberg McEwan.

The project recently offered its third eight-week session on Jewish healing at Holy Blossom, facilitated by Rabbi John Moscowitz and teacher Michelle Katz. A previous series was held at Beth Tzedec Congregation with Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl and psychologist Elaine Cooper.

The current series has 17 people, the largest group thus far. Most of the participants have cancer or chronic illness, said Ginsberg McEwan. Participants represent a wide variety of age groups and include some spouses.

A typical session starts with music and continues with a reading, text study and visualization or meditation, said Katz. Often participants end with the Misheberach, the traditional prayer of healing.

"I hope that they will leave with a closeness to God, [a sense] that they are being cared for and that they are not alone in this," said Ginsberg McEwan. "I hope they can cope better and that when they're down, they can go to whatever text, ritual or meditation helped them during the group."

Ginsberg McEwan, retired director of social work at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, knows from her own experience that "there is more to healing than what medicine offers."

A survivor of childhood polio who now uses a wheelchair, she was diagnosed with and treated for breast cancer five years ago. Reading Rabbi Harold Kushner's book, *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*, helped her deal with the cancer.

"Everything became much clearer. I was not being singled out. Things just happen. That helped me."

Attending Shabbat services at Holy Blossom helps her to cope with what the week will bring, she said.

Katz hopes that people will leave the healing sessions with "some courage, some strength...maybe they can transcend their pain." The sessions, organizers stress, are intended to complement, not replace, traditional medical treatments.

Some participants have said they feel "more energized in terms of getting on a bit with life," said Ginsberg McEwan.

Organizers are looking into starting an ongoing group, for which a desire has been expressed, although logistics and funding have posed obstacles. "We're trying to do that, but it is difficult," said Ginsberg McEwan. "We'll probably start another group in late spring."

The Jewish healing movement started in San Francisco and has spread to several communities in the United States. To the best of Ginsberg McEwan's knowledge, the Toronto project is the only one of its kind in Canada.

For further information, call 416-944-3359.

A TIME TOGETHER

Jewish Women International of Canada recently sponsored a mother-daughter slumber party. Seen here is the planning committee (top row, from left) Marcy Hoffman, Emy Zarek, Shana, Ruth and Libby Gilbert, Shula Wanono, Patti Taveroff; (bottom row, from left) Elysse Zarek, Roni Hoffman, Paula and Jessica Mittleman, Ann Wanono.

The Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association
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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, May 5, is deadline for May 15 issue and Monday, May 12, is deadline for May 22. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, May 3

CRISIS AND HOPE

Beth Tzedec Congregation presents Sam and Sarah Kerzner Holocaust Studies Institute with historian/author **Prof. Stephen Berk** speaking on Years of Crisis, Years of Hope. Pulpit lecture, The Zionist Movement and the Holocaust; at noon after services, The Jewish Workers Bund in Peace and War; in the afternoon during seudat-shlishit, The Shoah and the Creation of the State of Israel.

MONTE CARLO NIGHT

Games of chance for cash, super duper auction, grand prize trip for two to sunny south. 9 p.m., Adath Sholom Synagogue, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. Proceeds to charities. 635-0131.

LIBERAL MINYAN

Ma'yan Or, the Sunnybrook Liberal Minyan, 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. Kiddush following. Pastoral Services office 480-4421.

BBYO DANCE

BBYO community-wide dance (teens grades 8-13), 8 p.m. to midnight, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 . Proceeds to United Jewish Appeal Walk for Israel. **Stefanie** 635-9411.

Sunday, May 4

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

As part of its Yom Ha'atzmaut event, Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kippendavie Ave., features A Voice From the Past, Holocaust survivor **Sam Tanenbaum** and videotapes he and his wife made for the Steven Spielberg Holocaust Remembrance Foundation, 1:30 p.m. 694-7942.

JEWISH-GERMAN MIX

Beth Tzedec Men's Club and Max and Beatrice Wolfe Library present journalist/producer **Eric Koch** speaking on Reflections on the Jewish-German Mix, services 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, lecture at 10.

IN LIVING MEMORY

United Jewish People's Order premieres *In Living Memory*, a video by **Amy Gottlieb** in tribute to her father, visual artist **Harry Gottlieb**. Evening includes songs, photographs, Harry Gottlieb's original print works and musical performance by **David Wall** of The Flying Bulger Klezmer Band. 7:30 p.m., Morris Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.

AUCTION OF FINE ART

United Congregational Schools of Greater Toronto presents a Benefit Art Auction featuring works of over 20 artists represented by Park West gallery at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Art preview 9 a.m., auction 10:30. 633-1338 or 633-5500.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling 7:30 p.m., at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. All welcome to listen and tell. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Monday, May 5

ABOUT DIABETES

Canadian Diabetes Association Jewish chapter meeting, What You Want to Know About Diabetes and Are Afraid to Ask, with dietician **Marjorie Holands**, Working Sugar Into Your Meal; nurse **Kim Barweiss**, Sick Day Strategies; social worker **Jeanette MacDonald**, 8 p.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

Tuesday, May 6

JUSTICE SERIES

Beth Tzedec Congregation Ethics of the Fathers — Justice Series begins with discussion by **Madam Justice Petra Newton,** Ontario Court of Justice (Provincial Division), 7:30 p.m.

EVERYDAY PARENTING

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO Youth Aliyah Aviv evening presents **Sarah Chana Radcliffe** speaking on Gaining Cooperation Without Losing Your Mind — A Practical Guide to Everyday Parenting, 8 p.m., Beth Sholom Synagogue. RSVP 630-8373.

PLAN FOR TOMORROW

Na'amat Canada seminar, Plan for Tomorrow Today, estate planning, lawyer **Victoria Winter**, 7:45 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

[Cont'd. on page 21]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

Wednesday, May 7

JEWISH FAMILY IN CRISIS

The Jewish Family in Crisis, a three-part symposium presented by Canadian Friends of the Shalom Hartman Institute continues with Jewish Family Values — Myth or Reality with **Rabbi Dow Marmur**, 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation. 596-6959.

RIKUDIYAH '97

Bathurst Jewish Centre and the Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation present Rikudiyah '97: 100 Years of Zionism — Dance Festival for Children, 7 p.m., Tait McKenzie Gymnasium, York University. **Teme Kernerman** 633-7770.

BOOK LAUNCH

The book launch of *The Guggenheim/Wormser Family: A Genealogical 300-Year Memoir* by **Elizabeth S. Plaut** 8 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Joining in the discussion is **Bill Gladstone**, *CJN* columnist, and former president of the Genealogical Society of Canada.

SECURING THE FUTURE

Reena and Jewish Family & Child Service present Securing the Future — Plan for Tomorrow, information and discussion for family members of children and young adults with special needs. Keynote presenters are **Sandy Keshen**, executive director of Reena; and **Gordon Wolfe**, executive director, JF&CS, 7:30 p.m., Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre, 927 Clark Ave. W. For information or to RSVP 787-9554, ext. 7054 or 638-7800, ext. 201.

ROSH CHODESH SERVICES

At Holy Blossom Temple, Youth Chapel, 7:30 p.m., followed by study session with **Rabbi Ariel Friedlander.** Celebrate the rhythm of Jewish time.

Thursday, May 8

CHAT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Evil Ignored, Evil Denied, Evil Persists: The Continuing Legacy of Medicine and the Holocaust is the topic of physician/lecturer **Dr. William Seidelman's** talk and slide presentation, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation. CHAT Alumni office 636-5984, ext. 243.

MARTINI MADNESS

Martini Madness, sponsored by New Leadership Division of The Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation, an evening of dancing, light refreshments, door prizes, raffle for singles and couples at Industry, 901 King St. W. Proceeds benefit the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Shaare Zedek Medical Centre in Jerusalem. 781-3584.

CLUB DAYAN, NA'AMAT

Na'amat Canada, Club Dayan annual Sharon Cole Memorial Lecture on Ruth, Mother of Jewish Royalty, guest lecturer **Chana Sargon,** 7:45 p.m., Temple Sinai. 636-5425.

WELLNESS SERIES

Kehillat Shaarei Torah Sisterhood Wellness Series continues with Flower Power: Bach Flower Remedies, with **Tamara Penn**, 8 p.m., 2640 Bayview Ave. 229-2600.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh Iyar celebration at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, Minchah 8 p.m. followed by Does Torah Have a Gender? with **Reena Zeidman,** chair of Jewish Studies, Queen's University

And What Else Is New

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Scholar-In-Residence Weekend, May 10-11, with **Yaffa Eliach**, Department of Judaic Studies, Brooklyn College. May 10, sisterhood Shabbat services, 8:45 a.m. (The Synagogue and Beth Hamidrash, Home of the Shtetl Jew), followed by sisterhood Shabbat luncheon (The Art of Jewish Survival — Chassidic Tales of the Holocaust), and May 11, brotherhood's Mother's Day Breakfast (The Jewish Mother and the Universal Image of Motherhood). Reserve by May 6. 633-3838.

ABUSE OF WOMEN

Beth Tzedec Sisterhood presents Abuse of Women in the Jewish Community, guest speaker **Gail Gould**, social worker, Jewish Family & Child Service, Tuesday, May 13, 8 p.m. RSVP by May 6. 781-3511, ext. 10.

SHABBAT EXPERIENCE

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto Shabbos Experience, The Mystery of Jewish Survival with **Rabbi David Gottlieb**, senior lecturer for Ohr Somayach in Jerusalem, begins Friday evening May 9 and continues over Saturday, May 10, at Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W. 905-886-5730.

NEWS FROM KOLEL

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning upcoming programs: A Taste of Judaism, free three-week introduction to the basics of Judaism, begins the end of May; Lishma Awards honoring Kolel students who have completed 120 hours of text study, June 8; annual National Study Kallah in Orillia, Aug. 13-17; Educational High Holiday experience. 905-709-1900.

THE MISSION

Dedication of The Mission: Under the Works of God and the Shadow of Amalek by Israeli artist **Dubie Arie** at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Sunday, May 11. Meet the Artist reception 1:30 p.m., dedication 2:30 p.m. Keynote speaker **Yaffa Eliach**. RSVP before May 6. 633-3838.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Canada is sending a team to compete in the first Maccabiah Women's Basketball Competition in Israel this July. Team tryouts in Toronto at Bathurst Jewish Centre Saturday May 10, 9-11 p.m. and Sunday, May 11, noon to 3 p.m. 636-1880, ext. 263.

KOFFLER GALLERY

Two exhibitions, Bill Jones: Dreams, Deliriums and Delusions: Willed Photographs 1987-97 in main gallery and Kevin Eilchi deForest in the Loggia Gallery. Public opening May 8, 8 p.m. Exhibition runs to June 15.

THE CHALLENGE OF ANGER

Jewish Family & Child Service offers The Challenge of Anger: For Women, to help women express anger in an effective, assertive and non-aggressive way, daytime and evening groups, begins May 20. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

KABBALAH COURSE

Eight-week Kabbalah beginners course starts Thursday, May 8, 8:30 p.m. at Kabbalah Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

MUSIC FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Toronto Jewish Folk Choir 71st annual spring concert on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11. Guest artists the Chutzpah! Klezmer Band and tenor **Michael Mandel**. Program features Fantasy on Jewish Themes by composer **Milton Barnes**, guest conductor, 2:30 p.m., Walter Hall, Edward Johnson Building, 80 Queen's Park Rd. 492-7110 or 489-7681.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM

The Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar offered by Jews for Judaism begins Tuesday, May 6, 8 p.m., for eight consecutive weeks at Latner Jewish Library, 4600 Bathurst St. Seminar lecturer is **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, consultant to Jews for Judaism. Register, 789-2851.

FOR SENIORS

Senior Chaverim musicalle, **Stanley Solomon** and his Senior Strings (all have performed with Toronto Symphony Orchestra), Monday, May 5, 1:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May 4, Spring Fair; May 5, Thornhill Square; May 6, blood pressure clinic, noon to 2 p.m.; May 13-15 Ottawa Tulip Festival; May 21, Casino Rama; May 22, discussion Taking Charge, **Leonard Rubenstein**; May 29, Markville Mall; June 4, *Forever Plaid* ; June 16, Casino Niagara. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 8 is bingo and games. Independence Day Sunday, May 11, 7:30 p.m., music, dancing, Teddy Band, singer **Dalia Dahary,** light meal, wine, fun. Aaron Dahary 661-4689 or Malka 630-5771.

LZA Seniors Club luncheon Wednesday, May 7, 11:30 a.m., Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. At luncheon register for Stage West, *Shirley Valentine* June 25, and Stratford, *Camelot* Sept. 3. Ladies folk-dancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: May 12, Mother's Day luncheon 12:30 p.m.; June 1, *Dames at Sea*; July 15, Kingston cruise; Sept. 17, Stratford, *Camelot* ; Aug. 12, Boat Farm. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Bathurst Jewish Centre and **Bernard Betel Centre** trip to Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills July 15-21. **Teme** 636-1880 or **Barbara Zigler** 225-2112.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Music Appreciation evening, North York Orchestra, guest conductor **Gifford Toole,** soloists **Cristina Sewerin, Joseph Roth,** Wednesday, May 7, 7:30 p.m. Co-sponsor Etrog Club.

Prof. Norman Endler, York University, lectures on Stress, Anxiety and Coping, Tuesday, May 6, 10 a.m.

Good Vision — **Uri Grunvald** of Lenscrafters will adjust your glasses, no charge, Tuesday, May 6, 12:15 p.m.

Low Vision Support Group, pharmacist **Edward Zeit** discusses Medication for the Eye, Tuesday, May 6, 1:30-3 p.m.

Brenda Zalkin Healthy Pleasures Lecture, A Sound Mind in a Sound Body, **Margaret Good** from ALCAP, Thursday, May 8, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. May 7 is North York Orchestra program (see above). **Anna**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club presents the *Mah Jong Orphan,* a film about the immigrant experience as it affects a Chinese mother and her daughter. Includes a conversation with filmmaker **Honey Fisher**, 2 p.m., Thursday, May 8.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

The Telephone Language Companion (TLC) Program of the Community Integration Program is seeking volunteers to phone recently arrived immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Phoners are asked to make a commitment to telephone an assigned companion twice a week for six months to help the immigrant develop telephone skills. **Luba Yanko** ext. 261.

CHEQUE PRESENTATION
Joanne Blaier (right) presents a cheque from Don Mills Lodge, B'nai Brith. to Jewish Family & Child Service director Wendy Wolfman.

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Jewish Theological Society of Canada
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
United Synagogue Youth
United Synagogue Day School
Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Hispanic community's Kahan proving to be a vital force

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Myrna Kahan

TORONTO — Ask anyone in Toronto's Hispanic community about Myrna Kahan and chances are they've heard of her.

Perhaps they know her from her days working at CHIN Radio, when she was host of a segment featuring personalities in the Latin community. Maybe they've seen her at a community event, representing her current employer Energy 108 Radio. Perhaps they remember her from the opening ceremonies at the CNE Air Show, which was sponsored by Energy 108 and which Kahan co-hosted. Or maybe they've seen her at the Limelight Dinner Theatre, where she co-emcees the current Tropi-Cuba extravaganza.

Anyway you look at it, the 38-year-old native of Puerto Rico is a going concern in the growing Hispanic community. Like many other Toronto Hispanics, she has energy, enthusiasm and a joie de vivre that's creating a growing profile in the wider community.

Kahan loves the limelight and she readily admits she's comfortable in the company of movie stars, recording artists, club owners and booking agents. She's always been that way, going back to the days in San Juan, Puerto Rico when as a fresh-faced 16-year-old, she persuaded the owner of a local glamor magazine to let her do freelance work — for free.

"I used to sit in the offices of radio and TV stations and meet the stars and make contacts," she said.

Through hard work and plenty of gumption, she worked her way into a position as one of the island's foremost entertainment reporters, working for *Star* magazine, the Puerto Rican equivalent of *TV Guide*. In addition, Kahan bagged a position as director of the communications department for the government of Puerto Rico, giving her even greater access to visiting celebrities and other movers and shakers.

After being hired by Gov. Carlos Romero Barcelo as director of protocol, Kahan seemed to have it made. But her life was to change in a big way. "I married an Israeli businessman and he thought it was a good idea for us to learn more English and to get exposure in the wider world," she said.

Fourteen years ago, they moved to Toronto for, they expected, one year. But her husband's construction business took off and "he convinced me to stay longer." When she became pregnant and had her baby, Jacob, Kahan began to look at Toronto as her permanent home.

Eager to get busy, she started her

[Cont'd. on page 23]

The Consulate General of Israel, Toronto
together with
B'nai Brith Canada,
Canadian Jewish Congress (Ontario Region),
Canadian Zionist Federation
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The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto
invite the community to attend a
YOM HAZIKARON ASSEMBLY
in memory of Israel's fallen
(always observed the day before Yom Ha'atzmaut)
Sunday, May 11, 1997
ד' אייר תשנ"ז
11:00 a.m.
Beth Tikvah Synagogue
3080 Bayview Avenue, Willowdale
Program will be in Hebrew and in English

Greater Toronto Area

Kahan develops contacts among Hispanic community

[Cont'd. from page 22]

own business, preparing decorations for bnei/bnot mitzvah. Using lights and balloons for sculptural effects, something she learned in Puerto Rico but which was unique in Toronto, she developed a niche for her company, Favorite Occasions. She also taught decorating to Na'amat groups and learned English in the bargain.

Meanwhile, Kahan had decided to try to resume her career in the broadcast field, and she was able to get CHIN Radio to allow her to host a short segment on entertainment news. It also gave her the opportunity to develop contacts in the local Hispanic community.

"Myrna has made herself very well known in the community," said Eduardo Uruena, the Colombian-born, Jewish publisher of *El Popular Hispanic Daily*. She's present "as an entertainer or emcee at all the important functions and she's very outspoken and open. You know where you stand with her."

Two years ago, Kahan moved over to Energy 108, the city's number one dance music station, where she became a familiar figure at many station promotions.

She also took it upon herself to try to find outlets for the many talented, but unknown figures in the Latin community.

"The Latin community in the entertainment field wasn't very developed," she said. "There was little opportunity for the talent. I was involved in that field and I created different events where we can use that talent."

She introduced a local Chilean singer, Danielle, to the Napoli Festival in Italy. Recently, she and the director of the U.S.-based International Cultural Foundation organized a charity fashion show and Brazilian carnival that raised $60,000 for education scholarship for young Hispanics. And she helped organize a dance for the Canadian delegation at the Atlanta Olympics.

Currently, she's the co-host of the *Tropi-Cuba Show* at the Limelight Dinner Theatre at which Cuban expatriates, visiting Cubans and local musicians present a colorful Vegas-style spectacle.

Kahan said Canadians' appreciation of Latin music and dance has increased noticeably in recent years. It's probably because many Canadians travel to the tropics for winter vacation and become enchanted with the spirit and sensuality of the music and people, she said.

When Canadians come back from vacation, their feelings are reinforced when they hear superstars like Madonna sing in Spanish and they witness the popularity of Hispanic actors like Antonio Banderas. That makes them more accepting of Latin influences, she said.

So it shouldn't be too much of a surprise to see Latin clubs thriving in Toronto. LA Hollywood, where Kahan organizes the dance competitions, attracts more than 1,000 people for weekend Salsa nights, she pointed out.

An admitted "workaholic," Kahan said her career and her son "keep my hands full." She doesn't get back to Puerto Rico much, where her parents, originally from New York, many years ago opened a restaurant as "a business adventure."

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ANNOUNCEMENT

On April 7, 1997, Orenstein & Partners became HORWATH ORENSTEIN. This change in name reflects our 6-year-old affiliation with *Horwath International* and our commitment to provide our clients with a strong network of people, skills and knowledge to grow their businesses successfully. The members of Horwath International include top quality accounting, international tax and management consulting firms in some 300 cities around the world.

During 71 years in business, our firm has gone through many transitions which have been reflected in our name. This presentation represents a summary chronology of that evolution.

It is with great pride that we have provided our clients and business associates with these many years of service. We thank you for your patronage and trust and look forward to continuing to serve you as HORWATH ORENSTEIN.

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Making a Name for Ourselves

In 1926, Nathan Perlmutter and Ben Papernick founded ***Perlmutter & Papernick***, opening for business at 85 Richmond Street West, in downtown Toronto.

The partnership dissolved in 1932 and Nathan Perlmutter carried on the business as ***N. Perlmutter & Company***, at 347 Bay Street.

Two years later, in 1934 Sam Orenstein joined N. Perlmutter & Company as an articling student. In the years that followed, he became an associate and then partner, prompting another firm name change in 1946 to ***Perlmutter, Orenstein & Company***. In 1951, Perlmutter, Orenstein & Company moved to 220 Bay Street to accommodate growth.

In keeping with that growth, Harry Giddens and Gil Newman became partners. In 1957 the firm became known as ***Perlmutter, Orenstein, Giddens, Newman & Co.*** and relocated once again, to 121 Richmond Street West.

In 1966 after 40 years of service, Nathan Perlmutter retired. In 1981, Gil Newman withdrew from the partnership to work with a client.

The firm name remained unchanged until 1981, except for the period from 1965 to 1968 when the partnership was known as ***Perlmutter, Orenstein, Giddens, Newman & Kofman.***

Recognizing the emerging global economy, the partnership affiliated with Witte Impey International in the late '70s and then in 1981, became part of a new worldwide affiliation with DFK International. The trend of the times, together with this new affiliation, prompted the 1981 name change to ***Orenstein & Partners***. A year later, Orenstein & Partners moved to the Atrium on Bay, at 595 Bay Street.

After almost 50 years in practice, Sam Orenstein retired in 1983. Harry Giddens retired in 1991, having been a partner for almost 40 years.

In response to the increased cross-border business activity, Orenstein & Partners dissolved the affiliation with DFK International in 1991 and became a member of Horwath International, a wider-reaching network, to facilitate serving clients throughout the world.

On April 7, 1997, the firm became **HORWATH ORENSTEIN** to reflect the international status of the partnership and the affiliation with Horwath International.

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

Yom Hashoah marked at UWO

By ELANA LAVINE

LONDON, Ont. — Our recent Holocaust memorial event, Unto Every Person there is a Name, was one of the largest endeavors that the University of Western Ontario's Jewish Student Union has ever undertaken.

Since Yom Hashoah falls after our exam period is over, and the campus has emptied for summer, we decided to commemorate on an alternate date.

We set up a table, a microphone, an amplifier, and dozens and dozens of yahrzeit candles. For 24 hours straight, one by one, members, non-members, Jews and non-Jews, stepped up to the outdoor microphone and read aloud from computer generated printouts, the names of victims of the Holocaust.

Our vigil was publicized throughout campus and everyone from the president of the University Students' Council to faculty members took a turn reading out from the seemingly endless list. In 24 hours, we probably read aloud about 15,000 names, which is just a third of a percent of the six million Jews murdered under the Nazi regime. We became one voice, reading aloud a chronology of death and loss, one name at a time.

We stood, sat, crouched, hung around the microphone, supporting our friends, staying together, some of us even staying outside for the entire night. Many people walked by. Some stopped to ask us what we were doing, and even took a turn reading out the names of our ancestors. The names sounded awkward and tangled in the mouths of people who could trace their families back seven generations, but those who offered to read made our hearts soar in the hope that we were accomplishing something. There were also some who walked by quickly, only darting glances at us, feeling either uncomfortable or angry at our presence.

An Arab friend of mine involved with a Middle Eastern cultural group at school was sitting at a bench nearby. I went over to him to explain what was going on, and to offer him a chance to read. He looked up at me, looked back down at the bench and seemed torn. His words came out haltingly, as we walked over to the microphone.

"I'll buy a candle," he said, and paid his money for the small glass of wax, which he crouched to light in the wind-sheltered space behind a bench. I crouched down beside him, waiting for him to say something more.

"I...can't..., I can't read. There are people who will target me..." I kept quiet, still waiting. "Oh, damn it," he said, a different expression crossing his face, "I don't care, I'll read."

We stood up, and then, as suddenly as it had come into flame, his courage seemed to falter. I told him it was all right, and thanked him for lighting the candle. His face twisted into a painful apologetic smile, his eyes avoided mine and he left his candle with the others and walked back to his bench and his books.

It seems to me that there is a spreading, festering opinion that Jews no longer have a right to evoke sympathy for our loss in the Holocaust. Because of all the tension and bloodshed occurring in present-day Israel, we have crossed some kind of a line which has cost us our distinction as victims. We are no longer to be pitied for the tortures to which we were subjected 50 years ago, because of the present "crimes" we are accused of committing in our homeland.

My friend exemplified those who instinctively feel sympathy. He watched us read out the names of our grandparents and great-grandparents, and the names of those whose grandchildren would be standing with us had they been spared. He looked at my face and saw my sincerity, and yet he could not stand with me and perform an act which would have declared his acceptance of our pain as legitimate.

I wish he had finished his sentence. "People would target me...," he began, and I wonder who those people are. I wonder if they would condemn him for standing among Jews and reading out the names of other Jews, while Jews are an obstacle to be driven into the sea. I wonder if they would glare at him, and deny him the right to make his own decision about what events "cancel out" the significance of other events. I must walk by those people every day at school, and yet I'll never know who the majority of them are because we will probably never speak about such issues.

The majority of people I speak with, Jewish or non-Jewish, know nothing of schoolgirls on a field trip being shot down by a guard or women in a cafe being killed as they sat enjoying a Tel Aviv day.

University can be a womb into which students retreat beyond the reach of headlines, and certainly beyond those events that don't even make headlines. However, there are people who know nothing, but absorb from others the distaste for the plight of the Jewish victim and the scorn for Jews standing in front of a microphone and asking for a moment of sympathy.

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The Answer Salon's Spring Palette features accents such as blouses and silk T's in hot spring colours like kiwi and orange. Besides other hot hues like fuchsia, bright yellows and corals, there are softer tints of yellow, turquoise and green; natural beiges, taupes and creams; and classic colours like navy, black, white and red.

In spring styles, there is something for everyone. Try on the new flat-front narrow pants — or, if you prefer, the full, pleated styles. There are also A-line and straight skirts in prints and solid colours. and there is a wealth of fabrics to choose from: silks, linens, cottons and tencel, to name a few.

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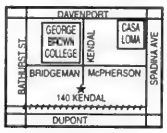

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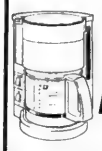
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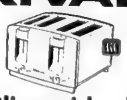
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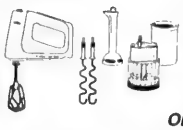
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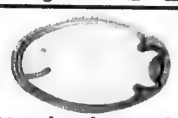
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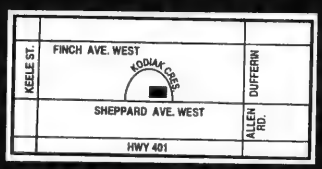

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The hysteria the media has created about the sun's rays is completely overstated. Many recent studies have shown how the sun can be beneficial to people suffering from fatigue, psoriasis, SAD (winter blues) and not also to mention the huge psychological and physiological advantages. This brings us to Heliotherapy, the positive effects of the sun I recently discovered during my investigations at Toronto's most authoritative indoor tanning chain **CLUB TAN**. With 6 locations it seems people are coming back to tanning in large numbers in the Toronto area as salons such as **CLUB TAN** really feel it is important to educate their clients.

When I chatted with owner Marshall Gottlieb, he informed me that since there isn't any regulatory body governing salons in Canada, he said it is very necessary to choose the right salon where they have the best and most up to date equipment as the industry is constantly evolving with safer beds. Marshall comforted me in letting me know his salons have the latest in safety and equipment using tanning beds that are fully climate controlled within a controlled environment. I witnessed a large 16 minute bed as well as facial tanners and this unique stand-up styled tanning capsule. I don't know about you, but when it comes to my body, I wanted to make sure I used the best salon out there as you can't really put a price on safety of your health. They prescribed a professional tanning schedule for the time before and after my vacation right through the summer according to the condition of my skin, objectives and budget. With more than $1 million invested into knowing their business, it is no wonder they are a successful and growing company for years to come.

Thanks to Marshall and his informative staff.

A. Goldstein

Happy Mother's Day Ellie! — from Marshall, Connie, Frank and Lucas

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RICHMOND GRILL AND CAFÉ

Richmond grill and café

Leslie Kubicek, former principle of Toronto restaurants Pronto and North 44, has opened the casual, easy-going Richmond Grill and Café in the heart of Richmond Hill. A bright open kitchen, lofty ceilings and art deco accents make the Richmond Grill a fun place to relax and enjoy lunch or dinner. Chef Kumar (formerly of Pronto and Jump) heads up the culinary team who's goal is to offer creativity and variety; from pizzas to grilled meats, fish to pastas and daily specials – all cooked to perfection ... of course! Lunches $4.95 and up; dinner entrees starting at $11.50. Remember Mother's Day!

10165 Yonge St. (N. of Major Mackenzie)
Phone 905-884-5155

Hours: Open Tuesday to Sunday
Lunch: Tues. to Fri. & Sun.
11:30 am to 2:30 pm
Dinner: Tues. to Sun. from 5 pm

THE AMBASSADOR

The Ambassador offers you fine steak and seafood dining with generous, hearty portions. All striploins are fresh Angus beef; and Monday is prime rib night at $14.95. If you fancy fish, feast on fresh lobster, grilled salmon, or sole almandine with marinara sauce. With your dinner, sip a fine French or Italian wine. For 20 guests or more, there is a banquet hall. The atmosphere is friendly; manager Neil Rubinstein would enjoy meeting you personally. There are inexpensive daily specials - and a **15% discount on dinners with this ad.** To find out about the Mother's Day special, please call. Free parking is plentiful.

2375 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-667-0904

Hours: Mon.-Thu. 5:00-10:00; Fri.-Sun. 4:00-11:00
Reservations accepted
Wheelchair access

GOLAN RESTAURANT

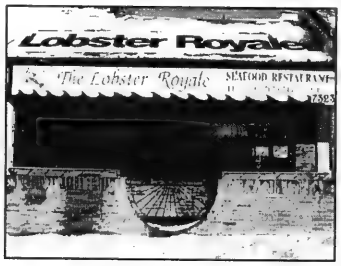
COR

Golan Restaurant offers a large Glatt Kosher menu of Israeli, Ashkenazi, Sephardic and Canadian dishes, including meat, fish and vegetarian specialties. There are 45 appetizers and a wide variety of wines. Lunches start at $9.95 for the special (Tuesday couscous, Wednesday Moroccan fish, Thursday BBQ quarter chicken); dinners run from $12.50 to $14.95. Owned by Rabbi Biton Meir, Golan can cater your simcha, or host it for as little as $25 per person. An enjoyable family dining experience.

398 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-707-0330

Hours: Mon.–Thu. noon–10:00 pm;
Fri. noon–2:30 pm; Sat. one hour after Shabbos ends till 1:00 am;
Sun. noon–11 p.m.
Reservations Saturday night and Sunday
Wheelchair access to main floor

LOBSTER ROYALE



As special as mothers are, they should be treated as such. Dine at The Lobster Royale where lobsters range from one to three pounds, live from the tank, prepared for you either broiled or steamed. Start your meal with a superb Lobster Bisque or a divine Clam Chowder. Other fine fish delicacies are Alaska King Crab Legs, Orange Roughy and Halibut Steak; and the meat menu includes Filet Mignon and New York Striploin. There is a certain tone here, not too formal; smart-casual dress goes well with fine table linen.

7323 Yonge Street
Phone 905-707-0546

Hours: Mon.-Sun. 5:00-10:00 pm
Reservations advised for groups of 4 and up
Wheelchair access

YITZ'S DELICATESSEN

A Jewish Deli serving hearty foods prepared fresh daily with many favourites like homemade soups, corned beef, knishes, big salads and bagels. Voted #1 for Chicken Matzoh Ball Soup, Baby Beef, Lemon Meringue Pie and Chunky Chocolate Cookies. Boasts a 'lighten up' low fat menu. Baking on premises all day long. Unique Feature: A well stocked Humidor with the finest Cuban cigars at the cities best prices.

346 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-487-4506

Hours: 10:00 am-9:00 pm
Take Out: 9:30 am-9:00 pm
7 days a week
Wheelchair access to main floor

ACQUAZZURRA

Acquazzurra is a refreshing traditional northern Italian restaurant. The decor is modern deco with a relaxed elegant atmosphere. Featuring new chef Andrea Corbi, Acquazzurra's menu exemplifies the art of fine food. Delicacies such as fresh grilled seafood, homemade pastas with fresh tomato basil sauce and authentically prepared veal and lamb will delight your taste buds. Enjoy an extensive wine list to compliment your meal and finish with fresh homemade desserts that will melt in your mouth.Bring in mamma, May 11th for a special Mother's Day lunch or dinner.

137 Avenue Road
Phone 416-920-4946

Hours: Mon.-Fri. lunch & dinner,
Sat. dinner only,
Open Sundays JUNE-SEPT.
Reservations recommended

DONATELLO'S

Pasta, chicken, veal, lamb, steaks, & seafood served in an Italian fashion complemented by an extensive wine list.

True elegance while listening to soft Italian music in a cozy atmosphere.

Private personal service.

All major credit cards accepted.

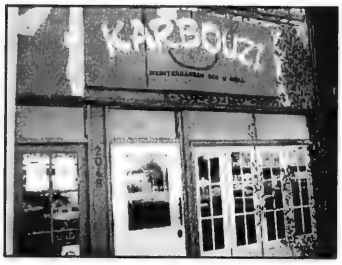
13 Elm Street
Phone 416-595-5001

Hours: lunch 11:00 am-2:30 pm
supper 5:00-11:00 pm
(Fri. & Sat. 5:00-midnight)
Reservations required

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

KARBOUZI



Karbouzi, a family business operating since 1970, has a well-earned reputation for authentic Greek food in a casual setting. For hearty fare, try spanakopita, moussaka or chicken souvlaki dinner. If friday's prime rib tempts you, though, come early: it's often gone by nine o'clock. If you fancy something lighter, choose from 20 cold and hot mezedes (appetizers for those who enjoy sharing with friends). Everything here is home-made, including the desserts. Enjoy lunch or dinner amid Mediterranean pastels, and stucco walls adorned with antique artefacts; upstairs, you'll find a stool bar with pool table and wide-screen TV.

2048 Avenue Road
Phone 416-483-3846

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 11:00-11:00, Bar till 2:00; Sun. 4:00-1:00, bar till 1:00
Reservations recommended
Wheelchair access to main floor

CENTRE STREET DELI

Not exactly in the city centre, the Centre Street Deli is well worth the drive north to Thornhill. Known for wonderful hand-cut smoked meat sandwiches and fresh-cut French fries, it has many other items to satisfy your appetite and palate -- and your children, with a kids' menu to match the family atmosphere. All items are available for take-out. The Centre Street Deli also has an extensive catering menu of meat or dairy dishes on trays or by the pound, hors d'oeuvres, and party sandwiches. Call Sam or Cheryl for your catering needs.

1102 Centre Street
Phone 905-731-8037

Hours: 7:00 am-8:00 pm
7 days a week

LE COMMENSAL

Le Commensal is cosmopolitan, eclectic and vegetarian - mostly vegan (no animal products at all), with some egg and dairy dishes; but 90% of the customers are non-vegetarians who insist on healthful, tasty food. Wherever possible, fresh, organic ingredients are used; there are no additives, preservatives or artificial coloring. There are over 100 dishes, hot, cold and desserts daily. This is an upscale buffet, with no tipping; you pay by the weight of food. Le Commensal is bright, spacious, and friendly as befits its name (French for "table companion"). Works by local artists adorn the walls. There is free parking after 6:00 weekdays and anytime weekends.

655 Bay Street, (entrance on Elm Street)
Phone 416-596-9364

Hours: seven days a week 11:30-10:00
Wheelchair access
Reservations for 10 or more

MONTE CARLO

Tired of disappointing, trendy cuisine? Come to the people who know how to please - at Monte Carlo. Here, George Kostas and his friendly staff continue the tradition that has earned them fame for 40 years. Mr. Kostas ascribes his success to hands-on involvement in the business; he now offers a new menu, and has renovated the bar. Tuesday is pasta night, Wednesday is pizza night; dinner specials start at $9.95. The entire menu is available for take-out, and delivery after 5:00. Monte Carlo specializes in bar and bat mitzvahs, and has banquet facilities for private parties up to 100.

1028 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-781-4656 • Fax 781-4656

Hours: Lunch Wed.-Fri. 12:00-2:30; Dinner Mon.-Thu. 5:00-10:00, Fri.-Sat. 5:00-11:00, Sun 12:00-10:00
Call for reservations

HOTHOUSE CAFÉ

The HotHouse Cafe, with 120 menu items and an extensive wine list, takes special pride in its Thin-Crust Pizza, Indonesian Tiger Shrimp, and Linguine Mediterranean. There is a fabulous Sunday brunch with live jazz, and a Wednesday night buffet; the atmosphere is bright, upbeat and elegantly casual. When you plan a corporate party or a simchah, consider that HotHouse has hosted thousands of events, for 10 to 200 guests. HotHouse is in the heart of Toronto, steps from the theatre district, major hotels, the SkyDome and subway; two hours free parking.

35 Church Street
Phone 416-366-7800

Hours: Mon.-Thu. 11:00 am-midnight
Fri.-Sat. 11:00 am-1:00 am
Sun. 10:30 am-midnight
Reservations requested

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH

Rocky Mountain High... where the sky's the limit! Wind down in the chalet and enjoy a drink in the lounge. Then "catch the lift" to the dining room and try one of our wood-fired flatbread pizzas, Longhorn beef ribs or our delicious cedar plank salmon! From starters to dessert, we have just what you want, with the area's best patio to top it off! DJ and dancing every weekend, and best of all *kids eat for free! We can also accommodate your group of 2 to 200. Open late 7 days a week. Wheelchair accessible.

**Some conditions apply*

The sky's the limit!

125 York Blvd., Richmond Hill
Phone 905-709-1933

Open late 7 days a week
Wheelchair access

MAMMA'S TRATTORIA

Mamma's traditional pastas are excellent; and the thin-crust pizzas have been voted North York's best for the fourth consecutive year. Especially tempting is a seafood pasta (mussels, clams, shrimps and squid) with white wine and a little tomato sauce; the pasta is partly cooked in water, then wrapped in parchment paper and oven-baked so the juices soak into the linguine. Pizza toppings range from standard to gourmet items like artichokes, grilled eggplant and sun-dried tomatoes. Mama's means home-style food made with fresh produce, in a relaxed, smoke-free atmosphere; take-out and delivery are available.

5304 Yonge Street
Phone 416-222-2888

Hours Mon.-Thu. 11:30-11:00, Fri. 11:30-midnight, Sat. 4:00-midnight, Sun. 4:00-10:00
Reservations for parties of 10 or more
Wheelchair access to main floor

THE LOBSTER TRAP

Still serving satisfied patrons after 30 years. The Lobster Trap is Toronto's original lobster house. Unique in Canada, The Lobster Trap offers live lobster in the tank from one pound up to four pounds, prepared the way you like it; and the lobster bisque sets the standard for all others. Besides our delicious lobster, scampies, Alaska king crab legs, shrimps and mussels, there is also a selection of other fine fish dishes. Casual dress goes with the cozy atmosphere; and there is a special kids' menu. Lunches start at $4.95, dinners at $16.95. The Lobster Trap is fully licensed, and accepts all major credit cards.

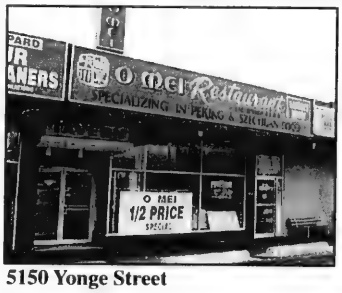
1962 Avenue Road
Phone 416-787-3211

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Dinner 5:00-10:00 p.m., 7 days a week
Wheelchair access

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

O Mei Restaurant



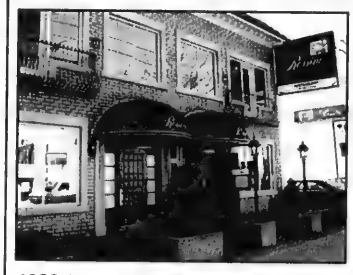
With four convenient locations and a twelve-year reputation for fine Szechuan and Peking cuisine at reasonable prices, the O Mei Restaurant has become an institution in Toronto under the direction of owner Ringo Ip. Legendary favourites include Spicy Chicken, Crispy Beef, and Five Spices Lemon Chicken. The O Mei is currently featuring an extremely popular half-price special at its Yonge and Steeles locations; details in store.

Each location has a private party room ideal for hosting parties of all kinds, and professional sound equipment is supplied by the O Mei.

Hours: Mon.–Thurs. 11:30 —10;
Fri. 11:30–11;
Sat. 12—11; Sun. 12–10
Also at 248 Steeles W. 905-889-8282
420 Hwy. 7 East 905-881-8188
618 Sheppard W. 416-635-5050

5150 Yonge Street
Phone 416-222-2300

Rossini Italian Restaurant



For 28 years, Rossini has been enticing satisfied diners back from as far away as Barrie. All dishes are Italian, reminiscent of the Mediterranean coast, with a strong accent on seafood. For an appetizer, try Antipasto di Mare; for a main dish, Shrimp al Vino; or you may be tempted by the selection of pastas, pizzas, meat and chicken. There are 200 wines, white and red, many of them private stock. Rossini is spacious, with comfortable chairs and carpeting - and has recently undergone a complete renovation, inside and outside, with fresh colors to enhance the friendly atmosphere. There is free parking for patrons.

Hours: 11:00-11:00, Sat. 4:00-11:00; closed Sun.
Reservations recommended Fri.-Sat.
Wheelchair access

1988 Avenue Road
Phone 416-481-1188

Avli Restaurant

When you come to eat at Avli, you'll be pleasantly surprised. You'll taste echoes of Greek food you've had before; everything will seem familiar and comforting, and yet there will be delicious little differences. Meticulously cooked, tradition-based, mouthwatering and interesting variations of a cuisine which people have loved and craved for 2,500 years.

"Food that is poetry" was how Sara Waxman of *The Toronto Sun* described Avli's culinary offerings, which include vegetarian specialties, fresh seafood daily, and exquisite main-course pies with an olive oil crust.

Hours: Sun.–Wed. 5 to midnight;
Thurs. – Sat. 5 to 2 a.m.
Main floor wheelchair access
Reservations recommended Thurs.–Sat.

401 Danforth Avenue
Phone 416-461-9577

Savorie

Choose the Savorie for Italian-Mediterranean cuisine. The menu ranges from pastas and antipastas to steaks, salmon, veal chops, or baby chicken from the mesquite grill. For the summer the chef is adding a selection of light pasta dishes and salads. The wine list features Ontario and California vintages. Can you resist tempting desserts such as profiteroles (chocolate-dipped cream puffs, filled with Grand Marnier custard)? Relax with friends in the lounge or bar or, for the summer on the outdoor patio. The Savorie is a neighbourhood-style restaurant with a casual elegant atmosphere.

Hours 11:30-2:30, 6:00-midnight (kitchen till 10:30) seven days a week
reservations recommended for dinner
wheelchair access

390 Spadina Road
Phone 416-485-3553

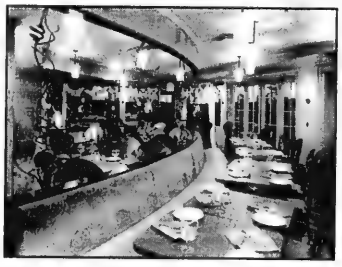
Furama House

Looking for ambience, fine dining and a varied selection of Cantonese and Szechuan cuisine? Look no further than Bobby Peng's Furama House, which boasts all of the above plus the city's most spectacular Dim Sum, available from 10 to 4 seven days a week for your dining pleasure. Ongoing specials include Live Lobster (buy one get one free, $18.95), and Whole King Crab, $18.50 (or take out either of the above for an extra $2). Monday to Friday except holidays, enjoy 20% off the lunch menu and 15% off the dinner menu, not including specials.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.,
7 days a week. Dim Sum 10-4 daily.
Eat-in or take out.
Fully licensed. Wheelchair Access.
Reservations recommended.

100 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-731-3288

Spezzo Ristorante

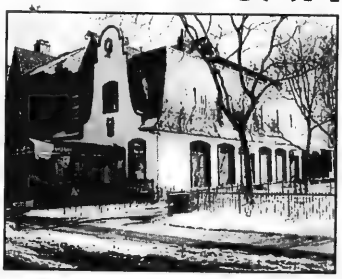


Spezzo Ristorante offers the very best in Northern Italian cuisine with a Mediterranean flair. Featuring an incredible Antipasti Selection, innovative pastas, thin crust, stone baked gourmet pizzas, fresh fish, rack of lamb and juicy 10 oz Angus steak. Complete your dining experience with desserts to die for. All masterfully prepared using only the finest and freshest market ingredients. Our climate-controlled wine cellar boasts an extensive selection of Italian and New World wines. Enjoy the distinctive decor and select live entertainment Friday & Saturday nights. Join us Mon.-Fri. 4:00-6:30 for half-price gourmet pizza, or for frozen cocktails on our sun drenched patio.

Hours: Mon.-Tues. 11am-11pm,
Wed.-Thurs. 11am-12am, Fri. 11am-2am,
Sat. 4:30-2am, Sun. 4:30pm-11pm.
Reservations recommended, Buon appetito!

140 York Blvd., Richmond Hill
Phone 905-886-9703

Bumpkin's

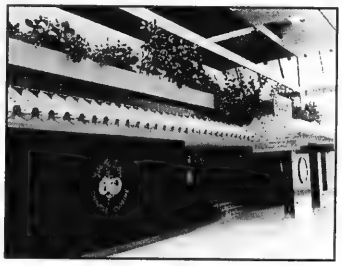


Bumpkin's, under the same owner since 1971, is situated in a Victorian house with an inviting atmosphere and warm fireplace. The huge menu includes duck a l'orange, quails and breast of chicken; for seafood, try the best-selling Shrimps Bumpkin's, fresh Atlantic salmon, stuffed rainbow trout, or fresh catch of the day. The choice of tender, juicy meat items includes roast beef, sirloin, filet mignon and sirloin butt steak; there are also fine vegetarian dishes, like pasta primavera. Daily specials include tiger shrimp, pasta aux fruits de mer, and surf 'n turf. Appetizers are from $2.95, entrees from $8.95; lunches include soup or salad. Best escargots & mussels in town!

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 12:00-2:30 p.m.,
dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:00-11:00 p.m.
Reservations requested for 5 or more persons

21 Gloucester Street
Phone 416-922-8655

Young Lok



In 1969, Young Lok opened on Spadina Avenue as the first Chinese establishment. Over the years Young Lok has offered consistently good food, meeting diet-conscious diners' demands for delicious nutrition. All dishes are MSG free and cooked with vegetable oil. You can choose from the buffet with over 50 items or order from the famous à la carte menu. Dim Sum brunch is offered on weekends and holidays. Efficient delivery service is available for your convenience. Seniors enjoy a 15% discount on the buffet with presentation of a senior card. Young Lok is located next to the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, with plenty of free validated underground parking.

Hours: Mon.-Thu. 11:30 am-10 pm,
Fri.-Sat. 11:30 am-12 am,
Sun 11:30 am-10 pm
Reservations recommended / Wheelchair access

4950 Yonge St., Madison Centre
Phone 416-225-8818

From coast to coast

Community agencies calm following record blizzard

By MATT BELLAN
The Jewish Post & News

Area residents now braced against possible flood

WINNIPEG — At the Sharon Home, staff already on duty served shifts of up to 36 hours, and slept on mattresses on the auditorium floor.

That's just one example of how Winnipeg's Jewish community responded to last month's blizzard that dumped nearly a foot and a half of snow.

Staff at the Sharon Home, Winnipeg's Jewish nursing home, were "absolutely outstanding" during the blizzard, said Daniel Ruth, chief executive officer.

"Some worked 24 to 36 hours," he noted, adding that the home used its "disaster plan" in response to the storm.

Under the plan, staff members aren't allowed to leave until enough replacement staff arrive.

Ruth was sure, however, that staff would have stayed and worked even without that directive. "They were incredible," he said. "Everybody worked as a team." The home had only about half its usual staff numbers for those two days.

Relatives of some residents and some staff members picked up staff members at home whenever they could, and brought them to work.

"Another volunteer — we don't know who he was — went out and brought in six or seven people."

For Bob Yaffe, executive director of the YMHA Jewish Community Centre, the blizzard capped 14 months of what he hopes is some of the worst weather he'll have to endure in Winnipeg.

"I started here Feb. 1, 1996, when it was 42 below," he said. "The next day, the water mains broke in the Y Centre building."

He expressed concern about emergency provisions for the Asper Jewish Community Centre which is slated to officially open later this year.

As far as he knows, no such arrangements are yet in place for the new complex, which will house three schools, a Jewish community centre and other facilities.

"What if the centre doesn't close (because of a blizzard or other emergency), but the school does?" he wondered.

For Rabbi Avrohom Altein, head of Winnipeg's Lubavitch Centre, the blizzard was a "blessing."

"You're trapped in your house," Altein explained. "So what can you do? We had more time to prepare for Pesach."

Matt Bellan is editor of the Jewish Post & News *in Winnipeg.*

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

GRISANTI'S CASUAL ITALIAN RESTAURANT

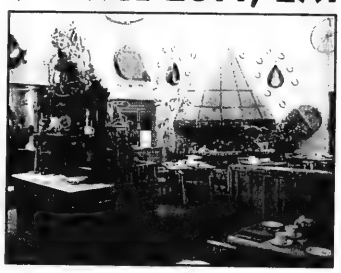
We offer authentic Italian food in a warm, casual, family style atmosphere. We're known for our tasty Pasta dishes, Eggplant Parmigiana, and a special treat, complimentary with any entrée —Tuscan style garlic bread served warm with a marinara dipping sauce. Lunch prices start at $4.75, dinner at only $5.95. Monday & Tuesday nights are "Bambino Nites" where two kids under 10 eat FREE with the purchase of one adult entrée!

Further enhancing the Grisanti's experience is our fabulous All-You-Can-Eat Sunday Brunch: only $9.95 for adults (seniors $8.45), $5.95 for kids age 5–10, and FREE for kids under age 5!

7700 Bathurst (Promenade Village)
Phone 905-707-8511

Also at: Warden & Hwy. 7 905-940-1300
646 Dixon Road 416-243-1831
411 Bayfield, Barrie 705-739-0924

VILLAGE LOFT, EATON'S YORKDALE



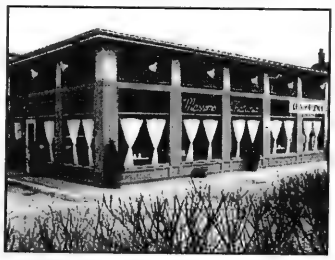
The Village Loft Restaurant at Eaton's Yorkdale is a family dining oasis for both in-store shoppers and the general community. Especially popular is the All-You-Can-Eat Buffet, served daily: $9.95 M to F 11:30–2:30; $13.95 M to W 4:30–8, Thurs. & Fri. 4:30–9; $10.95 Sat. 11:30 to 8 and Sun. 11:30 to 3. Children under 8 eat for half price, children under 4 eat FREE, and seniors enjoy 10% off every day!

Licensed under LLBO, the Village Loft also offers an exciting à la carte menu. Its large, sunny dining room is a cheery destination for all your special occasions, and a private room is available. There is ample free parking and direct subway access.

Eaton's Yorkdale, 2nd floor
Phone 416-256-5018

Hours: Open daily; see hours above
Reservations recommended

MASSIMO TRATTORIA



Since first exciting Torontonians' palates in 1982, Massimo Trattoria has expanded to its current four locations.

Still celebrated for the gourmet pizza and calzone it pioneered, Massimo's boasts an exquisite yet reasonably priced Italian menu highlighted by such favourites as Risotto Con Pollo, Risotto Al Barolo, Fusilli Rustica, Penne Stufato, Pizza Margherita, and Pizza Pugliese.

At the Thornhill location you can now enjoy an exquisite all-you-can eat Sunday Brunch, served from 11 to 3. For $19.95 (children 12 & under $9.95), you'll have an incredible selection of Italian delicacies brought right to your table.

7787 Yonge Street (Thornhill Mews)
Phone 905-771-9901

Also at: 2459 Yonge St. 416-487-4449
302 College St. 416-967-0527
504 Queen St. W. 416-703-1803

A TASTE OF TIKVAH (COR)

In a warm, sunny, charming little nook at the Promenade Village Shoppes, A Taste of Tikvah has quickly become the "in" spot for Glatt Kosher dining. One "taste" and you'll understand why: the portions are ample, the prices reasonable, and the perks abundant — like a free pita when you order soup, or a free dish of delicious pickles with your entrée.

The menu features a variety of tempting shish kebabs and salads, with a focus on Mediterranean and Middle Eastern cuisine. Combine this with wonderful atmosphere and *haymishe* service from Albert, Yossi and staff, and you have a formula for Glatt Kosher magic.

7700 Bathurst (Promenade Village)
Phone 905-771-0699

Hours: Sun. —Thurs. Noon to 11 pm
Friday open for lunch
Sat. open 1 hour after sundown
Main floor wheelchair access

THE PINEAPPLE INN

The Pineapple Inn, in an old Unionville church built in 1847, has its name from the carved or painted pineapple, the Colonial symbol of hospitality. The pineapple still decorates the walls of the Inn, whose inner appearance resembles a Victorian house with fireplace and pine floors. The Inn offers fine dining, and a menu which respects current trends in dishes like roast rack of lamb, peppered fillet of salmon, or puree of butternut squash soup with ale and cheddar cheese. The atmosphere is casual, hospitable and unpretentious. Come see for yourself: drop in for Sunday brunch; or reserve a room for an intimate dinner party.

149 Main Street, Unionville
Phone 905-940-6639

Hours: 11:30 a.m.-2:30 pm., 5:30 p.m. till closing; closed Mondays
Reservations recommended
Wheelchair access

Former lawyer now resolves family disputes

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — In Robert (Bob) Eisen's professional life, one challenge leads to another.

Eisen, 69, who was called to the bar at Osgoode Hall Law School more than four decades ago, recently turned his efforts to Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) for families, a field he says that is growing at an overwhelming pace.

"Too many families experience business break-ups or dwindling inheritances as a result of dissension among family members," says Eisen.

"Emotions stand in the way of clear thinking and decisions are driven by feelings rather than well thought-out criteria."

This is where Eisen and other ADR facilitators assist family members to recognize that faulty communication leads to emotional trauma and poor business decisions.

"We try to clear the channels of communication so that the participants may start speaking openly and directly on business matters free of the emotional baggage that held them back in the past."

He stresses it is important to separate emotions from financial issues.

Eisen says dispute resolution is a fast growing area, as people realize that litigation has become expensive and binding arbitration is cumbersome and drawn out.

"Mediation and facilitation, which get people to communicate and come up with their own compromises and solutions, are proving to be viable alternatives."

Eisen is certified by the Arbitrators Institute of Canada and has completed many courses in mediation and estate planning.

Eisen left his practice 16 years ago, when he accepted a position with the Environmental Assessment Board and then with the Ontario Municipal Board. He has served on a variety of commissions of inquiry handling dispute resolution.

Robert Eisen

"Many accountants and lawyers have clients who are faced with family conflicts. They are not trained to handle these situations and if they did, they may find themselves in a conflict of interest."

Eisen said he tries to create an atmosphere where those involved feel comfortable enough to speak their minds and become open to suggestions from others without dismissing them before considering the pros and cons.

Clients must sign an agreement that clarifies Eisen's position as well as theirs, with an understanding that he is not acting as a lawyer and that he will not make decisions for them.

Then they try to separate the issues and focus on them one at a time, while Eisen helps them set priorities. "Often, I have to bring them back to the main issues while together we examine their options."

Comedian proves there's more to comedy than simple one-liners

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Comedians who believe one-liners are a way to an audience's heart can take a lesson from 71-year-old Bernard Mendelovitch, who recently held a sold-out audience of 500 spellbound for 20 minutes as he told two stories by Shalom Aleichem.

Mendelovitch proved that the attention span can be extended when the human voice — he read several stories, primarily in Yiddish, but also in English — is as expressive as any musical instrument.

Mixing shorter stories — the old Jew in a London wartime blackout who is arrested on the street by a policeman for no other reason than that he wanted company on the way to the station — with longer pieces, the British actor showed exquisite timing in his Toronto debut.

Sponsored by the Friends of Yiddish and Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, the concert was in memory of Ben Clodman, a raconteur and Yiddish teacher par excellence. Nina Shapilsky was the accompanist.

The audience identified completely with the mellifluous English accent of the veteran comic who turned a paean to the glories of Yiddish theatre into a memorable evening.

His particular genius is in recognizing that true Yiddish theatre has the bittersweet character of an aching heart as well as the humor of adversity. His story about the Jew who couldn't get his teeth fixed because his three prosperous doctor sons were all too busy with their own lives certainly struck a chord. His good-natured barbs at the fancy-shmancy weddings and parties of the 1990s found their mark.

As a trouper on the stage in east-end London, Mendelovitch recalled his pleasure at seeing a woman in the front row twitch with pleasure every time he told a joke. Later he found out that the spotlights shining on the woman's shoulders were giving her relief from rheumatism.

Then there was the story about the nurse telling another nurse, admiringly, that the Jewish patient donning t'fillin had already learned to take his own blood pressure.

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From coast to coast

B'not mitzvah service held in the Okanagan

OKANAGAN, B.C. — In the heart of the British Columbia Interior, the Okanagan Valley has a tiny but growing Jewish community, which is increasing not only its numbers, but also its commitment to opening avenues through which its members can identify and express themselves as Jews.

The members decided to hold a community b'not mitzvah service for women past the traditional age of bat mitzvah, an idea endorsed by the Okanagan Jewish Community/Beth Shalom Synagogue.

Nine women ranging in age from 14 to 67 began (with more than a little trepidation) the process of studying together to prepare for being called to the Torah. Since the community has no rabbi, the male members of the congregation who generally lead Shabbat and High Holy Day services assisted by teaching and guiding as needed.

The joy of learning together in a forum where care and support are offered has made this an experience of a lifetime, the b'not mitzvah have said. The usual boundaries separating the young and the "not so young" quickly dissolved as these nine women delighted in witnessing each other's progress.

On May 24, the b'not mitzvah will stand together, as nine proud women wearing their tallesim and kippot, and will be called to the Torah to take their place in their community as they affirm their Jewish heritage.

The b'not mitzvah of the Okanagan Jewish Community are: Olga Birney, Shelley Malkin, Linda Ruby, Gloria Golbey, Anita Nadler, Irmgard Tirschler, Shawna Kotler, Alicia Ruby and Linda van Wilde Rode.

At community b'not mitzvah service is (from left) Alicia Ruby, Linda van Wilde Rode, Anita Nadler, Linda Ruby, Shelley Malkin and Gloria Golbey.

Multiculturalism minister to report on hate crimes meeting

OTTAWA — Secretary of State for Multiculturalism Hedy Fry says she will issue a report within the next 30 days on a recent meeting called to discuss hate and bias crimes.

The meeting brought together a broad spectrum of ethno-cultural and religious groups, including B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights, to examine hate crimes and the conditions which underlie them.

The Hate and Bias Activity and Crime Meeting addressed three themes: legislative and policy matters; community development and social issues; and technology and international issues.

According to a statement from the ministry, discussions "identified the need to approach the issues from a holistic perspective aimed at promoting a respectful and inclusive society."

The conference took place only days after Fry unveiled a new multiculturalism program, with new funding criteria and objectives.

The policy, announced last fall, is linked to three goals: social justice, civic participation and identity.

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Singles Events

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*. **Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836. *The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

****TIMEOUT! Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee League**** New summer outdoor sport starts June '97! Register NOW! (416) 255-2230.

NEW IMAGE 50 + SINGLES** is having a ***Mix & Mingle, on **Sunday May 4th** at Earl Bales Community Centre, 7:30 pm. Refreshments. Tapes by Murray. Members $2., Guests $4. Member's Dinner, Sunday, May 25th. **Trip to Granit,** Sunday, July 27th - Monday August 4th (9 days). See Helen

Co-ed Softball's Coming! Metro Toronto Singles Presents...it's 8th Annual Season, Recreational & Competitive Divisions. For Info. call: 222-7111.

Grand Opening - *"A Touch of Class"* invites you to an elegant dinner dance soirée on Saturday, May 3rd. Mix 'n Mingle (cocktails) 6:30 - 7:45 pm., dinner following. Ages: 35+. Dress code, live band. Promotion price: $14.95 + $5.00 cover charge. Sonia, 636-4845.

Jewish Single Parents & Single Friends are invited to an evening of Computer Games & Networking, Wed., May 14 or Wed. May 28, 7-9pm, $10., incl. refreshments. Call to reserve & for more info. Space is limited, 905-881-0376, ext. 2. Thanks to Action Comm. for Jewish Continuity, Jewish Fed. of Greater Toronto. * Watch for programs with your children- coming soon, call for more info.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over **1335** registered. Averaging an engagement every **6** weeks. 483-4151.

MARTINI MADNESS BECKONS YOU. The Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation New Ledership Division's Second Annual Dance Party, Thursday, May 8th, 8:30 pm at **Industry**, 901 King St. West, Tickets: $25. in adv., $30. at door. Payable by Visa/MC. Call The CSZHF Office at 416-781-3584

Super Singles Weekend! MTS Presents...Our annual **Sports & Wellness Weekend Getaway,** June 20-22, at Clevelands House Resorts in Muskoka. For info. call: 222-7111 .

"Group of 24," Singles, 55 & over, will celebrate it's 17th Anniversary & is planning an **Open House in June**. Anyone interested in joining the group or finding out more info., please call Pnina at 781-7742 or Isaac at 925-6572.

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Congress launches its own Web site

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — What better way for the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) — 77 years into its existence — to get in gear for the 21st century than by joining the ranks of online Jewish cyberspace sites?

That's exactly what happened recently as CJC officially launched its own bilingual and interactive Web site, a project of CJC's National Archives Department.

At a special evening devoted to launching the site — located at [www.cjc.ca] — national archives director Janice Rosen pointed to perhaps its most unique aspect, which you won't see on the screen: the site was developed in-house by the archives department's own "Webmaster" Bonnie Borenstein.

Rosen and Borenstein, who "walked" the audience through the site projected on a screen, made it all seem deceptively simple.

Divided into six logical categories — What We Do, Where We Are, Our Aims, Our History, Communiqués and CJC News — at a touch of the mouse, the site will give anyone looking in from anywhere in the world access to a colorful, clean-looking, and well-organized site distributed over 200 "pages."

According to an information sheet prepared by CJC, hit the large "What We Do" button, and you get just that, a description of what CJC does and that includes hyperlinks to pages detailing CJC's "special interests and committees...and latest activities," such as on the War Crimes issue, in which the user could be hyperlinked to the most recent CJC communiqué or other relevant pieces of information on the war crimes dossier.

There are other attractions as well.

Besides providing continuously updated "news" on CJC activities, press releases and an online version of CJC's quarterly publication, *DAIS* (available through the What's New button), the site has separate pages devoted to CJC regions and features an interactive discussion group for member of Canada's small Jewish communities, where messages can be posted and responded to.

The site is also linked to the Archives Department pages, where users can check out CJC's guide to its collection. On the Web site information sheet, it was noted that the archives has gotten more e-mail requests for information in the first two months of 1997 than it did all last year.

According to Rosen, the site is primarily intended for individuals "involved" with CJC, researchers, as well as the general public, and will include an increasing number of links to related Web sites.

And as evening participant Marsha Lustigam noted, those numbers can add up.

Lustigman, who is librarian at Bialik High School, also gave a brief "tour" of Jewish sites on the Internet, noting that they now number more than 1,000.

Na'amat honors Winnipeg's Jewish Child & Family Service

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — For possibly the first time in the history of Winnipeg's Jewish community, one organization has honored another.

On April 13, Na'amat Winnipeg recognized the work of Jewish Child & Family Service (JC&FS) at an evening entitled Growing Up With Na'amat.

"We felt that our work in Israel today is similar to the work Jewish Child & Family Service does here," says Pauline Goldstone, president of Na'amat Winnipeg. "Na'amat's main project right now in Israel is a new counselling service in Tel Aviv for abused mothers and children."

Na'amat presented JC&FS with a plaque in honor of its work. "They spoke very highly of the agency," says Merrill Shwaid, a longtime staff member and editor of *Sherut*, the JC&FS bulletin. "They are talking to us about joint ventures."

A second highlight of the evening was a concert by Russian Jewish teenage pianist Victoria Gomon. "We have had Victoria play at our annual meetings several times," Shwaid says. "She has really grown as a pianist." (Gomon has been studying in Vancouver for the past year.)

In other Winnipeg JC&FS news, interim director Emily Shane, who has been with the agency for 14 years, has been confirmed as the new executive director. She replaces Barney Yellen who left for a similar position in New Haven, Connecticut, last September.

Shane also serves on the board of the Manitoba Association of Social Workers and the Manitoba Association of Registered Social Workers.

"These are challenging times," she says. "We have to try to maintain our present levels of service despite decreased funding from all our major funders."

Shane is looking forward to the JC&FS move to the Asper Jewish Community Campus when it opens this summer. "The campus setting offers us the opportunity to further our efforts in providing optimum services for the Jewish community and the community at large," she says.

Features

From Bach to Beatles: Questions nag at concert.

By STEWART HOFFMAN
Special to The CJN

NORTH YORK — On reading Peter Breiner's publicity package in advance of his recent Canadian debut as conductor, pianist and arranger, I had several nagging questions.

Concert Review

A resident of North York since 1992, Breiner had planned a program with the North York Symphony featuring works by Mozart and Prokofiev, as well as Breiner's own arrangement of Beatles tunes "in the style of Bach." So — was this a "pops" concert? Was it to be, for lack of a better word, "serious"?

A list of recordings featuring the Czechoslovakian-born Breiner as arranger and conductor includes titles ranging from *Tchaikovsky: Songs for Violin and Orchestra* to *Feelings* and *Elvis Goes Baroque.*

Conducting from his seat at the harpsichord, Breiner opened the program with his *Beatles Concerto Grosso.* A six-part suite for flute solo and orchestra, its being written "in the style of Bach" is analogous to Velvita being processed as real cheese, and with the propulsive drive and intensity — not to mention genius — of neither Bach nor the Beatles, this hybrid falls squarely into the category of easy listening. The music may have appealed to many at the sold-out performance, but it's hard to imagine why it was part of a concert featuring a landmark piano concerto by Mozart, and Prokofiev's *Classical Symphony*, one of the most endearing works written this century.

The efforts of Milan Brunner, the flute soloist, were, unfortunately, not helped by the musicians with which he shared the stage. The North York Symphony is, in fact, a mixed group — about 35 of its roughly 55 members are professionals — that has gained a reputation as one of the finer regional ensembles in the province. Throughout the piece, though, the orchestra struggled with problems of balance and intonation.

If the *Beatles Concerto Grosso* brought into question Breiner's judgment in programming, his performance of Mozart's *D-minor Piano Concerto* dragged the evening one step further down the ladder of musical taste. A lot of head scratching and thumbing through programs must have gone on as Breiner introduced the piece with his own "improvisation."

Although Mozart didn't conceive the work with a piano introduction, the contemporary, Chick Corea-inspired piano styling of Breiner sounded as if it was from another planet. But it was not just here that Breiner took liberties with style. Pianists often replace the cadenzas written by Beethoven (Mozart didn't write any for this work) with their own, but the pastiche Breiner assembled for the first and third movement cadenzas — loungy jazz, tango, and an occasional nod to boogie woogie — had nothing to do with building on the music of Mozart and everything to do with the dumbing down of great art in an attempt to get a cheap laugh. Not my idea of symphony fun.

What is particularly sad is that Breiner has the pianistic technique and training to know better — although one wishes that he would have treated this most demonic of Mozart concertos with real passion.

The second half of the program began with Prokofiev's *Overture on Hebrew Themes.* The work dates from 1919, when the nine-member Zimro ensemble touring the United States handed Prokofiev a collection of Hebrew tunes and asked their former St. Petersburg Conservatory colleague to write them a piece. The result was a delightful but modest work that clocks in at only eight minutes, but the performance did little to convey the music's character.

It took the challenge of Prokofiev's *Classical Symphony* to show off the standard of playing that the orchestra is capable of. Here Breiner kept the tempo brisk and the orchestra rose to the occasion. The performance had all the requisite energy, and with good solo and ensemble playing, this music — buoyant, and comedic in tone — unfolded logically, and honestly, as it was meant to.

And that, Mr. Breiner, is what I call fun.

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Features

Toronto-born sculptor's work an Olympian choice

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Toronto-born kinetic sculptor Rein Triefeldt's spirit soared when his 3-foot bronze, Olympic High Flyer — two finely tuned male divers precisely balanced on a double support — was selected for display in the centre of Canada Olympic House during the 1996 Atlanta Summer Games. A favorite among visitors, the "flyers" spun through the air defying gravity at every touch.

The sculpture was on loan from owners Paul and Eleanor Paine of Windsor, Ont.

Triefeldt, who has been working and teaching at New Jersey's Johnson Atelier for the past 8½ years, holds a masters degree in Fine Arts from the University of Windsor. He also taught there and maintains a close association with his alma mater.

Following the Olympics, he exhibited successfully at the New Jersey State House and a clip from the show was included on the New Jersey Network TV evening news.

He has a special feeling for kinetic pieces, rising to the challenge of motion and exulting in its freedom.

An abiding concern for the environment is evident in his works, Condor's Nest and Whale.

Turning to a more whimsical subject, he is currently preparing preliminary drawings and watercolors for a new series of kinetic sculptures inspired by the Cirque du Soleil. Here he celebrates the daring flights and humor which distinguish this extraordinary circus.

The first of his completed "Cirque works," an acrobatic flyer and mystic moon in beautiful patina will have their debut in June at Two Sculptors, a gallery reminiscent of a French Salon, founded by two Canadians Jeffrey Rubinoff and Don Bonham, in New York's Chelsea district. The show features young New York sculptors and painters.

Artist Review

Triefeldt recently returned to Canada and the University of Windsor where his life-size sculpture, Flyer, a single intricately balanced diver, has become part of the university's permanent collection. A larger-than-life bronze sculpture has been commissioned by the developer PHP Management Ltd., for a new office building in Windsor and is now on the drawing board.

Another commission is for a monumental seahouse to be placed in a children's garden adjacent to the New Jersey State Aquarium.

Triefeldt's kinetic sculptures are in corporate and private collections in Canada, the United States, Hong Kong and the Netherlands.

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ISRAEL UPDATE

Thursday, May 8 - 8:00 p.m.
Israel: Too Jewish or Not Jewish Enough?
Rabbi Phillip Scheim
Rabbi of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am

Monday, May 12 - 8:00 p.m.
Tunnel Vision: Ancient Facts, Modern Politics and the Archeology of Israel
Professor Maynard Maidman
Professor of Judaic Studies at York University

Tuesday, May 13 - 8:00 p.m.
What is Happening in the Jewish World?
Mr. Frank Dimant
Executive Vice-President of B'nai Brith Canada

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A-G rejects claims of bias in Bar-On affair

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israeli Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein has rejected charges that ethnic or religious bias played a role in his decision to indict Aryeh Deri in connection with the Bar-On affair.

Rubinstein's statement last week marked his first public remarks since announcing his decision to indict the Shas leader for allegedly seeking the January appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general in exchange for a plea bargain in his own ongoing corruption trial.

Rubinstein and State Attorney Edna Arbel did not indict Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi or other top officials, citing lack of sufficient evidence.

Supporters of Deri, who heads the Shas party, held a mass rally in Jerusalem last week, where they charged that an anti-Sephardi bias had led to his indictment. (The backbone of Shas support comes from religious Jews of Sephardi background.)

At the rally, Deri accused the "Zionist establishment" of trying to subvert Sephardi culture.

Similar remarks were heard by other speakers at the rally, despite President Ezer Weizman's appeal to Shas not to blame the indictments on "the ethnic card."

Rubinstein said the evidence presented by police had provided the sole basis for his recommendations.

Rubinstein's remarks came in the wake of reports that in their final deliberations, he and Arbel had ignored three senior prosecutors who believed that there was sufficient evidence to indict Netanyahu and Hanegbi.

According to Israeli media reports, the three prosecutors outlined their view in a detailed 15-page internal document that said there was sufficient evidence to show that Netanyahu appointed Bar-On exclusively or mostly due to pressure from Deri.

Deri's lawyer said the three had also written that if indictments were not recommended against Netanyahu and Hanegbi, then none should be recommended against Deri, since such a move would appear questionable.

Rubinstein and Arbel have refused to release the internal document, which several groups have demanded in order to back up petitions they submitted to the High Court of Justice seeking to overturn the attorney general's decision not to indict Netanyahu and Hanegbi.

Bar-On won cabinet approval Jan. 10, but stepped down two days later amid growing charges in political and legal spheres that he lacked the experience to hold Israel's top legal post.

Two weeks later, the cabinet unanimously approved Rubinstein as Israel's attorney general.

A three-month police investigation was launched after an Israel Television report alleged that Bar-On was appointed as part of a deal to provide a plea bargain for Deri.

In a 995-page report submitted last week to Rubinstein and Arbel, police investigators had recommended that charges be brought against Netanyahu and Hanegbi.

Meanwhile, the political storm swirling around Netanyahu over the Bar-On affair appears for the most part to have subsided, with his government no longer facing the imminent threat of collapse.

Israel b'Aliyah and the Third Way parties each announced that they would remain in the coalition as long as measures were taken to ensure good government.

Coalition partners have been pressing for the removal of Hanegbi from the justice portfolio, saying that Rubinstein and Arbel had found grave improprieties in Hanegbi's handling of Bar-On's nomination and appointment.

Responding to demands by coalition partners that Netanyahu change the way his government functions, the prime minister announced last week that he was naming Finance Minister Dan Meridor of Likud and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky of Israel b'Aliyah to head a senior ministerial committee on civil servant appointments.

Shas party leader Aryeh Deri, right, is seen seeking advice last week from Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, the party's spiritual leader. [RNS/Reuters]

Hamas activist vows to continue fight

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

LONDON — Prominent Hamas activist Abdel-Aziz Rantisi, now in Gaza after being freed from Beersheva Prison, has vowed to continue the fight against Israel and "send its militants to heaven."

Interviewed by correspondents from two London-based dailies, Saudi-owned *al-Hayat* and the Palestinian *al-Quds al-Arabi*, Rantisi said there was no room for a political agreement between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority (PA). While Hamas is guided by Islam, which "does not permit giving up one inch of Palestine," he said, the PA openly states it is willing "to relinquish around 90 percent of the land of Palestine."

Rantisi was the spokesperson for some 400 Hamas and Islamic Jihad supporters who were deported to Marjaz Zuhour in south Lebanon in late 1992. He was detained when he returned the following year.

Rantisi said he was unimpressed by the changes brought about by the 1993 Oslo Accord, telling *al-Quds al-Arabi* it was far from evident that anything had changed at all during his stay in prison.

He disputed a contention by his *al-Hayat* interviewer that Hamas had decided to halt military action and give the PA a chance to make progress in the negotiations with Israel: "This talk bears no relation to reality," he said, pointing to the recently discovered Tzurif cell. "I don't see that there has been a cessation of military action.

"Islam," he continued, "does not permit giving up one inch of Palestine and states that Palestine belongs to the Muslims, belongs to the Palestinian people, not to the Jews.

"Does Islam allow me to go along with the [PA's] conspiracy against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian cause and call this peace and coexist with it?

"When they speak of Oslo, they speak of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza with [eastern] Jerusalem as its capital while giving up the rest of Palestine."

Rantisi made similar remarks to *al-Quds al-Arabi*, adding: "My position is that I agree to the establishment of a Palestinian state on any [liberated] part of Palestine, but without giving up any part in exchange. This is liberation. Bartering land for land to which I am entitled is not liberation and it is not permissible in Islam."

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Israelis nonplussed by debate over pending conversion bill

By MICHELE CHABIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Reform and Conservative Jews in North America have been up in arms over Israel's pending conversion bill.

But many Israelis are essentially indifferent to both the legislation and to the Reform and Conservative movements in general.

Backgrounder

The bill "really isn't important to me or to most of the people I know," says Eyal Biger, a 26-year-old graduate student.

"Frankly, there are more vital things to worry about at the moment. Things like security and the peace process. Compared to this, the issue of conversion is a non-issue."

The legislation would give the Orthodox Chief Rabbinate exclusive control over conversions performed in Israel, in effect barring the recognition of Reform and Conservative conversions performed there.

The Knesset passed the measure earlier this month in the first of three votes known as readings.

The bill is now on legislative hold as government mediators seek a compromise between the Orthodox and non-Orthodox streams of Judaism.

Biger and his Danish-born wife, a practicing Hindu, whom he met during a trip to India, do not object to the Orthodox Rabbinate's long-standing monopoly on marriages, divorces and conversions performed in Israel.

"My wife doesn't plan to convert, but if she ever changes her mind, I hope she will do so within a religious framework," says Biger.

"In that case, I would like her to sit for half a year and study Judaism. I don't object to the beautiful, real way to convert," he said, referring to Orthodoxy. "But as I said, the issue isn't that important."

Unlike many Israelis, who have never experienced Judaism from a Reform or Conservative perspective, Biger personally knows many Conservative Jews.

"I'm familiar with Conservative Judaism — about half the people in my army unit belonged to the movement — but I just don't abide by their approach.

"If I go to synagogue, and I admit that's not often, I go to an Orthodox one and recite Orthodox prayers. I can't relate to movements that permit people to drive to synagogue or to smoke in one."

The Reform and Conservative movements' "obvious role in keeping North American Jews connected to Judaism," says Biger, "are right for America but unnecessary in Israel."

Biger's opinions are shared by large numbers of Israelis — point to the very real differences between Israelis and Diaspora Jews, according to those involved in religious pluralism issues.

And until these differences are addressed, they say, the gaps between Israeli and Diaspora Jews will grow even wider.

"American Jews must understand that religious pluralism in Israel is different," says David Clayman, director of the American Jewish Congress office in Israel.

"For most Israelis, religious pluralism means their right to pick and choose what they will observe of the tradition, but the tradition itself, in their view, should remain the Orthodox one.

"Prof. Shlomo Avineri of the Hebrew University said it very succinctly: 'The shul that I don't go to is Orthodox.'"

While Reform and Conservative Jews in North America see their struggle for recognition in Israel as part of a broader fight to overcome what they perceive as religious coercion in Israel, most Israelis view things differently.

According to Clayman, the majority of Israelis do not view the non-Orthodox movements as their salvation from the Rabbinate's control over marriages and conversions, or even from such controversies as Shabbat street closures or bans on non-kosher meat.

"If anything, Israelis aren't seeking alternate religious forms," says Clayman. "What they're seeking are non-religious civil ceremonies for marriage, divorce, burial, conversion.

"There's more pressure in Israel to institute civil marriage and to establish civil cemeteries than to recognize the authority of Reform and Conservative rabbis."

Care about their own lives

Ithamar Gruenwald, professor of Jewish philosophy at Tel Aviv University, maintains that Israelis' relative lack of interest in the conversion bill is actually quite natural.

While American Jews are not too upset about the controversy over closing Bar Ilan Street in Jerusalem on Shabbat, "most Israelis aren't too concerned about the conversion bill, since it doesn't affect most of them in any significant way," says Gruenwald.

"Really, what people ultimately care about are things affecting their own lives."

Reform movement spokesperson Anat Galili says Israelis "have a total misunderstanding about American attitudes toward Judaism, and that's where the gap on the conversion law comes into play."

"Growing up in Israel, you don't have to do anything to feel Jewish. Everyone knows about Pesach and Yom Kippur because everything is closed or we learned about them in school. Israelis don't realize that Jews in a non-Jewish environment must do something every single day to assert their Jewishness.

"And just as Israelis take their Jewishness for granted," Galili says, "Americans take the separation between church and state, the concept of religious pluralism, for granted. To Israelis these are foreign concepts."

Rabbi Einat Ramon, spokesperson for the Conservative/Masorti movement in Israel, believes that Israelis" traditional lack of enthusiasm for non-Orthodox Jewish streams stems more from ignorance than indifference and that local interest in the movements is actually starting to grow.

"When the conversion bill passed its first reading in the Knesset, Israelis didn't really understand what it all meant," says Ramon.

"Then, all of a sudden, the journalists starting calling and the newspapers were full of articles and opinion pieces, and people started calling the talk shows.

"Slowly, the conversion issue and its implications for religious pluralism in general have begun to enter the Israeli consciousness."

Ramon is optimistic that the Conservative and Reform movements will ultimately find their niche in Israeli society.

But for now she acknowledges that "Israelis have very little energy for anything not related to peace. That goes for women's issues, for poverty issues, for religious pluralism. That's one reason we are marginalized."

Another problem, Ramon says, is the negative image many Israelis hold of the non-Orthodox streams.

"There's a great deal of misinformation in the community, in school textbooks, or the textbooks ignore us completely. Often, children are told that non-Orthodox Judaism is anti-Zionist.

"Until the last government, the State of Israel never supported us, financially or otherwise, and the money the Religious Affairs Ministry earmarked for us for 1996 still hasn't materialized. There is a great deal of antagonism coming from the government," Ramon says.

Still, Galili maintains that there is growing interest among Israelis in the non-Orthodox streams.

"There are tens of thousands of people all over Israel who are interested in non-Orthodox movements," she says. "Every day we receive several phone calls from those who want to support our cause, and calls from those interested in a non-Orthodox marriage ceremony or conversion.

"It's taken quite a while, but people are listening."

The Week in Israel

April 21

• Some 7,500 vacationing Israelis crossed the border into Egypt, reversing the route of the exodus commemorated during Passover. Travel agents said 20 percent more Israelis are travelling abroad during the holiday period than during the same time last year.

April 22

• Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi and Supreme Court President Aharon Barak agreed to appoint Hebrew University law professor Yitzhak Engelard to replace Justice Zvi Tal who is retiring from the court. Engelard has been named to receive this year's Israel Prize for law.

April 23

• Israeli and Palestinian security forces resumed joint patrols in Bethlehem.

April 24

• The High Court of Justice overturned the decision to grant the Israel Prize for Journalism to *Ma'ariv* columnist Shmuel Schnitzer. The order was made in response to a petition by Labor Knesset member, Adisu Massala, who alleged that Schnitzer had written a racist article in 1994.

• Israel Television quoted air force officials as saying that MiG-29 fighter planes, considered Israel's primary air challenge, were sighted in Israeli skies this week. Officials said the planes were brought in from an unnamed country to test Israel's weapons systems. The MiG-29, built in the former Soviet Union, is used by a number of Arab states' air forces, including Syria and Iraq.

April 25

• The trial of an Israeli citizen, Azam Azam, opened in Cairo. Azam, a 35-year-old Druze from the Galilee, is charged with economic espionage on behalf of Israel. The charges carry a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison. Israel and the accused have repeatedly denied all of the accusations.

• A Lebanese woman and a Lebanese policeman were wounded during Hezbollah attacks on IDF and South Lebanese Army positions in south Lebanon.

With files from the JTA.

PM pushed rightward

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

With the Bar-On influence peddling scandal buffeting Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu will probably move still farther to the right of the political spectrum to save his skin.

Despite a damning police report, Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein and State Attorney Edna Arbel decided not to indict the prime minister for fraud and breach of trust.

But Netanyahu was surely disappointed by their assertion that they had a "tangible suspicion" about the propriety of his role in the affair.

Their disclaimer, and the Labor party's demand that he should resign and call new elections, have weakened Netanyahu.

Since he cannot put the affair completely behind him, he remains uncomfortably beholden to political parties in his coalition that not only supported him throughout the crisis but that oppose the Oslo peace process or have serious reservations about it.

As well, since Labor party chieftain Shimon Peres is no longer interested in joining forces with the Likud, Netanyahu cannot use the threat of a national unity government to keep anti-Oslo rebels in line.

Prior to the latest developments, Netanyahu reportedly said that he could not proceed with the peace process because of the strong "rejectionist" elements in his government.

They had voted against the Jan. 15 Hebron accord and the first of three planned Israeli withdrawals from the West Bank. Netanyahu, therefore, seemed ready to edge closer to the centre by sharing power with the Labor party in a national unity government whose priority would be the successful completion of the peace process.

Netanyahu's stated commitment to the Oslo accords and his acceptance of partition, a principle which he had previously opposed, prompted some 20 hard-liners in his coalition to form the Land of Israel Front, spearheaded by Likud Knesset member Michael Kleiner.

Netanyahu's emerging centrist views also antagonized old Likudniks. Yitzhak Shamir, the former prime minister, charged that his actions were contrary to Likud principles. Tsila, his 84-year-old mother, told the *Washington Post* that she could not understand why her son was pursuing the "absurd idea" of making peace with the Arabs. Yisrael Harel, a leader of Jewish settlers in the territories, cast aspersions on his "loyalty to ideology" and "declared beliefs."

According to the *Forward*, a New York City weekly, Netanyahu's flirtation with centrist politics probably reached an apotheosis in February, when he invited a couple of fierce critics, but not several of his closest ideological friends and allies, to a private dinner at the Israeli Embassy in Washington.

When Netanyahu returned from the United States, he learned that Benny Begin — who had resigned from his cabinet after voting against the Hebron agreement — intended to submit a motion in parliament entitled Netanyahu is Dividing Jerusalem.

Begin was angry that Netanyahu had delayed approval of the Har Choma housing project in Jerusalem. Kleiner, meanwhile, threatened to topple his government in a Labor party no-confidence resolution unless he sent in the bulldozers to Har Choma.

Chastened by this pressure, Netanyahu began construction at Har Choma sooner than he wanted, perfectly aware that the project would trigger a negative and perhaps violent Palestinian response.

In the wake of the March 21 suicide bombing in Tel Aviv, Netanyahu hardened his conditions for resuming negotiations with the Palestine Authority (PA). But, realizing that his political positions had widened the gap between Israel and the PA, Netanyahu put out feelers to the Labor party for a national unity government to revitalize the peace process.

With the Bar-On affair still discombobulating Israel, this concept has been neutralized, as Netanyahu scrambles to appease hard-liners and shore up his support on the right.

Church leaders meet PM

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — As thousands of Orthodox Christian pilgrims filled the Old City of Jerusalem in preparation for their Easter, the heads of the two major Orthodox churches together with a leading Roman Catholic, met Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to discuss a Moslem "incursion" into the holiest site in Christendom.

The Christian leaders, Greek Orthodox Patriarch Diodoros I; Armenian Partriach Torkom Manoogian; and Franciscan Custos of the Holy Land Joseph Nazzaro, had earlier written to Netanyahu to enlist his support. They complained that during renovations to the Hanqa Mosque adjacent to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Wakf (the Moslem religious trust) had built a toilet above the roof of the church. In addition, the Wakf had broken into and appropriated two rooms in the Greek Orthodox patriarchate.

Netanyahu told the leaders that the government could not accept any change in the status quo in Jerusalem, and in particular the part of the Old City where the church and mosque are located.

Mimouna without mangal

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The Mimouna was officially opened on Monday night in a new Moroccan-style building on the beach in Ashdod, with the participation of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the chief rabbis. Amoyal said the port town had been chosen because it has a large concentration of Israelis of Moroccan origin and recently received large influxes of immigrants from Ethiopia and the former Soviet Union.

In Jerusalem, on Monday night, he said, there were six central locations for welcoming guests.

Meanwhile, for those for whom the Mimouna has become inalterably associated with grilling meat, there was modest entertainment at Sacher Park on Tuesday, Amoyal said.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Jerusalem a symbol for both Jews and Arabs

[Cont'd. from page 1]

short lived. The Jews accepted the November 1947 UN plan to treat Jerusalem as a corpus seperatum (essentially an international city), but the Arab rejection of partition and the invasion of Israel made this irrelevant. Shortly after Israel became independent in 1948, the Jordanian legion conquered all of the Old City of Jerusalem. The city was divided and survivors in the Jewish Quarter were forced into exile again.

Although the ceasefire agreement with Jordan provided for free access to Jerusalem's holy places, this was never honored. Jews were blocked from crossing the armistice line and going to the Western Wall, the 2,000 year-old remnant of the Second Temple and the holiest site in Judaism. Israelis could only get as far as Mt. Zion beyond the city walls and climb the tower to glimpse past the barbed wire and gun emplacements and into the Old City and the Jewish Quarter.

What they witnessed from this vantage point caused them tremendous anguish. The Arab occupiers permitted the systematic destruction of the Jewish Quarter. Every house, synagogue and Jewish institution was ruined. A road was plowed through the ancient Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives. Some 38,000 graves were defiled and the tombstones used to line a road to the new Intercontinental Hotel nearby. The area near the Western Wall was desecrated. All of this was documented, but the silence of the international community was deafening.

As a result, after the war, some Israelis urged military action to liberate the Jewish Quarter, but prime minister David Ben-Gurion rejected this option to avoid a wider conflict. However, in June 1967, after the war had started and the Jordanian army began firing on Israeli positions, Israel captured the Old City and reunited Jerusalem. The Arab residents expected the Israelis to exact revenge by destroying their homes and religious sites. However, defence minister Moshe Dayan sought to put an end to the conflict and even refrained from placing the israeli flag over the Dome of the Rock (built on the site of the Temples) and Al Aksa Mosque.

Dayan allowed the Islamic religious authorities to control the area, and to avoid friction, Jews are still prevented from praying on the Temple Mount. Churches and related holy sites are under full control of Christian authorities, and for the first time in 2,000 years, the followers of all three monotheistic religions are allowed free access to their holy places in and around Jerusalem.

Now, 30 years after its reunification, the political battle for Jerusalem has resumed. Yasser Arafat has called Israel's efforts to repair some of the damage and rebuild the synagogues and houses in the Jewish Quarter "the Judaization of Jerusalem" and "an affront to Islam."

Arafat's vision of Jerusalem's future is at complete variance with the national consensus among Jewish Israelis, which favors continued Israeli sovereignty over the unified city. Since 1967, the objective of Israeli policy has been first and foremost the prevention of the redivision of Jerusalem and another assault on the holiest sites of Judaism.

Prof. Steinberg is a senior research associate at the BESA Centre for Strategic Studies, Bar-Ilan University.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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Jacob Aaron Edri celebrated his first birthday on March 8. With love from grandparents Marcia & David Phillips and family.

Sydney Brooke, daughter of Maxine & Josh Schulman celebrated her first birthday on Jan. 23 with family and friends.

Dara Geffen, daughter of Lorrie & Penny Geffen, granddaughter of Rachel & the late John Lambersky and Tsippie & the late Dennis Geffen recently celebrated her bat mitzvah.

Cary Robert, son of Irving & Henna Pomeranz, and Cindy Allison, daughter of Gordon & Sandra Smith, are engaged. Friends and family join in their happiness.

Lesley, daughter of Olga Verrall, and Gary, son of Jayne & Len Morris, are pleased to announce their engagement. A June wedding is planned.

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Jewish Film Festival

Underdog soccer team tries to stay in the big league

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

Beit Shean is a small Israeli town situated in a hot, sweltering valley near the Jordanian border. It has a population of 14,000, mostly religious, lower-income people of Moroccan descent who immigrated in the 1960s. Israelis consider Beit Shean, a hell-hole — the "other" Israel.

But Beit Shean has something to prove. Their soccer team has defied the odds and been promoted to the national league — the big league. After a promising start including victories against big cities like Tel Aviv, Beit Shean's soccer team lost nine in a row, hasn't scored in five months and is in danger of finishing last.

Apart from the sheer humiliation, finishing last means getting relegated back to the minor leagues and "playing with the Arabs," as one fan says.

There are five more crucial games left. It's rare for such a small town to have a national team and with the town's pride at stake, the whole team feels the pressure. Will they win and show the big cities they can compete or will they lose and disappear back into anonymity?

Underdog (Bloor Cinema, May 3, 11:30 p.m. and May 5, 3 p.m., 85 minutes) showcases the stories behind the five final games. It is an exciting documentary that probes into Israel's religious divisions and societal expectations. It is more than just a soccer documentary.

Racism, for example, is rampant. When traveling to other towns, the players are taunted with "Dirty Moroccan" chants and the team's backup goalie believes he gets to sit on the bench the whole time because he's originally from Tel Aviv — an "outsider."

The first game is against Tel Aviv, one of the best teams in Israel. After holding them off to a scoreless tie, the ref adds an unusual four minutes of uncalled for extra "injury" time. Tel Aviv scores in the final second. The team is furious and say they've been discriminated against.

"It's a conspiracy to make us go down a league. What else do we have in this lousy town besides football?" one fan complains. Other fans show their hostility to the referee in a more overt manner, hurling the worst insults possible in this machismo-dominated culture: "The ref's a homo!"

Following yet another loss, goalie Meir Cohen looks at the scrapbook of clippings from magazines and newspaper articles about him. He's the closest thing to a star anyone from Beit Shean can aspire to. But now it's looking to fade. "If we fall to the minor league, everyone will forget Meir Cohen," he says grimly.

It comes down to one final must-win game against Haifa, one of the league's leaders. The odds are stacked against them. "Miracles do happen," one optimistic fan, a garbage collector, says. "It's like saying I will be prime minister some day. It can happen!" The nail-biting ending is a classic "bottom of the ninth, one down, two men out, bases loaded" scenario.

Even if you're not a soccer fan, the directors Doron Tsabari and Rino Tzror do such a wonderful job bringing the emotions of the sport and the people to you that you'll be clutching your seat rooting for the underdog to win.

***

A documentary of a different manner is *A Tickle In the Heart*.

Max, Willie and Julie Epstein are three elderly New York brothers now comfortably retired in Florida. At their prime in the 1950s, they were known as the Kings of Klezmer, one of the hottest klezmer acts in New York. They were booked solidly, sometimes doing three shows a day.

Now, with the revival of klezmer music, the brothers have dusted off their instruments and are at it again, taking their act on the road.

German director Stefan Schwietert follows the trio on the road to New York's Chassidic community, their ancestral home in Pinsk, and Berlin where they play to packed houses of young and old.

This is a documentary in the traditional style, with interviews and concert performances interspersed with slice-of-life scenes — one of the brothers arguing with his wife over how to make latkes for example.

Not as nail-biting as *Underdog* perhaps, but this trio are underdogs themselves and you feel pulled into the story with their heart-warming and funny anecdotes.

Willie Epstein is scheduled to appear at the screening which closes the Jewish Film Festival on May 8, 9 p.m. *A Tickle In The Heart* then opens at Canada Square Cinemas on May 9.

Max Epstein chats with the locals in his ancestral town of Pinsk in the film *A Tickle In The Heart.*

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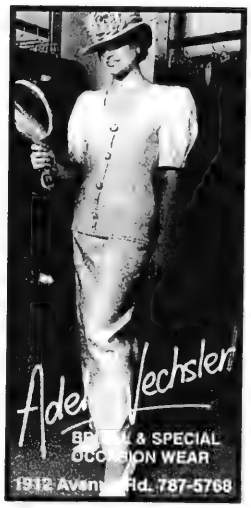

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

DOCUMENTARY EXPLORES POLITICS OF JERUSALEM

Jerusalem: An Occupation Set In Stone? is a scathing and deeply troubling indictment of Israel's treatment of Palestinians in and around Jerusalem since the Jewish state gained control of all sectors of the holy city in the 1967 Six Day War.

Those who love Israel will find this a difficult piece to watch, for it depicts Israelis as unlawful occupiers and rampant destroyers. The video opens with an Israeli bulldozer demolishing a Palestinian home and closes with another bulldozer tearing down a centuries-old olive grove to make way for a superhighway.

In essence, the 58-minute documentary describes Israel's alleged campaign to expropriate large amounts of Palestinian-owned land in Jerusalem while bureaucratically excluding large numbers of Palestinians from living or building within municipal bounds. With seeming prescience, it even shows the Jerusalem City Council approving the controversial Har Choma housing project after the strident objections of two council members.

The video offers a parade of emotive speakers who present the Palestinian case in a powerful and compelling way. However, not one person was included to explain or attempt to defend Israel's side, even peripherally, and not one mention is made of terrorism or Israel's very genuine and paramount security concerns. To those seeking balance, such glaring omissions erode credibility.

Furthermore, regarding Har Choma, the video first accuses Israel of planning to consume "land desperately needed for Palestinian housing," then, contradictorally, of planning to destroy "one of the last green spaces in the south of the city." Which is it? Or is Israel to be vilified on every available pretext, no matter what it does? Such inconsistencies are the hallmarks of propaganda.

Despite its seeming flaws and hostility, however, the video is hard to dismiss. After watching it, I found myself freshly lamenting the tragic loss of Yitzhak Rabin, the shrewd warrior and man of peace who at least had a vision for leading his country from the present stalemated political morass.

Produced by the so-called Palestinian Housing Rights Movement, *Jerusalem: An Occupation Set in Stone?* was directed by Marty Rosenbluth, an American Jew who lived in the West Bank for seven years. Part of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival, it's being screened May 4, 1 p.m. at the Bloor Street Cinema, with Rosenbluth in attendance.

Yiddish and Yiddishkeit

• The works of Holocaust poets Gebirtig, Sutzkever, Katcherginski, Rudnitsky, Chaitin, Papernikoff and Glick are featured during Songs Of The Ghettos — From Despair to Defiance, a Yom Hashoah program with singer Faye Kellerstein and pianist Paul Mathew. In Yiddish and English. Temple Sinai, May 4, 10 a.m.

• The committee for Yiddish of UJA Federation is offering Yiddish classes at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels this spring. Aaron Feiner leads three discussion sessions May 20, 27 and June 9 (fee $30), while Richard Bassett teaches about the history of Yiddish (date and place to be announced). 635-2883, ext. 155.

At The Galleries

• A tour of art and craft studios in the Beach waterfront neighborhood of Toronto allows art lovers to meet artists in their own surroundings. The seventh Beach Studio Tour and Sale, May 3 and 4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 416-694-4026 or 4025.

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Air Canada flights from Montreal to Tel Aviv possible by early next summer

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Air Canada will probably introduce non-stop flights between Montreal and Tel Aviv early next summer, initially offering twice weekly flights on 203-seat Boeing 767-300 jets, the company's president and chief executive officer Lamar Durrett confirmed at a Jewish Business Network (JBN) luncheon.

Air Canada had announced it would start its route to Israel this June but cancelled its plans in February after Quebec Superior Court halted the consolidation of all international scheduled flights from Mirabel to Dorval Airport, that was set for April 1. Quebec Court of Appeal overturned that decision earlier this month and the transfer is expected to completed by July.

"We've moved our flights to other routes since making the decision to delay in late February and it was not possible to go ahead this summer," he said.

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Business Profile

Alan Silverstein

Toronto lawyer is director of Real Estate Council

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Alan Silverstein's 20-year career has led to his sitting on the board of a council that is bound to rejuvenate Ontario's real estate industry.

The Toronto lawyer who specializes in real estate and mortgage financing was recently appointed one of 12 directors of the new Real Estate Council of Ontario, a council which as of March 1, is responsible for the management and operation of the real estate industry.

Silverstein, a weekly real estate columnist for the *Toronto Star*, producer of the *Royal Bank Mortgage Minute*, a daily commentary broadcast on 67 radio stations across the country, and author of five books on the subject including *Hidden Profits in Your Mortgage* and *The Perfect Mortgage*, applauds Mike Harris for the recent move.

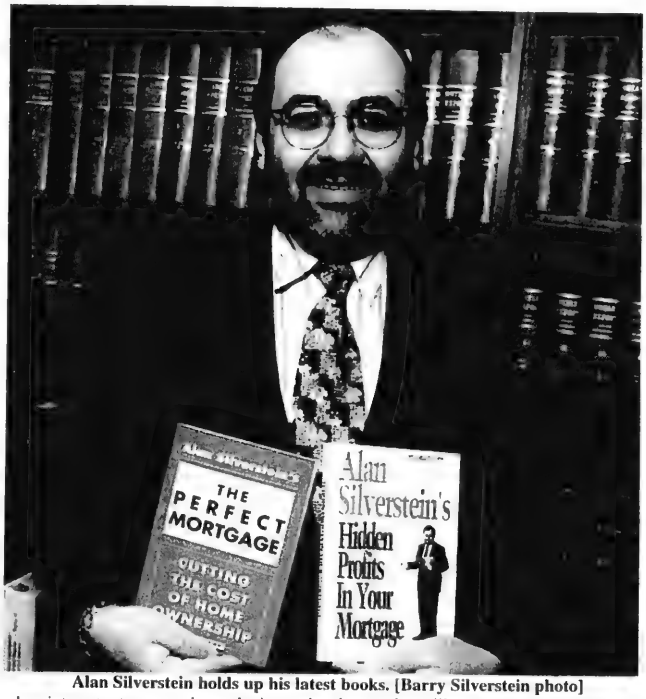
"The council, whose members represent consumers as well as the business and legal industries, is there to serve and protect the public. Because it will be run with consumer input, it will be a lot easier for people to get their concerns heard. Perhaps, complaints will be lodged with the council instead of with a member-run real estate board that is not obligated to give a public opinion. It will be removed from the hands of the industry and will not be bogged down by government bureaucracy."

Until now, he says, the industry has been regulated by the government. "It will still set the standards and regulations but the day to day operations will be delegated downwards. Areas such as licensing, bonding, continuing education and customer service will be left to us. [Harris] feels that it is not necessary to regulate every aspect of the industry itself. It's all part of downsizing the government and getting people off its payroll."

There are consumers, he said, at every meeting of the Law Society of Upper Canada. "These are lay benchers who are keen observers and can look at things in a different perspective than lawyers. This is very similar.

"It's exciting to be starting from ground zero. After so many years as a real estate lawyer I'm thrilled to have some input in how the industry is run. It has been pushing for this for 20 years. It shows an industry's maturity when it is capable of taking on self-management."

Silverstein's passion for helping consumers find their way around the real estate industry began in the early 1980s, he said, when interest rates were sky-rocketing and people were looking at ways to cut interest rates.



Alan Silverstein holds up his latest books. [Barry Silverstein photo]

"I found out about credit unions in British Columbia that were offering weekly mortgages. I warned borrowers that they do not necessarily benefit just because a mortgage is paid faster than monthly — weekly, biweekly or semi-monthly; the key is how the amount payable is calculated. For a fast-pay mortgage to save money, one-quarter of the regular monthly payment should be paid each week, or one-half every two weeks. This accelerated payment can reduce the normal 25-year amortization by five years or more."

Before deciding on a weekly mortgage, he advises, shop for a monthly payment mortgage that is amortized over 25 years. "But before booking it, divide that payment by four or two, depending if payments are weekly or biweekly. What pops out of your calculator is the correct accelerated payment, the one that will save you tens of thousands of dollars in mortgage interest.

"I was giving people ways to reduce costs and I began getting quoted. One night, during the height of the high rates, I was a guest on CKEY's *John Gilbert Show* and people called in until 4 a.m. Everyone was looking for advice from someone other than a bank."

There is never a shortage of material for his weekly column or his radio spots, he says. "The real estate law is complex and people do not have enough information. There is no Home-Buying 101 and too often, people are flying by the seat of their pants. The key is for consumers to find out everything they can. I like to help them do that.

"Recently, for example, I read an article about a delay in the closing of new homes. I decided it was time to tell people what their rights and entitlements are if their closing is delayed. Too many people sign an amendment that allows for a change in the closing date."

Newly built homes have tremendous appeal, he says, and buyers can get good value buying from a builder — by including extras, options and upgrades in the price, plus deep discount mortgage financing. "But before you purchase a new home, be sold on the builder; investigate its reputation, its background and the quality of its work. Check with the local home builders association or provincial warranty program for information and don't be afraid to bang on doors and ask other buyers what they think of their builder."

If he does nothing else, Silverstein says, he would like to see people try and change the way things are typically done.

"If we can make things more convenient, why not? Keys, for example, are one of the first things that first-time buyers ask about. For resale homes, normally the keys change hands on closing at the registry office. To avoid having the keys make the long trek back, see if they can be left near the house — with a neighbor or the real estate agent — or if they can be obtained directly from the vendor. Imagine what time that will save when your family is anxious to move into their new home."

How many people know, he asks, that many resale offers now let buyers state by what time the deal must close and the seller vacate the house? Otherwise you risk paying extra hours for your mover while you wait for the seller to move out.

"These are little things but the bottom line is that they can help the consumer save money. Houses should provide more than just a place to live — people must look at them as an investment."

Basically, says Silverstein, "what I am doing is giving people information from which they can benefit. Currently, for instance, interest rates are at a historic low and better deals are always possible because banks and trust companies are willing to negotiate. All it takes is objective information from a reliable source. I always try to make things easier. I am not afraid of being criticized —I believe in what I say. A lot of real estate and mortgage laws are complex and could use changing but that does not mean that the public should suffer."

The new council is a "bold initiative on the government's part and it should help to get a lot of changes through. It's a great new challenge for me but I am definitely not giving up my day job. I am a full-time lawyer and always will be. I've found my niche."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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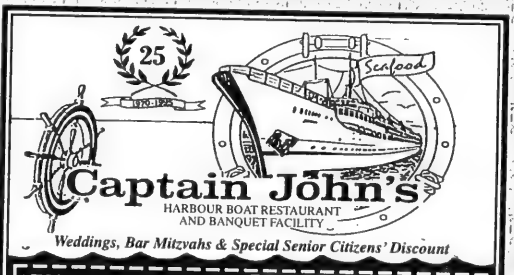

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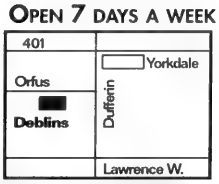

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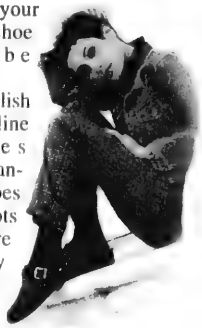
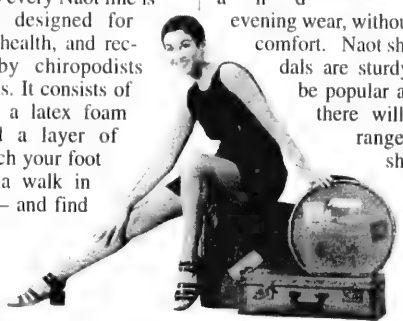
What's afoot for spring? Naot says style, comfort

Every day, you spend hours wearing shoes; and your feet, which bear all your weight when you move, are among the hardest-working parts of your body. If you want to treat your feet well, you should take a good, close look at quality footwear by **Naot**.

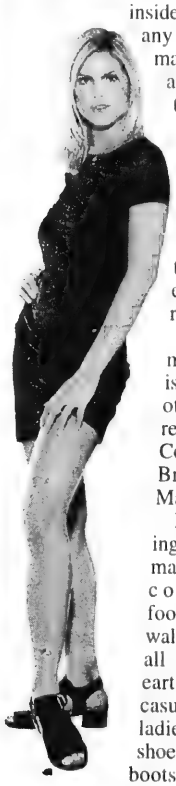
Corinne Lissoos and Sandy Galet have a lasting commitment to Naot, which makes the most popular sandal line in Israel. Their company, Solemates, is Naot's exclusive Canadian representative.

Common to every Naot line is the footbed, designed for comfort and health, and recommended by chiropodists and podiatrists. It consists of a cork base, a latex foam cushion, and a layer of suede on which your foot rests. Take a walk in these shoes — and find out how good you feel when you're kind to your hard-working feet.





Naot footwear can be worn inside or outside in any season. It is made with natural, water-resistant leathers, and the cork footbed insulates the foot to keep it cool in summer, warm in winter, so you enjoy year-round comfort.



Solemates' main business is wholesale, to other Canadian retailers such as Corso, Capezio, Brown's and Marquis.

Naot is widening its range to make durable, comfortable footwear for all walks of life, in all styles, from earthy through casual to dressy: ladies and men's shoes, sandals and boots, and kids' sandals and clogs. You can get your entire shoe wardrobe from Naot.

The stylish *Metro* line features heeled sandals, shoes and boots that are dressy enough for both work and evening wear, without sacrificing comfort. Naot shoes and sandals are sturdy enough to be popular at camp; and there will be a new range of men's shoes in the fall.

Solemates isn't satisfied with having a better product. A proper fit is essential to any shoe purchase, and Sandy and Corinne have always stressed to the retailers the importance of ensuring that each customer is fitted correctly.

Further information on Naot's product line can be obtained by calling their head office at (416) 650-5637. If you're calling from out of town, Solemates' toll-free number is 1-800-461-NAOT.

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"We have always been known as a 'full service' furrier where customers can expect professional, knowledgeable, and personal advice on restyling, alterations, cleaning and repairs," says Dan Kahnert, the 4th generation of the family business.

During the hot summer months, he stresses that cold fur storage is essential to prevent the premature drying of the pelts and to preserve the natural oils in the skin. Cedar closets and air-conditioned homes simply lack the necessary cold temperatures, the proper humidity levels, and an adequate circulation of air.

At storage time, every fur is examined by one of the family, and should any repairs need attending to, free estimates are provided. It is important to look after any small repairs early on so that further damage is avoided.

Over the course of a dirty winter, furs can accumulate dust, grime, and dirt and therefore require a professional fur cleaning. Kahnert recommends that furs should be cleaned once a year or at least every 2 years. This special cleaning process is an effective, preventative measure that will add years of beauty and life to your furs while restoring their natural lustre and silkiness.

You may also take advantage of their trade-in policy. Kahnerts will allow you up to an additional 15% off the Spring Sales prices on any new purchase when you trade in your outdated fur.

They offer a quality selection of Canada Majestic Mink, Sheared Beaver, Canadian Lynx, Sable, as well as Raccoon, Beaver, and Muskrat, in a wide range of styles, lengths, and prices.

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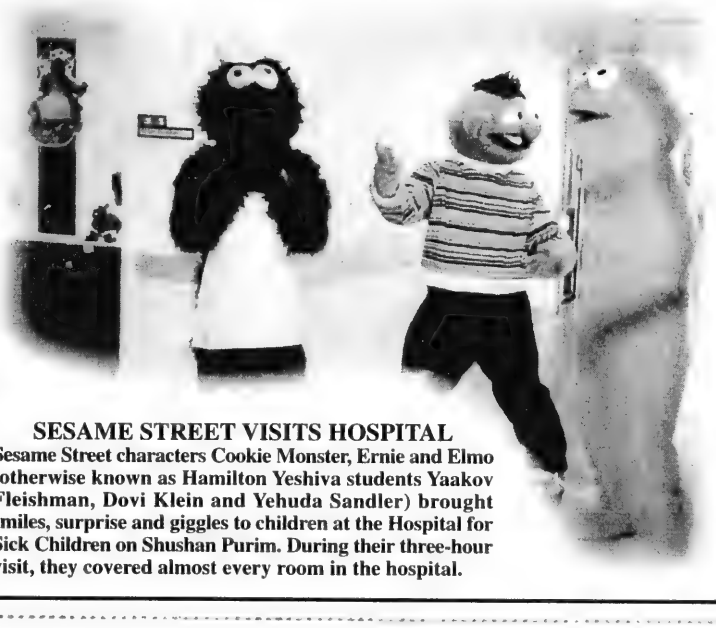
Twelve artists under the age of 15 from the Yahama Music School in North York will be performing their own original compositions in a National Junior Original Concert, hosted by Yamaha Canada Music Ltd. and Music For Life Yamaha Music School.

The concert will be held at the Convention Centre in London, Ont., on May 25 at 2 p.m.

Each year, students submit compositions created without limitations on musical style, instrumentation or presentation. From these submissions, some musicians are chosen to participate in various concerts. More than 45,000 compositions are submitted each year.

Tickets cost $8 for adults and $4 for children and are available through Cathy Landolt at Yamaha Canada Music Ltd. in Toronto 416-298-1311 or through Music For Life Yamaha Music School in London 519-686-0200.

Laura Silberberg, 10, will be one of 12 young composers featured in a Yamaha National Junior Original Concert in London, Ont., on May 25. This concert will be her third concert appearance.



SESAME STREET VISITS HOSPITAL

Sesame Street characters Cookie Monster, Ernie and Elmo (otherwise known as Hamilton Yeshiva students Yaakov Fleishman, Dovi Klein and Yehuda Sandler) brought smiles, surprise and giggles to children at the Hospital for Sick Children on Shushan Purim. During their three-hour visit, they covered almost every room in the hospital.

CJ Kids

Book Review & portrait too

A friend's heroism

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

There are many, many books about the terrible things that happened to Jews during the Holocaust. But there are very few that tell the wonderful story of the tiny country of Denmark, whose brave citizens saved nearly all of the Jews in the country.

Lois Lowry's *Number the Stars* (Houghton Mifflin, 1989) tells that story.

Annemarie and Ellen are two 10-year-old girls who are best friends. They both like sports, pretending they are characters out of books and looking at fashion magazines. The only difference is that Ellen is Jewish.

For the first few years of the German occupation of Denmark, everything goes on for the girls more or less as before, except for food shortages, and a lot of "making do" with less of everything else as well.

Then, the news is leaked that the Nazis plan to round up the Jews and send them away. Annemarie's family helps Ellen and her parents get away to the seashore and eventually escape to neutral Sweden.

In the process, Annemarie discovers how brave she is, how people she considered very ordinary were working for the Resistance and how very proud she could be of her countrymen.

Part of the inspiration for their actions came from the Danish king, who made it clear that the Jewish citizens of Denmark were no different from the Christian ones.

While *Number the Stars* is a work of fiction, the story of the Danes' compassion and courage is true. And just as Annemarie's family does for Ellen's, the Danish people looked after their Jewish neighbors' homes and welcomed them back after the war to sparkling clean homes, with fresh flowers on the table.

Mazel Tov kids

The CJN enjoyed all of the Happy Passover cartoons sent in by our readers. The three names selected from our hat were Nikita Alkhazov of North York, Zack Belzberg of Toronto and Joshua de Boer of Oshawa. Each of our lucky winners will receive a cheque for $20.

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Color in this drawing of Golda Meir, one of Israel's former prime ministers. Send it to us; write your name, address and phone number on the back. We'll put them into a hat and select three winners. Each winner will receive a cheque for $20.

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Adam Prusznowski

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Dream Fund honors 2 children, hospital

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A silent auction and dinner will pay tribute to two young children, and at the same time, benefit the Hospital for Sick Children.

The Carrie and Adam Dream Fund first annual dinner and auction will take place on May 8 at the Moonlight Ballroom, 3125 Bayview Ave., North York. Cocktails and silent auction preview are at 6 p.m., and dinner is at 7 p.m., followed by a live auction.

Adam Prusznowski died at the end of 1993 of non-Hodgkins lymphoma at the age of eight. Carrie Risa Dimitry, just past her bat mitzvah, succumbed to familial dysautonomia, a rare genetic disease, in July 1995.

The Carrie and Adam Dream Fund was established by their parents, Hilary and Bernie Prusznowski and Brenda and David Dimitry.

A media release explains that "both children expressed a strong desire to help other children. It was their greatest wish to provide a means of being able to give something of themselves to help other children suffering from disease."

Proceeds of the evening will go to two programs at the Hospital for Sick Children. The Therapeutic Clown Program trains clowns "to help children deal with the alienation, fear, loneliness, anxiety and terror of staying in the hospital, allowing the child to be him/herself and to minimize the stress in an alien environment."

The fund will also assist in new areas of pediatric oncology research. "It is hoped that this research will result in more effective and far less painful treatment, and [will] facilitate an eventual cure."

Cost of the dinner is $100. A $50 tax receipt will be issued. Kosher food is available on request.

For more information, call Hilary Prusznowski, 416-636-0067, or Brenda Dimitry, 905-764-0999.

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Bloor JCC adopts new exercise regimen

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Lisa Sarner demonstrates one of the exercises that can be done on the reformer. [Paul Lungen photo]

TORONTO — In Hollywood, movie stars fed up with sports injuries have made "pilates" the hot new exercise craze. With that kind of cachet behind it, can mass popularity in Toronto be far behind?

The people at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (Bloor JCC) believe Toronto is ripe for interest in the new exercise regimen, pronounced puh-lat-eez. Named for its founder Joseph Pilates, the technique is designed to lengthen and strengthen muscles without the harmful injuries associated with more traditional exercise programs, like high-impact aerobics or step classes.

Pilates is performed mostly on mats, with extra work done on a medieval-looking contraption called a "reformer." The resulting full-body workout leaves you exhilarated, says Lisa Sarner, a staff instructor at the Bloor JCC and a pilates devotee.

The key to pilates is "pelvic stabilization and abdominal control," she explains. "It strengthens the muscles deep in the body" while stressing proper breathing and movement control.

In Toronto, the Bloor JCC is one of only a few sports clubs and special studios offering the innovative program. Participants sign up for a four-week group program or engage Sarner for private lessons.

Pilates is perfect for all age groups, she says, from young athletes and dancers to seniors in search of a gentle, yet thorough workout. Some of her clients are in their 60s and they love being able to get a complete workout in their own homes, she adds. At the Bloor JCC participants work out in the dance studio three times a week in groups of 10 to 15.

Back in the early part of the century when he was developing the technique that would bear his name, Pilates' approach was to use muscles in a controlled manner in harmony with breathing. The key concept he developed was to stabilize the trunk, particularly the abdominal area and as a result, many of the exercises focus on that area, though they are not limited to it.

Pilates adherents stress that it can be applied as a system of whole-body conditioning. For those active in other sports and who may exercise one particular part of their bodies (cyclists' legs, for example), pilates can strengthen and condition other parts of the body as part of the overall goal of creating strength, agility and balance.

It is also used in rehabilitation for those suffering sprains, strains, fractures and spinal problems.

At the Bloor JCC, Sarner supervises work on the reformer, a rectangular device with a sliding carriage. Participants sit on the carriage, which is attached to a number of springs, and using pulley cords, push and pull themselves in a variety of positions on the carriage. The continuous motion, when done properly, stretches and strengthens muscles gently and without any jarring. A single machine offers dozens and dozens of exercises and variations.

Sarner became a fan of pilates after she took a mat class. A longtime dancer and yoga practitioner, she said that "right away I could tell it was great. It was very challenging and it required a lot of concentration and focusing.

"There is a lot to think about and pay attention to when you do pilates," she continued. "You have to learn how to work your own body, as opposed to the instructor telling you what to do."

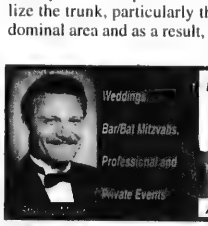
Sarner said she became more aware of body movements in everyday situations, like doing housework, because of pilates. "I was much more aware if I was tensing up my muscles," she said. "If you pay attention to how you use the body in pilates, you get much less strain."

Unlike yoga, pilates has no unusual contortions, though both disciplines stress lengthening and strengthening of muscles.

For beginners taking pilates, an aerobic workout may be off in the future. First, you have to become somewhat accomplished at the exercises and using the reformer. Then you can switch exercises quickly and work the aerobic system, she said.

So far, the centre has been receiving a few calls every day about it, said Bloor JCC fitness and recreation director Lindsay Henderson. "We're trying to offer programs that are up and coming and that are attractive to our members and prospective members," he said.

In addition to pilates, Friday yoga classes are proving extremely popular at the centre, with Sarner leading groups of up to 32 in "power yoga," an intense and challenging variation of the traditional eastern pursuit.



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CHAI CHUPPAH Let us create a special, unique chuppah or Bar/Bat Mitzvah signing board. Rental also available. **905-882-0059.**

405 FURNITURE

Furniture restoration and refinishing. Touch-ups & small jobs done on your premises. **Free estimates.** 416-654-2430.

Marcantonio Furniture Repair Specializing in touch-ups. Restoration & general repairs done on premises. 654-0518.

CLASSIFIED/SERVICE DIRECTORY ADVERTISING

Deadline for Classified and Service Directory advertising is 8 (eight) days prior to the publication date.

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REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Paul Slavens
REAL ESTATE INC. REALTOR
RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS
483-4337

FINE HOMES

SANDRINGHAM DR. - STUNNING RENOVATION
Breathtaking home set in park-like setting. 4+ BRs. Outstanding master. State of the art kitchen. Main fl. den + family rm. Fin. l/lvl. w/rec.rm. + games rm. + nanny's rm. *Eleanor Stanton

• • •

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
Spectacular California contemporary situated on gorgeous landscaped lot on very special street. 5 BRs., stunning family rm., soaring ceilings. +++ Must be seen. * Carol Cotton.

• • •

BLYTHWOOD/BAYVIEW - RARE FIND
Sprawling ranch bungalow in country-like setting. Main floor family rm. Gourmet eat-in kitchen. Open concept. Fin. lower level. Private drive & double garage. *Bernard Pike.

• • •

YONGE/LAWRENCE - $569,000
New house under construction. 3+1 bdrms. Main floor family rm. Private drive, garage. Choose your finishings. Fabulous location. **Don Wagman.

• • •

YONGE/EGLINTON - $469,000
Stunning "in-town" home ideal for professionals. Exciting blend of old & new. Bright lower level office w/separate entrance. Private parking. **Don Wagman

• • •

ARMOUR HEIGHTS - $425,000
Ideal family home for comfortable living & entertaining. Features 4 good bdrms., updated kitchen & fin.lower level. Fabulous, south garden. Private drive & garage. *Heather Sherman.

• • •

ST. CLAIR/BATHURST - $269,000
Great starter home. 4+ BRS. Reno'd kitchen w/w/out to deck. Main floor den. Fin. lower level. Double garage. *Betty Cohen.

• • •

LESLIE/JOHN - HOUSE & GARDENS
$389,000. Stunning 4 BR. Many upgrades. Main fl. family rm. + library. Lower level games rm. & rec. rm. Skylight. CAC. Double garage. Must be seen. *Ruth Kaufman.

• • •

STRATHALLAN WOOD - $1,190,000
Beautiful renovation + large addition + pool. *House & Gardens". Main floor family rm. + den. 6 bdrms. Fin. lower level. CAC. Private drive & garage. *Ruth Kaufman.

• • •

BRIDLE PATH AREA - $1,149.000
Fabulous home. Totally renovated with 5+ BRs. Wonderful master suite w/marble ensuite. Main fl. family r. & powder rm. Playrm. Rec. rm. Nanny's bdrm. Triple garage. *Leslie Dennis.

• • •

YORK MILLS/BAYVIEW
$725,000. Incredible family home. Totally renovated. Main flr. family rm. + powder rm. 5+ Special teenager's wing w/study & bath. Fabulous lower level. *Leslie Dennis.

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CRANBROOKE AVENUE
$439,000. Luxury executive home. 4 BRs. + nanny's room. Gourmet kitchen. Skylights, gas. Block, jacuzzi. Fin. l/lvl. CAC. Parking. **Natalie Schacter.

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* Sales Representative **Associate Broker
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SERVING YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS SINCE 1969

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

YONGE-CENTRE - MAGNIFICENT HOME!
About 5000' with over $300K in extras! 3 car garage, huge lot & much more! *Allen Sidofsky

• • •

BATHURST & CENTRE $429,900
Lovely 5 bdrm home, about 2,900 sq. ft. Includes appls., custom kitchen, hardwood & more! *Allen Sidofsky

• • •

"ROSEDALE NORTH" JUST LISTED!
Lovely 4 bdrm., loaded with extras, fin. bsmt., 2 car garage, appliances & more! Won't last! *Allen Sidofsky

• • •

BATHURST & YORK DOWNS
Large 50'x150' lot with 4 bdrm. bungalow, finished rentable bsmt. extras galore, + + + $329,000. *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-CLARK JUST LISTED!
Largest home on most desired street, close to shul, schools. Won't last. Call *The Rosenzweigs

• • •

BATHURST-CLARK - CLOSE TO EVERYTHING!
Fab. 3 bdrm., prof. fin. bsmt., great starter home!*The Rosenzweigs

• • •

BATHURST/SOUTH OF WILSON $219,900
Bungalow with centre hall plan, dble garage, needs TLC, exclusive listing! Call *Helen Gould

• • •

DON MILLS & STEELES $219,000
Fab.3 bdrm.with large kitchen, walk-out bsmt., fireplace, appliances, air + + + Shows well! *Ted Waxman

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200

HK
HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
Celebrating our 40th Year!

BUILDERS' FINAL RELEASE!
CALL SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
1818 Bayview! From $199,900 - $264,900! Lux. excl.complex! Loaded 1 & 2 bdrm. suites! Min. to all amenities.

GLEN CEDAR $369,000
Cedarvale gem! Tastefully renovated 3+1 bdrm., 2 baths, C/A, Fin. lower level, priv. drive, wood floors, pan. dr. **S. Solomon***

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS - DENLOW
$589,000 Superb 2 storey 5 bdrm., 5 bath, master w/sitting room + 5 pc., fin. bsmt. Move in. **Barbara Kreiger***

CUSTOM HOME TO BE BUILT
Avenue Rd./Lawrence, 3450 sq. ft., 4 bdrms., 5 baths, 41'x130' lot, mn. flr. lib. & fam. Fin. bsmt. **Robert Greenberg***

CUSTOM CLASSICS - LYTTON BLVD.
$659,000 each approx. 2900 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 5 baths, 4+1 bdrms. Quality finishes. **Robert Greenberg***.

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS $948,000
All you will ever need! 7 bdrms., dream kitchen & bath., fam. rm. & lib., fin. lower level. pool & more. Jean Zinman*

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to "Turning Point Charity" supporting Homeless Youth.

(416) 441-2888 www.harveykalles.com

LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

- **BATHURST MANOR** - $259,000. Spac. 3 bdrm. + den, sidesplit, 50'x121' lot, fin. bsmt. C/A. Reduced to sell!
- **HIGH PARK/RONCESVALLES** - 10 units. $534,000. Over 11% return. Excellent income.
- **BATHURST MANOR** - Triplex, $275,000. 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd., dbl gar., excellent income.

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST/WILSON $129,900
Spac. 2 bdrm condo, L-shaped liv.& din., w/out to balc., parquet flrs., bth. ens., great buy & location.

• • •

SHEPPARD/WILMINGTON
3 bdrm. bung., 2 kits., 2 bths., fin. bsmnt., gar., steps to all.

• • •

ARMOUR HEIGHTS
3 bdrm., 2 storey, liv. & din. comb., up-dated kit., fin. bsmnt., gar., 55'x125' lot, A-1 location.

• • •

OVERBROOK/WILMINGTON
$273,900, 2 storey, 3 bdrm., 3 bths, L-shaped liv. & din., up-to-date kit., appls., rec. rm., w/out bsmnt., 50'x165' ravine lot, quiet cres., move-in cond.

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN (416) 633-7373

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

DENISE ABRAHAM
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle R.E.
416 - 485-2299
CONDO - CONDO - CONDO
Glencairn W. Subway Choice of 1-2-3 Bedrms. Fabulous View, Pool, Sauna, Parking! $110,000 to $159,000.
500 Glencairn W. 2 Bdrm + Den, Shabat Elev., $185,000!

Primrose - like new, 2 bdrms, 2 bths, den, 5 appls, locker, pkg, $167,000. 650-5467,please lve. msg. **No Agents.**

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath/Shepp,spac. condo, furn, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc,pool, pkg, $1050/mo, avail. May 5, long term pref 444-4813

MILL ST.- BATHURST
Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms, 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!
SALLY ROSEN (905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

3 bdrm lkfrnt cottage on Lake Simcoe, fully furn, 1 hr. from T.O., 6 appls, 3 mo. rental: June, July, Aug. **No pets please.** 905-832-7488, Susan.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Big Cedar Pt., 3 bdrm. cottage for sale/rent, priv. beach steps away, seconds from Camp Arrowhead, priv., cute, clean. 905-771-8678.

120 COTTAGE WANTED

Looking to rent 3-4 bdrms, lakefront in Orillia area for mo. of Aug. Call 464-6159.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem. Next to Wolfson. 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view. Monthly or longer term. Kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

1085 STEELES AVENUE WEST
BATHURST & STEELES

RECENTLY UPGRADED APARTMENTS
REMODELLED KITCHENS & BATHS
TWO BEDROOM AVAIL. IMMEDIATELY $950
ONE BEDROOM AVAIL. MAY 1ST $800
THREE BEDROOM AVAIL. JUNE 15 $1100

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT
445-8811
WYCLIFFE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LIMITED

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Wilson, lrg. 1 bdrm bsmt apt, newly renov, w/sep entr, close to TTC & amen, util. & lndry, $600., June 1. 633-5239.

St. Clair/Wychwood North, 2 bdrm apt, liv rm, din rm, lndr rm. in duplex, backyard, gar,$975. 783-8431 or evg.905-886-5515.

192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES

A-1 choice of condos/resorts/villas/worldwide listings (referral service). 416-778-7600

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

Talmud Torah for sale, est. 1954, currently operates Sun. mornings. Greater potential, very lucrative, organizational and "people" skills very important. 416-785-1161, Mr. Rubinoff

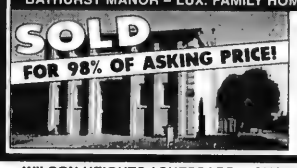
REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

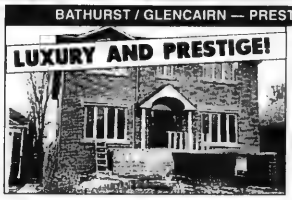
DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

BATHURST MANOR – LUX. FAMILY HOME – REDUCED!



Custom built spacious 4+1 bedroom, family room, fireplaces, approx. 4 years new hardwood, SOLD skylights, gazebo. Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS



Brand new, 6 bedrooms, custom designed luxury home. Dream maple kitchen, oak panelled library, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + finished basement. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / GLENCAIRN – FABULOUS BUILDING LOT
70 ft. frontage, OMB approved for 5,000+ sq. ft. new home. Fab. location! Only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — REDUCED
Fabulous building lot in prestigious location. 50 ft. x 136 ft. Existing bungalow renovated. Only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

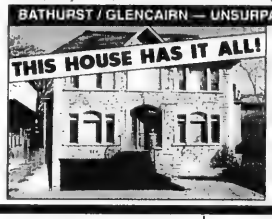
FOREST WOOD CLASSIC
Spacious exec. home, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, huge fam. rm., library, attention to detail, $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – RAISED BUNGALOW
4 bdrms., family room, 2 kitchens, 3 baths, custom built. ACT NOW — only $429,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

DANBY – SPLENDID RANCH BUNGALOW
Spacious ranch-style bungalow with 65 ft. frontage, 3 + 1 bdrms., sep. entry to bsmt., near Earl Bales Park, lots of potential, only $269,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
60 ft. frontage, spacious ranch bungalow, ren., new roof, windows, floors, only $369,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — UNSURPASSED ELEGANCE!



Custom-designed & built (1990), quality craftsmanship & finishes, 10 ft. ceilings on main floor, 4,600 sq. ft. (approx.) + bsmt., dream designer kitchen, loaded with luxury. A MUST SEE at only $799,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

WILSON HEIGHTS / SHEPPARD – CUSTOM EXEC. HOME
2 years new, 4 + 1 bedrooms, 4 baths, family room, finished bsmt., only $379,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

GLEN PARK – REDUCED

Stunning 5 bdrm.! Custom designed and built, dream maple kitchen, luxurious upgrades throughout, sep. entry to finished basement. A MUST SEE! Only $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Home for rent! Spacious 3 bdrm., family room, only $1,575 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – STORE FOR SALE!
Fabulous location, only $239,000. Ideal for user — priced to sell! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – APARTMENT FOR RENT
Spacious 3 bdrm., 2 baths, balcony, quiet 6-plex, only $1,030/month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Kitchener Waterloo's Beth Jacob Talmud Torah and Hebrew Day School is searching for a **Principal.** We are looking for a dynamic educator and administrator that will be responsible for both institutions with total enrollment of 50 students. Possibility for young married couple. Please apply with refs. to: Principal Search Committee, c.o. Beth Jacob Congregation, 161 Stirling Ave. South, Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 3N7 or contact: Myron Matlow at 519-621-2430 (Bus.), 519-623-3382 (Res.), or fax: 519-621-0072.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Female Day Camp counsellors,age 14-up.785-4600,evgs

Kosher Fish Clerk. Full-time opportunity at Clark/Hilda IGA. We are looking for a customer service oriented individual with excellent inter-personal and communication skills. Must be able to implement creative merchandising techniques to maximize sales and gross profit. Previous fish dept. exper. is an asset. Interested applicants please forward a résumé or application to: Human Resources, Oshawa Foods, 6355 Viscount Rd.,Mississauga,Ont.,L4V 1W2, or fax: 905-671-5175.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Computer support position, PC Support, LAN Admin., tech. writing, FT or PT, salary or contract, negot. Shomer shabbat. 484-8411.

247 DAY CARE

Looking for child care (0-2 1/2)? Lic. day care will provide a warm, enriched, physical & social environ. Open Fall 1997-Thornhill. Lim. space. For info. & registration, call: 661-2693.

247 DAY CARE

Jewish Home Day Care, exper. E.C.E. teacher + assistant nurse, nutritional kosher meals. Bath./Centre. 905-771-0500.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS

NEED A NANNY?

- No Fee to Employer
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

(416) 730-0127

MARLA'S DOMESTICS
RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

Cleaning lady for homes/offices, good rates, exper. 259-8654

Nurse, companion, driver, days/nights, refs. 656-5050.

***Golden Care has qualified & exper. live-in/out help for seniors,HCA's RN's, cleaners. Bonded, refs. Good rates. 416-665-4229.**

A Young Polish lady seeks cleaning job, 2 yrs exp. Call 537-6760, 8-9 pm only.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies from Quebec,summer & longer, refs. Call The Westmount Agency, 905-889-5366

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee to employer. Excellent Placement Agency, 222-4912.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady fully exper., honest, seeks day work. 747-7543.

258 HEALTHCARE

Exper. HCA seeks employment to look after elderly. 747-8900.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***Soulmates Worldwide Jewish Introduction Service!** The last Service you'll ever need! Thousands of upscale clients. **Call Evelyn 905-709-3868 www.soulmates.net**

DATING & ENGAGEMENT COUNSELLING SERVICES. Put the excitement back into dating! Covered on OHIP. Call Eric at 905-707-7921.

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1335** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee.** 483-4151

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJM, 31, 6'0", slim, attr., B.A., fin. secure, likes movies, dining out & travel,seeks SJF, 22-34, with similar interests, attr., honest & good conversationalist, send photo. CJN Box 6916.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Wig (sheitel) custom, European hair, beautifully styled shoulder length, chestnut brown. Paid $2,000, asking $1,000. 630-1546.

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!

Donation cards for all occasions

Phone: (416) 487-5246

This ad courtesy of "Canada Games Company Limited"

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

BEREL BLADY ז"ל

husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather & brother

will take place

Sunday, May 4th, 1997 at 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Centre Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

Grace Weinzweig ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 4th, 10:30 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Eastern Children Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

KARL KOHN ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 4th, 10:30 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Husianter Klaus Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

FAY GRAD ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 4th, 11:30 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Farband Labour Zionist Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

Joel Obazanek ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 4th, 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst Street, South of Steeles
Pultusker Landsmanshaft - Section 34

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

MY ZAIDY'S .com
Chabad Gate Plaza
7241 Bathurst St.
Thornhill
905-731-3831
CATERING
FREE DELIVERY
SHIVA MEALS, BRIT MILAH, BAR/BAT MITZVAHS, MEETINGS
FREE BAGELS FREE DELIVERY NO G.S.T.
Last minute orders or come in. We have freshly prepared foods to go.

AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
RRSP/RRIF RULES HAVE CHANGED
Find Out How This Will Affect You!
Call (416) 787-4517
SB SHERR, BERGSTEIN & CRACKOWER

Sports

AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
RRSP/RRIF RULES HAVE CHANGED
Find Out How This Will Affect You!
Call (416) 787-4517
SB SHERR, BERGSTEIN & CRACKOWER

Bogey Tour offer participants a real choice

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Insurance broker Lennie Exton has become a partner in The Bogey Tour, a new concept in golfing.

"Although I enjoy golfing immensely, I do not belong to a golf club," said Exton, who added that over the years, he has played at public and semi-private golf clubs and at charity golfing events.

A notice in a Richmond Hill newspaper in November 1995 caught Exton's attention. Golf enthusiasts Carl Good and Devon Bestard were launching golf tours in which participants would play at 10 different courses throughout the season.

The golf package includes all fees and taxes, prearranged tee-off times, electronic handicapping and membership in the Ontario Golf Association.

Exton joined the 1996 inaugural season along with 150 other duffers and scratch golfers. Compatible golfers were matched up and divided into flights to insure that golfers of like ability would be competing against each other. The first season was such an overwhelming success that plans were set in place to expand beyond the Toronto area.

The golfers, who play every second week throughout the season, have a choice of seven tours, some during the week, others on the weekend, and an executive tour for golfers who prefer to play more exclusive courses.

There are now three tour regions — the west covers Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton and Kitchener; the east includes Pickering, Ajax, Whitby and Oshawa; and the north focuses on Toronto, Richmond Hill and Aurora.

The Bogey Tour will accept 1,050 golfers for the 1997 season and it is filling up very quickly, Exton said. Membership is open to men and women, as individuals or in groups.

The tour has $35,000 in prizes including longest drive and closest to the hole. Among the events throughout the season are two dinners, a year-end banquet and the presentation of prizes.

Each year, part of the proceeds will be donated to charity, Exton said. "This year, we will support Breast Cancer International, and the Yellow Brick House in Aurora — a shelter for abused women.

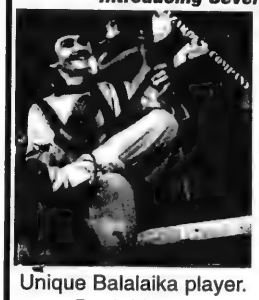
"I believe that this concept is great," says Exton. "You don't have to pay up-front membership fees, which are considerable and we arrange everything — you just have to show up and play."

The cost for the season varies from $499 to $879, depending on the tour. "And we are arranging for corporate sponsors which will keep the cost to golfers reasonable. We plan to form women's, juniors' and seniors' tours next season."

For the future, they hope to organize tours throughout Canada and the United States.

"The popularity of golf is growing," said Exton who notes that according to Statistics Canada, participation in golf is growing by 7.6 percent a year. "By 2001, golf will rank as Canada's most popular sport, thanks to aging baby boomers searching for low impact forms of exercise."

Lennie Exton

TORONTO TORONTO
RDMC
Russian Dance & Music Company
presents
GALA VARIETY SHOW
Introducing Several New Numbers!

Unique Balalaika player.
Don't Miss It!
Starring professional dancers, singers, musicians and circus artists of Moscow
May 14 & 15
2:00 p.m. matinees
May 31
7:30 p.m. evening performance
Adults $20 Seniors $18 Students $16
group rates
at Leah Posluns Theatre
4588 Bathurst St., North York
For reservations, please call
(416) 224-1296
Sponsor: Thornhill School of Ballet

This Maccabi Canada team keeps its head above water

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — If there's one thing that can safely be said about the water polo team Maccabi Canada (MC) is sending to the Maccabiah Games in Israel in July, it's that they'll be able to easily keep their heads above water.

Picked recently at national trials in Montreal, the select 11, according to Mordy Gordon, MC's national water polo chair, represent a stronger and deeper bunch of swimmers than the team of '93, when the Canadians missed out on a bronze against Brazil from a starting field of nine countries.

It will be only the second time since 1969 that Canada has fielded a water polo team. About 10 Maccabi countries will compete in water polo this year.

Gordon said frankly that while it's unlikely that Canada will do better than a bronze in Israel – behind the very powerful Israeli and U.S. teams, which finished first and second in '93 – a bronze is definitely in the offing.

"It's a good, solid, base team," said Gordon, who became involved in water polo soon after his three sons did.

"We have very strong goaltending with the return of Ryan Gordon, who will be backed up by Karil Boudko."

Coaching the team and on his first trip to Israel will be Patrick Oaten, head of the water polo department at the Dollard des Ormeaux Civic Centre and, at only age 23, a past member of Canada's national water polo team.

"He knows the game and the players," Gordon said. "He brings lots of enthusiasm to the game."

Gordon's optimism about the prospects for a medal are based on several factors:

Elite squads

Two of the players — Montrealer Mike Gordon, 23 (and Mordy's son) and Torontonian goalie Karil Boudko, 17 — play for Canadian elite squads.

Last year, Mike was instrumental in helping Canada earn its first medal ever — a bronze — while a member of Canada's junior national water polo team competing at an international juniors competition in Cuba in advance of the junior Worlds.

Boudko has played starting goalie on Canada's elite juvenile "dream team."

Four of the players are veterans of Maccabiah '93.

They include goalie Ryan Gordon (also Mordy's son) of Montreal; Montrealers Val Muscalu and Mitch Schipper, 23 and 26 respectively, and Torontonian Mike Greenwood, 23.

The water polo team is rounded out by Maccabiah first-timers: Calgarian Mike Dykman, 33, playing the "hole" position at centre; Torontonians Aaron Malken and Mark Resnick, both 21 (Malken currently goes to school in Vancouver and at 6'4", is the team's tallest member); and by Montrealers Ted Schipper, 28 (and Mitch's brother) and Guy Dollinger, 25.

The team will be co-captained by Greenwood and Mitch Schipper, while Mike Gordon will "quarterback" the team, his father said.

All in all, thinks Mordy, a very capable squad in a sport that tests endurance to the max. Players (six players plus the goalie are in the water at any given time) need quick reflexes, great hand-eye coordination, and the strength to move continuously while passing and controlling the ball.

Also needed is more than a little aggressiveness, Gordon said. Whatever the action is above the water line, it is even more physical literally beneath the surface, where opposing players kick at each other continuously and violently to fend each other off.

The Inside Back

Honoring survivors deepens understanding of risks taken

By IRVING GREENBERG

How shall we focus the commemoration of Yom Hashoah? In the light of the Madelaine Albright affair and the Swiss banking revelations, it is time to focus on the heroism of the survivors and the courage they showed in deciding to continue to live as Jews.

Yom Hashoah

In Jakob Presser's classic novel of the destruction of Dutch Jewry, *Breaking Point*, a young man has been befriended and kept alive by Jeremiah Hirsch, his neighbor in the Westerbork camp.

Hirsch was a Hebrew studies teacher back home. The young man's name is called for the weekly transport to Auschwitz. He lashes out hatefully at Hirsch, who, bewildered, asks him, "Why explode at me?"

The lad responds, "When they call out your name, you will have had a lifetime of community, of joy and of learning, of meaningful reward for being Jewish. For me, there was nothing. You know why you suffer. For me, it came for no reason. I rage that my life will be destroyed meaninglessly."

Small wonder, then, that after the war, tens of thousands of assimilated Jews who had barely survived were furious at their meaningless suffering and determined to escape this fate once and for all, hid their identities and passed as gentiles.

Every survivor, even those who had lived rich Jewish lives before the war, had to answer questions to themselves. Shall I continue? Is it worth it? Shall I inflict this possible fate on my future children and grandchildren?

Those who lost families, those who had seen loved ones, their own flesh and blood and countless others killed, tormented, abandoned, had to decide where to go and what to be.

The survivors found a world that was unrepentant, a world in which most Nazis escaped punishment, in which Britain kept the doors of Palestine locked and set up camps in Cyprus where displaced persons who tried to make aliyah were interned.

They found banks which seized their families' accounts and stonewalled their requests for reimbursement.

They found Jewish communities that did not want to hear atrocity stories or expressed shame at the victims' "passivity" rather than at their own colossal wartime indifference.

Even survivors who were deeply committed and well received were uprooted and needed to move to new countries to start new lives. It was a chance to escape Jewish fate, a temptation to make a clean break with Jewish faith.

Try to understand the decision of Albright's parents. The Korbels escaped the worst by being abroad during the Holocaust, but their family did not.

Think of Madeleine Albright rushing through life as her cousin Magda and others called out to her.

Another heart-stopping Holocaust scene comes to mind. A Jewess passing as a gentile is walking hastily toward her destination when a "schmalzownik", a Gentile who preyed on hidden Jews by threatening to expose them, calls out to her.

Her heart is beating wildly, but she keeps a straight face. She must not let on or all is lost. If she stops, she is trapped in her Jewish fate. If she turns around, all her incredible hiding effort is for nothing. She presses forward as if she does not hear.

On Yom Hashoah, judgment should not be passed on the Korbels. The incredible heroism of every survivor who decided to go on living as a Jew should be appreciated.

What a willingness to undergo kiddush HaShem (sanctifying God's name), what unquenchable faith in the possibility of tikkun olam (repairing the world) these survivors expressed.

Yom Hashoah is the day to unconditionally sing the praises of every Jew who did not – and of all Jews who do not – flee their identity. A second moment of silent homage, honoring the bravery of Jewish survivors, should be added to this day.

On Yom Hashoah, God should put on two pairs of t'fillin in which is written, "Who is like you people, Israel? A unique nation in the whole world!"

For one day, let's stop underestimating the daily courage of survivors and all Jews alike. If it happened once, it can happen again, however unlikely that fate seems in America.

On Yom Hashoah, let's take one more pledge: I will learn, I will live, I will celebrate with my family, my friends.

Never again should any Jewish child or adult be so deprived of their birthright of Jewish joy, distinction and meaning that they would question whether it was worth the risk.

COFFEE CHICKEN

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN WE SELL Whirlpool FOR LESS

1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

1/3 cup ketchup
2 tblsp. red wine vinegar
1 cup brewed coffee
1 tblsp. olive oil
3 tblsp. pancake syrup
2 tblsp. orange juice concentrate
1 clove garlic, minced
2 tblsp. chopped onion
pinch pepper
1 chicken cut in 1/8's

Mix all sauce ingredients and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer about 5 to 10 minutes until thickened.

Preheat oven to 350°F. Place chicken, skin side up in a dish just to fit, pour over sauce.

Bake for 1 hour, or until juices run clear. Baste once or twice. Freezes well. Good hot or cold.

About families

Dear Susan,

My mother, a widow, is due to make her pilgrimage home just this side of Passover. I have enjoyed four months of peace but now feel doomed to incarceration. When my mother returns, I'll have a bevy of responsibilities. How can I cope?

Dear Reader,

It sounds like you feel snowed under. You might feel less anxious if you made your load more manageable.

Generate a list of tasks that you do for your Mom for house management, cooking and finances. Delineate the tasks in each group and prioritize from easiest to most difficult. Asterisk tasks that can be delegated to another family member or a professional. Hold a family conference with siblings and spouses in order to create a tenable plan. Know that you are not alone in your job as caretaker but there are others who can assist you.

The elderly often need a team of supporters. Do not hesitate to form a team of caregivers and delegate one as the case manager. This frees you up to be just a daughter. Should you feel overburdened, remember that you have other loved ones counting on you and you can ill afford to burn out – like a well-run race, proper training and pacing are the issues. Should you have some emotional baggage, consider individual or group therapy privately or within a public agency such as Jewish Family Services.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

PASCHAL LAMA

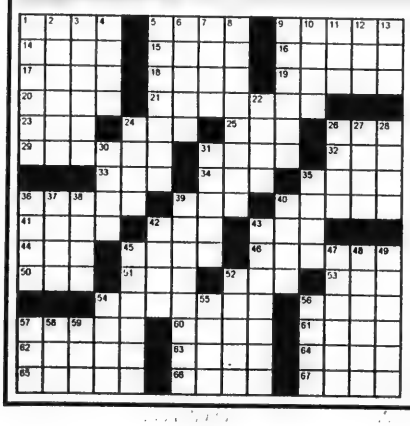
The Dalai Lama, right, the exiled leader of Tibet, joins Rabbi David Saperstein in the blessing over the bitter herbs at a Passover freedom celebration last week in Washington.

[RNS/Reuters photo]

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Tuches?
5. De Rothschild's org.
9. Scout
14. Writer Ferber
15. Funt or Sherman
16. Emulate Abba Eban
17. Standing
18. Demolish
19. Edomite king
20. "Dawn", Writer
21. Sat Shiva
23. Letter of the Alephbet
24. Dike
25. Ninoy casually
26. Platters by Manilow?
29. Tenth minor prophet
31. Reason for shiva
32. Jamie __ Curtis
33. King David__, Jerusalem
34. Switch positions
35. Agadah
36. "__Pass" (Uris)
39. Sprocket
40. "Blossom" star Bialik
41. Sinai climate
42. Babi ___, Ukraine
43. Getz instrument
44. Sixth day creation
45. Kol Nidre sounds
46. Cohen or Levi
50. Whichever
51. Not on Pesach?
52. Apple computer
53. 52
54. Author Lillian
56. Glove for Johnny Kling
57. Judah to Romans
60. Matriarchs
61. Writer Sholem
62. "Lou Grant" actor
63. Luckman and Gordon
64. Teva offering
65. Pagan deities
66. Table (Yid)
67. Tref meat cuts

Down

1. Bigthan's partner
2. Haman's fifth
3. Nine for Greenberg
4. Kinneret
5. Handel (Eng)
6. Shofar blast
7. Hitler
8. Jolson position
9. High priests?
10. Israeli silver medalist
11. Yeled (Eng.)
12. El Al posting
13. Divan
22. Vavs (Eng)
24. "Jose Jimenez" comic
26. Dreidel matter?
27. Jewish restaurant
28. Appear
30. Make the Golden Calf
31. Mezuzot sites
35. Judd Hirsch sitcom
36. Cass Elliott
37. Esther's kingdom?
38. K'Tonton
39. Mystic
40. Artist Chagall
42. Joel (Heb)
43. Tongue for Marranos
45. David's weapons
47. Elijah disciple
48. "Seinfeld" or "Taxi"
49. Gives a tenth
52. Zilpah and Bilhah
54. Jacob grabbed Esau's at birth
55. 1,003
56. Make the tsimmes
57. Barney Ross move
58. Lands of the Covenant
59. Tay-Sachs carrier

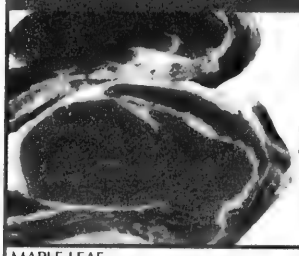
These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 42.)

Prices Effective from
Sun. April 27, 1997 until
Sat. May 3, 1997

HIGHLAND FARMS

Come see what you're missing



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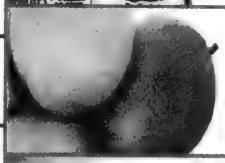

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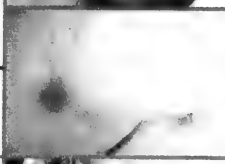
•Raspberry
•Strawberry
500 ml Jar 2.49 EA

SUGARKAKE
FIG BAR
COOKIES
275 g Package 99 EA



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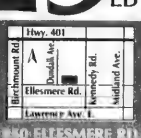

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Lebanon pullout debated

Israel Demands PA amend Charter

War crime *to proceed*

Bronfm *s war*
on all E *untries*

Swiss banks of *er $25 million*

Arafat *Hebron*

Neo-Nazis s *ds on the Net*

Syrian *old*

Argentine b *to Neo-Nazi*

THE SECOND REPORT ON THE STATE OF WORLD JEWRY

Canada/Israel free trade signed

47% of Israelis fear civil war

Intermarriage over 52%

Clinton consider severing

ties with PA

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM • TORONTO • JUNE 3, 1997 • 8:30 PM

THE REPORT ON THE STATE OF WORLD JEWRY

Every day our world as Jews is changing. Headlines explode the latest news, each one challenging our thoughts and feelings from new directions.

The Report on the State of World Jewry will synthesize the events of our times, helping us to make sense of what is happening around us, and where it may lead us to.

- *What is driving the Peace Process and what are the next steps?*
- *Is the dream of peace dashed, or is war inevitable?*
- *What is the Clinton administration's real agenda?*
- *Who is setting policy in the White House and why?*
- *Why do half of Israelis feel headed for civil war?*
- *Why do more editorials deal with Israel than any other country than the U.S., while less than 1% of the world population lives there?*
- *How far-reaching is the issue of Holocaust victims' money in Switzerland?*
- *Does the world see a drive for justice or cause for anti-semitism?*
- *How much money is really involved, and who can find it?*
- *What are the latest trends of intermarriage and assimilation?*
- *Who is a Jew and who is behind this issue?*

Aish HaTorah has once again assembled a remarkable panel of experts who are also leaders in their fields. They will provide Toronto an in-depth analysis of today's events from a unique perspective behind the closed doors of power, and beyond the reach of mass media.

And celebrate YOM YERUSHALAYIM with a special video address to the Toronto Jewish Community by JERUSALEM MAYOR EHUD OLMERT!

AS A JEW AND AS A CANADIAN, YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS THIS REMARKABLE OPPORTUNITY.

JOIN US ON JUNE 3!

YOU WILL HEAR DRAMATIC INSIDER'S REPORTS FROM WORLD LEADERS WITH THEIR PULSE ON EVENTS AS THEY HAPPEN.

SPEAKERS:

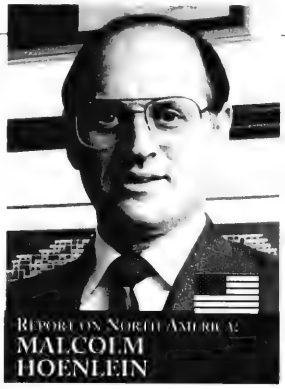
Washington Representative
World Jewish Congress

Douglas Bloomfield, is the Washington coordinator for the world Jewish Congress investigations into Swiss banks and Nazi gold.

The WJC, representing 80 nations, has spearheaded the massive international drive for justice and recovery of hundreds of millions of dollars of property stolen from Jews during the Holocaust.

In Washington, Mr.Bloomfield oversees embassy negotiations with Swiss and former Nazi and Communist regimes, and coordinates US government support for restitution.

He is a Washington consultant and syndicated columnist, applying his extensive experience from 9 years as chief lobbyist for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

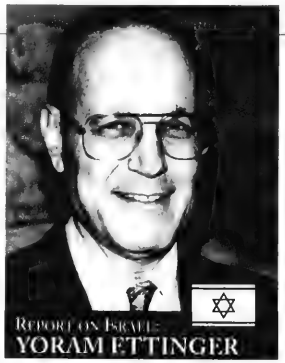


Executive Vice Chairman
Conference of Presidents of Major
American Jewish Organizations

Serving as spokesperson for the Presidents of every major Jewish organization in the US, Malcolm Hoenlein has an inside perspective on the most vital issues facing North American Jews today. He is in regular touch with the policy makers at the White House and in the halls of the UN. An author and much sought after speaker, he has enlightened and inspired audiences around the world.

CTV News Anchor

With her experience as an award winning journalist, producer and news anchor, Sandie Rinaldo is uniquely qualified to host this interactive news forum spanning the 4 corners of the globe. Ms. Rinaldo will recreate a television news format, quizzing the panelists, and encouraging debate between the speakers and with the audience.



Yoram Ettinger is a man who knows the Middle East and its position in the international arena. After serving as Director of the Israel Government. Press Office, he became the Minister for Congressional Affairs at Israel's Embassy in Washington, DC. He founded the journal, "Contemporary Mideast Backgrounder", and served with Israeli Consul's all over the United States.

He is well known for his expertise in the areas of strategic cooperation, the Peace Process, arms control and counter-terrorism.

Why Invest Your Charitable Dollars In Aish HaTorah?

Every astute investor knows the importance of balancing one's portfolio. Which investments will bring the greatest return? The same is true in philanthropy.

- **What are the most important needs in my community?**
- **Which organizations are getting the biggest bang for the buck?**

There are many worthwhile causes in our community. The question is how to balance one's portfolio.

• What are the most important needs in the Jewish community?

For years, leaders of North American Jewry and even Israel have been raising the battle cry that we must counter the devastating effects of assimilation.

Yet how much is truly being done? Whatever the answer, we know it's not enough. We are losing literally millions of young Jewish people! What can be done? What are we going to do about it?

We must redouble our efforts and invest in those programs that are proving effective.

• Which organizations are getting the biggest bang for the buck?

Aish HaTorah has quickly become recognized as one of the world's leaders in Jewish outreach education. Its success lies in its emphasis on developing committed young leaders, and finding creative solutions in Jewish education and marketing.

Aish's track record speaks for itself:

- 75,000 people attend programs in 1996 around the world
- 8,000 attend in Toronto alone in 1996 at 4 affiliate branches, and an additional 10 educational locations for High Holidays for beginners
- 20 branches spring up in the former USSR in 5 years, reaching over 12,000, and another 10,000 Russians in Israel
- 60,000 attend the Discovery Seminar in over 100 cities, making it the highest attended program in Jewish history
- The Jerusalem Fellowships for campus leaders becomes Israel's fastest growing program for university students, chaired by Senators Moynihan and Specter
- New branches in 1996 in South Africa, Birmingham Alabama and Philadelphia
- New buildings going up in Miami, St. Louis, New York, Los Angeles and Toronto (The Village Shul) to keep up with the huge demand
- The Israeli government recognized Aish's central importance to World Jewry by donating the largest piece of land directly facing the Western Wall

At a time when Jewish continuity is so threatened, Aish HaTorah is getting the job done. Your investment will ensure that every effort is made to continue to expand and touch the lives of thousands.

AISH HATORAH INSPIRING JEWISH PEOPLE EVERYWHERE WITH PRIDE

TORONTO, Ont. (Aish HaTorah News Wire Service) – Aish HaTorah, the international outreach movement based at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, has reached almost 75,000 young Jewish people this year with its message of Jewish pride.

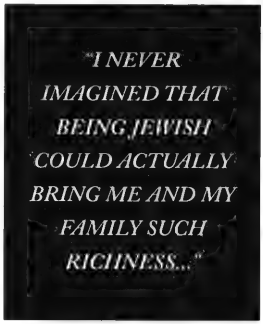
"I never imagined that being Jewish could actually bring me and my family such richness. Aish HaTorah helped us discover that it's great to be Jewish, and I'm glad I found out in time to give this treasure over to my kids." , Fran Jakubowicz said recently after attending a Discovery Seminar at the Dan Family Aish HaTorah Centre in Thornhill.

Such were the comments heard by enthusiastic men and women as they spent time delving into the meaning of Judaism at Aish HaTorah's myriad classes on every subject from Kabbalah to parenting, and from love to suffering.

Fran is not alone. Last year in Toronto, over 8,000 people joined her in attending Aish programs. Each one left a little prouder, which is Aish's goal.

"What keeps bringing me back for more", commented Larry Deverett, President of Sidea Corporation, "was the non-judgmental atmosphere where every question I posed was not just welcomed, but actually appreciated. I consider myself a professional skeptic, and I felt right at home."

And that's what they strive for, according to Rabbi Ahron Hoch, Educational Director of Aish in Toronto. "Our only expectation from our students is that they hit us with all their questions, and be as honest with us as we are with them. We tell them that one can never know who is a better Jew – that's G-d's domain, not ours. Our job is simply to communicate the beauty and pleasure of being Jewish — that sells itself."

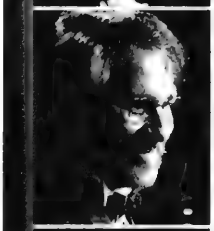


When asked what the secret of Aish's success is, Harold Nashman, Chairman of the Toronto Board responded "Young people are not willing to be Jewish for vague nationalistic or nostalgic reasons, and can we blame them? They need to see what Judaism can offer THEM, or in other words 'WHY BE JEWISH'? You can't be proud of something you don't know. When they discover the tremendous wisdom in our heritage they develop a deep sense of pride.."

Thanks to Aish HaTorah, and thanks to its many devoted supporters, thousands every year are finally getting a chance to be proud.

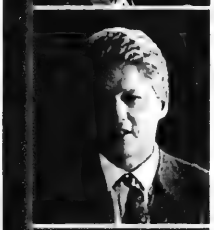
"Let me tell you about the most important Jewish project in the world."

Larry King



"Aish HaTorah, you do very good work. With the message you put out, I could have used you in my life 25 years ago."

Steven Spielberg



"Aish HaTorah has dedicated itself to the critical task of educating successive generations of Jews about the power of their history and the strength of their tradition."

US President Bill Clinton

Aish HaTorah
at the Western Wall
Presently under construction

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AISH HATORAH'S REPORT ON THE STATE OF WORLD JEWRY

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Reform movement told to actively oppose Israel's proposed conversion bill. *Page 3*

CJC won't make deals with "snitch line" informants, Ontario region chair says. *Page 5*

Dance competition raises money for Orly Watkin Meningitis Research Fund. *Page 22*

National

United front fights Winnipeg's Red River. *Page 30*

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Multiple loyalties strengthen the soul of the Jewish state. *Page 36*

Arts

Hanoch Rosenn brings his silent act to Toronto. *Page 43*

Index

Greater Toronto Area 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 16
Just Between Us 18
On Campus 27
Coast to Coast 28
Election '97 32
International 33
Yom Ha'atzmaut 36
Health 41
Travel, Arts & Business 42
Classified 45
Sports 50
Crossword 51
Ask Lisa 51

Shabbat: Kedoshim
Candlelighting: 8:09
Iyar 2, 5757
Havdalah: 9:14

Israel rejects talks with Syria

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel has rejected a recent Syrian offer to renew peace talks, because it included as a precondition the government's agreeing to a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights, a senior official said last week.

Foreign Minister David Levy was to meet with European Union peace talks envoy Miguel Moratinos, to discuss ways of resuming the negotiations with Syria. Syria recently proposed three formulas to resume talks, which were relayed to the government by Moratinos, Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur said.

However, each proposal included a demand that Israel could not accept, and therefore the government rejected all three proposals, he said. Bentsur was speaking at a question-and-answer forum in Rehovot, where he was interviewed by former *Davar* editor Hannah Semer.

Bentsur, who was also to attend Levy's meeting with Moratinos, said one of the Syrian proposals was based on Resolution 242, but included a demand for a detailed breakdown of the resolution according to the Syrian interpretation, i.e. an Israeli commitment for complete withdrawal from the Golan. Israel, of course, rejected this demand, Bentsur said.

Continued on page 33

RECALLING THE FALLEN
A woman stoops in prayer on Yom Hazakiron last year over the grave of her son, one of the almost 20,000 men and women who have died in defence of Israel since 1948.
[Israel file photo]

Religious leaders meet with Rock

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An unprecedented coalition of Canadian religious leaders has called on Justice Minister Allan Rock to step up the pursuit of alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada as a "moral imperative" and to express solidarity with the Jewish community.

Monday's hour-long meeting here between Rock and the faith leaders was described by Rabbi Reuven Bulka, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress's inter-religious affairs committee, as "cordial, open and friendly. We came away very encouraged by the moral strength of the commitment by the government to pursue the issue of Nazi war criminals on all fronts."

Representatives of the Roman Catholic, Anglican, United, Christian Reform and Evangelical Lutheran churches joined the World Sikh Organization of Canada and Congress to call on Rock to accelerate prosecutions.

Rock told a press conference following the meeting that "however it is we choose to worship our God, there is common to all religions a certain morality that requires justice, and in the case of war criminals from any era, requires that governments and nations act in an effort to achieve justice. And that is something we have attempted to do during the current government in relation to alleged Nazi war criminals."

Continued on page 32

Unity, war crimes on agenda

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

National unity and the pursuit of alleged Nazi war criminals living in Canada are emerging as the key issues for Canadian Jewry in the June 2 federal election.

Communal leaders agree the next government will have to deal with the results of a third and, some say decisive, referendum on Quebec's future, as well as bring closure to the file on suspected war criminals.

There's been a flurry of activity on the war crimes dossier: last week, leaders of B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) met with Solicitor General Herb Gray to discuss what the RCMP is doing; on May 5, a coalition of religious leaders and representatives of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) met with Justice Minister Allan Rock; and cross-country rallies, dubbed Nazi War Criminals in Canada: One is Too Many, are planned all through May.

Election '97

It's all part of a concerted effort to get Ottawa to act before suspects die. In the past three years, three alleged Nazi war criminals died during their legal proceedings.

Canada's Jews will be also affected by redrawn electoral boundaries, made necessary by a growing population and demographic shifts. Some ridings with high Jewish populations will be rejigged, while a new one – Thornhill, north of Toronto – will be created.

Last week, CJC unveiled its *Political Action Guide*, which outlines its perspectives on issues.

BBC is putting final touches on its election task force, co-chaired by Toronto lawyers Richard Bogoroch and Jim Klein.

Continued on page 32

EARLY DEADLINE

For the issue of May 22, advertising deadlines are as follows: classified and organizations, Tuesday, May 13, at 2 p.m.; display advertising Wednesday, May 14, at noon. Our offices will be closed Monday May 19.

"A most noble liberation movement" — please see page 9

The News in Brief

First Quarter Aliyah — 1997

Month	World	FSU
January	4,923	4,298
February	3,969	3,264
March	4,622	3,426
Totals	13,514	10,988

ISRAEL

Israeli in Space

JERUSALEM — A 40-year-old combat pilot has been chosen to become the first Israeli to travel on a NASA space shuttle mission.

The pilot, who, under army regulations, cannot be named, was identified as an F-16 pilot and trained electrical engineer.

Science Centre

JERUSALEM — A prominent Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal lay leader in Barcelona, Spain, has donated $1 million (US) for the establishment of a science centre in the Negev town of Yeruham. The centre will contain laboratories for biology, chemistry, physics and computers.

FEDERATION CJA of Montreal has been involved with Yeruham for many years and has had a major impact on its quality of life.

Hikers Murdered

JERUSALEM — Israel has called on the Palestinian Authority to help find those responsible for murdering two Israeli hikers in Wadi Kelt, a popular hiking spot near the West Bank town of Jericho.

The bodies of Hagit Zavitzky of Kfar Adumim and Liat Kastiel of Holon, both aged 23, were found April 25 by other hikers.

The women's bodies were covered with stab wounds.

Israeli security forces believe the women were killed by Arab terrorists. No group claimed responsibility for the attack.

WORLD

Neo-Nazis Sentenced

PARIS — A painful chapter for France's Jewish community has ended after a French court sentenced four neo-Nazis for the 1990 desecration of 35 graves at a Jewish cemetery in the southern town of Carpentras.

Israel Blasts UN

NEW YORK — Israel lashed out at the UN General Assembly after the body adopted a resolution calling for an immediate halt to the construction of Jewish housing in southeastern Jerusalem.

The non-binding measure was adopted April 25, at the close of a two-day emergency session convened at the request of Arab states to marshal international pressure to halt Israeli building at Har Choma.

The vote was 134 to 3, with 11 abstentions, including Canada.

Polish Seders

ROME — Hundreds of Jews attended communal seders in Warsaw and other Polish cities this year, and many others hosted the Passover meal in their own homes.

Opportunities Abound

NEW JERSEY – The World Union of Jewish Students Institute in Arad, Israel, offers young adults, 21-35 a year-long program which combines seven months of Hebrew language instruction and Jewish studies classes, hiking, educational seminars and community volunteer opportunities with five months of career experience.

Registration is under way for sessions beginning June 24 and Oct. 28. For more information call 1-888-WUJSINS or e-mail to [wujsusa@internetmci.com].

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In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday May 5, 1972

U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS REACH "HIGH POINT"

Relations between Israel and the United States have reached "the highest peak of understanding" in five years and have been an effective deterrent to both the Soviet Union and the Arab states from renewing the conflict in the Middle East, Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's ambassador to the U.S. said.

Rabin declared that the most significant developments in the past year had been overall improvement in Israeli-American relations, the realization on Washington's part that "a complicated conflict could not be solved by words alone."

CONGRESS, AJCS ACCUSED OF EDUCATION NEGLECT

Canadian Jewish Congress and the Allied Jewish Community Services (AJCS) were criticized at a seminar in Montreal for spending time "squabbling over structure, power and their respective roles, to the neglect of essential matters."

Stanley Cohen, chairman of the educational committee of the Jewish People's and Peretz Schools, accused both bodies of neglecting Jewish eduction. "Are AJCS and Congress honestly concerned with education?" he asked.

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,593 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement April 30, 1996.

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Reform movement opposes conversion bill

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Reform movement must abandon its traditional low profile response to Israeli political developments and actively marshal opposition to Israel's proposed conversion bill, a meeting at Temple Sinai was told last week.

The bill, which has passed first reading in the Knesset, "has to do with the character and definition of the Jewish people, with issues of solidarity and unity worldwide," said Rabbi Lawrence Colton. "The issue is clear. This is the time to respond."

The bill, introduced by the Likud government's Orthodox coalition partners, would give the Orthodox Chief Rabbinate exclusive jurisdiction in Israel over conversions, barring recognition of Conservative and Reform conversions.

About 300 members of the congregation and others heard Rabbi Colton and Rabbi Michael Dolgin spell out a multi-pronged strategy to get Reform concerns addressed, including public education, letters of protest to Israeli politicians and support for Arza, the Reform Zionist movement.

But the depth of emotion created by the bill became apparent when former Temple president Austin Beutel took the floor and urged Reform Jews to use their pocketbooks to wield influence.

Money counts, said Beutel, president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. He urged the congregation to build up Reform institutions in Israel as a means of enhancing their political influence, and he called on Reform contributors to the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) to pointedly ask UJA Federation of Greater Toronto to earmark their contributions for Reform causes.

Reform's "presence there will bring respect. The shouting and screaming does not," he said as many in the crowd applauded.

Rabbi Colton had made similar suggestions, though in a more circumspect manner. Contribute to Jewish causes that accept and recognize pluralism in the Jewish world. Try to carve out a larger share for its institutions in the communal funding process, he said.

Earlier, rabbis Colton and Dolgin said the bill has created a crisis and a defining moment for members of the Reform movement.

Israel is a major focus of Reform life. "We know that learning about Israel is crucial to building the identity of Jews," Rabbi Dolgin said, referring to the congregation's children.

Israel should be a place for all Jews, but the bill symbolizes a view that growth and diversity are less important than coalition politics. Though the bill is an Israeli political matter, it impacts on Jews the world over, he said.

In an often emotional address, Rabbi Colton said, "It's nobody's business to classify what kind of Jew you are. We don't have the right to say to any Jew that what he is, we deny... We are Jews because of the depth of commitment that wells from inside."

He called on the congregation to discuss the issue with leaders of local Jewish organizations and to convey to them "our pain and anguish."

Rabbi Dolgin said he was disappointed in the Conservative movement in Canada for not signing on to an international document protesting the bill. The American Reform and Conservative movements both signed the document and while the Canadian Reform movement adopted it, the Canadian Conservative movement did not.

"It's an embarrassment to the Reform rabbis of Toronto that we were not able to gain the consent of our Conservative colleagues and the Conservative movement," he said.

Contacted after the meeting, Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, president of the Conservative Rabbinical Assembly (RA), Ontario Region, said the RA did not have enough time "for appropriate and adequate consultation" of the document prior to its publication in *The CJN*, and so, could not sign on.

The RA did not disagree with the contents of the ad, he said, noting that the Conservative movements in Canada and Israel have long supported religious pluralism in Israel.

The RA is consulting with the Federation on the allocation of funds in Israel, he said, urging that donations go to "encourage religious pluralism and the development of Jewish identity."

NEW STAMP PAYS TRIBUTE TO SECRET IMMIGRATION

The Israel Postal Authority has released a five-shekel stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of the historic voyage of the *Exodus*. The clandestine Haganah ship attempted to bring 4,530 Holocaust survivors to British-administered Palestine, but was attacked by the Royal Navy. Passengers were returned to France, and from there, to Germany. The issue also pays tribute to the overall efforts of Jews in Palestine to spirit immigrants past the British blockade from 1934 to 1948. For details, contact a stamp dealer or dial the Israel Philatelic Agency at 1-800-607-2799.

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From the editor's desk

Thoughts on unity: Jewish and Canadian

Howard S. Joseph, the rabbi of the Spanish-Portuguese Congregation of Montreal, recently wrote an annotated translation of an essay by "The Neziv," Rabbi Naphtali Zvi Yehuda Berlin, called *She'ar Yisrael*, the *Remnant of Israel*. It has been published by Jason Aronson Inc.

The essay by The Neziv is itself about 80 pages. The notes accompanying the essay and the introduction by Rabbi Joseph are of equal length. Rabbi Joseph's introduction is rich in biographical material and historical, contextual commentary.

It is a slim volume overflowing with tightly-written, important, highly-relevant insights into modern Jewish life. It has special application in light of the recent controversy from New York caused by the Agudath Harabonim.

I shall excerpt a small part from Rabbi's Joseph's introduction.

"Who is She'ar Yisrael? While highlighting the supreme role of Torah scholars and their students, Neziv never departs from an all-inclusive definition of the remnant. All Jews are included. This, of course, is the classic view of tradition that prevailed throughout rabbinic Judaism. However, other Orthodox thinkers of the nineteenth century were moving into a more restricted view of the remnant as being limited to the most pious and observant segment of the community which was willing to segregate itself from other Jews in an attempt to resist modernity... Rabbi Berlin opposed separatist attempts in Eastern Europe and tried to maintain an inclusive, united, communal perspective.

"Nowhere does this vision emerge more clearly than in a responsum on the separatist issue. He calls the advice to separate a "harsh opinion, as swords piercing the body and threatening the existence of the nation." this would be a form of sinat hinam that has previously caused numerous tragedies in Jewish history. It would now do the same, turning Jew against Jew and weakening the survival of the nation. Remaining bound together we can survive."

Joseph develops this theme further, carefully establishing its great legal, moral and historical weight by demonstrating how it was adopted, expanded and further refined by his own teacher and mentor, the great Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, who happened also to be the Neziv's great-great-grandson.

Coursing through the pages of Rabbi Joseph's book is an obvious personal and rabbinic love of the Jewish people and a loyalty to the historic catch-phrase that we are all responsible one for the other.

Rabbi Joseph's translation of *She'ar Yisrael* is an important book.

* * *

Election airing

Throughout the federal election campaign, I will use this column to share thoughts with *CJN* readers on issues arising from the campaign.

In my opinion, the most compelling issue in this election is that of national unity.

I do not deny the importance of the competing economic planks in the respective parties' platforms. The level of national unemployment, hovering at or near 10 percent, is far too high. It suggests unacceptable numbers of people who are struggling to make a living, to provide for their families, to offer reasonably optimistic, dignified lives for their children.

Nor do I make slight of the differences in the social policies of the competing parties. High quality, state-funded, universally accessible health care is considered by most Canadians to be a chief hallmark of our society. So too do we regard a reasonably-affordable, compassionate "safety net" for those who are needy as well as affordable, high quality, state-funded, post secondary school for all Canadian children.

Indeed, there are a number of weighty issues on which to confront the candidates and their parties.

But beyond a doubt, the weightiest of all matters for Canadian voters to ponder, is that of the very viability of the country in its present political configuration.

The government that Canadians elect on June 2 will have to deal with the aftermath of the next referendum in Quebec, which, in all likelihood, will be held within 2½ years, before the turn of the millennium.

We must ask ourselves: Who, if anyone at all, will be best able to prevent a separatists' victory? Who will be best able to deal with separatists in Quebec City?

In either case, the deck is stacked against the federalist cause because the provincial government in Quebec City led by Lucien Bouchard is not dealing with federalists in good faith.

He has often said he would never "negotiate" a better deal within Confederation. His aim, plain and simple, is to remove Quebec outside Confederation, not to find it a more comfortable place within.

He therefore frequently points to "intransigent" premiers from other provinces whom he rightly points out are reluctant to constitutionally concede Quebec's distinctiveness. But really, the rest of his hand points back at him as well. For he has no interest or desire in sitting down at the table with the premiers to find reasonable compromise or accommodation.

To diminish Bouchard's arsenal of anti-Canada allies, one of the key objectives of all people who love Canada should be to elect as many federalists inside Quebec as possible. This would provide pro-Canadians a better opportunity to represent Quebecers inside the House of Commons and to satisfy their legitimate constituent concerns and needs.

Despite the slow start by Gilles Duceppe out of the "starting bloc" in the first week of the campaign, his party is still favored to win a majority of Quebec ridings. To prevent this result, federalists should avoid splitting the federalist vote in Quebec. Thus they should run only one candidate, the strongest, against the Bloc.

For the sake of the country, federalists must set aside their partisan differences. They should decide upon one federalist candidate who has the best chance of defeating the Bloc candidate. The rallying cry should be federalism versus separatism, not Tory versus Grit.

Most people see the Bloc clearly for what it truly is: an arm of the Parti Québécois in Ottawa. The recent organizational changes by Duceppe to his campaign team, where he brought a key Bouchard lieutenant to run matters, should dispel any contrary notions of independence of thought or of action.

Why should federalists add strength to Bouchard's hand? It makes no sense. The fewer Bloc MPs that are elected, the more the call for a united Canada will be heard in the House of Commons.

It would be a heartening act of patriotism, an example to us all of thoughtful, self-sacrificing, leader-like judgment.

It is not too late.

MBD

Greater Toronto Area

War crimes 'snitch line' misinterpreted, says Ronen

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One aspect of the controversial "snitch line" on suspected Nazi war criminals has been misinterpreted to mean that the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) would make deals with informants.

"It would be the Canadian government, not CJC, making such deals if the RCMP so recommends," Moshe Ronen, Ontario region chair, told the region's executive last week.

"The 'snitch line' has been active," Ronen said, expressing satisfaction with its operation but at the same time conceding "it was a difficult policy."

Referring to CJC's decision to support an informant line on war criminals, he said, "some progress has been made.

But "whether it will work out is still a question."

Ronen said revelations by Irving Abella, CJC's war crimes committee chair, "have put the government once again on the spot and put the issue front and centre before the Canadian public in the background of a national election."

The failure of the federal government to aggressively pursue suspected war criminal cases will be the major issue for Jews in the coming election, Ronen said. He suggested that in their door to door campaigns, all candidates be asked how they stand on the issue and to be reminded how important it is to the Jewish community.

CJC is sponsoring coast to coast public advocacy meetings on the issue. The Ontario meeting will be held May 22, 7:30 p.m. at the North York Council chamber.

Congress representatives will ask candidates in the coming election to urge Canada to support the peace process in Israel and to recognize Israel's security concerns, Daniel Fine, the region's political liaison officer, said.

The national unity issue is also high on the Congress list, he said.

A major effort will be made in the November election for the first Toronto mega-city council to press issues of concern to the Jewish community, Cary Green, the region's political liaison chair, later told *The CJN*.

On another matter, the executive was told by director Manuel Prutschi that Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick is "very supportive" of the need to keep Branson Hospital open.

At Harnick's suggestion, Congress is arranging a meeting with Cam Jackson, the minister responsible for seniors' issues, to discuss the implications of Branson's closure, he said.

On funding for Jewish day schools, the executive learned that provincial reforms to the education system will make it easier for such schools to receive equitable public funding.

"These reforms could ultimately make it easier for religious schools now outside the public-funded umbrella to receive funding," said Henry Koschitzy, committee chair.

It was announced that Stephen Shulman, a member of the Congress staff for the past four years, is leaving his job to practice law privately. Tributes to the work he has done as associate national director of community relations were made by his associates and by Congress lay leaders.

Ontario Attorney-General Charles Harnick (seated, centre) meets leaders of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, including (seated) CJC, Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen and Federation president Sandra Brown. Standing are CJC vice-chair Harold Brief (left) and Federation vice-president Alan Sandler. [Jennifer Turack photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Deal on war criminal deportations disputed

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Canada's former chief war crimes prosecutor has dismissed suggestions that there ever was a deal or an arrangement not to deport war crimes suspects from Canada.

"This is mere historic revisionism by some ethnic community leaders," said Bill Hobson, former head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit. "There never were any deals. I know. I was there."

Hobson was responding to suggestions that federal authorities agreed to stick to a "made-in-Canada" approach to Nazi war crimes suspects that would limit legal remedies to criminal prosecutions. In return for not deporting suspects, immigrant communities would not voice opposition to the criminal cases.

Gerry Meinzer, past president of the German Canadian Congress (GCC), said the Ukrainian Canadian community spearheaded the effort to limit action to criminal proceedings. The arrangement was no secret. "Everybody knew that was the tradeoff," he said.

Even Canadian Jewish Congress was aware of it, he claimed. About 12 years ago, when Justice Jules Deschenes headed a commission looking into the issue, former Congress national executive vice-president Alan Rose attended a GCC meeting and heard the discussion of it, Meinzer said. Rose died in 1995.

Irving Abella, chair of Congress' war crimes committee, said Congress backed criminal prosecutions but never agreed that that could be the only route taken against alleged war criminals. Federal authorities amended Canadian immigration legislation in the wake of the Deschenes commission to facilitate deportations and then actually deported Jacob Luitjens to Holland, he pointed out.

Government prosecutors dropped the criminal route when a ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada in the Imre Finta case made convictions virtually unattainable. At that time, the war crimes unit shifted to the denaturalization/deportation remedy, which had been employed successfully by the United States since 1979.

Arguments are being raised against deportations because "they don't want people from their own ethnic communities deported to Europe," Abella argued. Members of these communities know "that if there are no deportations, these war criminals would never be prosecuted."

Two former Justice Ministers, Ray Hnatyshyn and Kim Campbell, publicly stated that Canadian policy was to go the deportation route if the evidence couldn't support a criminal trial, Hobson said. Canada followed that policy in the case of Nazi collaborator Jacob Luitjens, who was deported to Holland, he said.

Meinzer said that case was different as Luitjens had already been convicted in absentia by Holland.

Meinzer agreed the case of Helmut Oberlander, a wealthy Kitchener developer who is facing deportation, has become prominent in the Canadian German community. But "it's an issue of principal. It's not just Oberlander," he said.

Hobson interpreted recent developments differently. "I think that in either the first case that goes before the courts or in the cases at the Supreme Court of Canada , they will seek to introduce evidence of the so-called arrangement to try to convince the court there has been a broken promise. If they can convince the court, that could result in a stay of proceedings," he said.

(The High Court has agreed to hear arguments for a stay in the Oberlander, Erichs Tobiass and Johann Dueck cases.)

In other developments, the Nazi war crimes commission of B'nai Brith Canada and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre met recently with Solicitor-General Herb Gray to press for further government action on the issue. The delegation called for increased resources for the war crimes unit and to cross-reference the names of war crime suspects with government pension and other lists.

Correction

In the May 1 issue of *The CJN*, the name of Jeremy Levick, who placed second in the grade 5-6 divison of the National Bible Contest was incorrectly spelled. *The CJN* apologizes for the error.

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Greater Toronto Area

Rally at Earl Bales draws over 1,500

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It is time for Canada to "stop coddling" suspected Nazi war criminals and "prosecute them now, before it's too late," Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' war crimes committee, told the community's annual Yom Hashoah V'Hagvurah service on Sunday.

Yom Hashoah

"It is an outrage to all Canadians and an affront to survivors of the Holocaust that we have mass murderers living in our midst," keynote speaker Abella told over 1,500 people in Earl Bales Park, in the shadow of the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial.

Abella decried Ottawa's "dismal" record on pursuing alleged war criminals before federal cabinet minister Art Eggleton, Liberal MP Jim Peterson and Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick.

For years, the damage Holocaust deniers do was not given enough attention. "We seriously underestimated their potential for evil," Abella said.

Holocaust survivors, he said, owe a special debt to history. They "must refuse to forget, and keep their memories alive loudly and publicly. They must not retreat to the silent numbness" of the immediate post-war years. Otherwise, "the next generation will be free to mythologize, without the check of reality."

This year's commemorative service took on special meaning with the awarding of Righteous Among the Nations status to three Ontario Polish Catholic families for having helped rescue Jews during World War II.

Israeli Consul General Jehudi Kinar, himself a child survivor, awarded medals struck by Yad Vashem to Maria Eckhard (posthumously); Anna and Antonin Lesak; and Irena and Ignacy Leszkowicz for their heroism. Each family hid Jews from the Nazis in wartime Poland, and Constantine Eckhardt, who accepted on behalf of his mother, Maria, was reunited, for the first time since the war, with Kalina Kleinberg, the Jewish teen they helped save.

The Poles join the 10,000 other Righteous Gentiles around the world who have been honored by Yad Vashem.

At an emotional breakfast reception Sunday morning, the descendants of the families rescued from certain death paid tribute to the award recipients. Children and grandchildren of those who were saved travelled to Toronto from across Canada and the United States for the tear-filled event.

At the observance later, dramatic readings and poems in English, Yiddish and Hebrew were read by Kate Minsky, Allen Farkas and Francesca David. Cantor Louis Danto recited Ani Ma'amin, K'El Maleh Rachamim, Kaddish and the Partisan's Song.

The service was presented by the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem; Israel's consulate general; the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto; the Toronto Board of Rabbis and the Toronto Vaad Harabanim.

Writing contest winners

TORONTO — Winners in the 1996-97 provincial writing contest on the Holocaust have been announced.

Winniers in the junior division are: first, Doris Andrade; second, second, Amy Siegel; and third, Courtney McCabe.

Winners in the senior division are: first, Rayzie Shulman; second, Cameron Archer; and third, Martin Levy.

Over 100 entries from across Ontario were submitted and judged by a panel including Michelle Landsberg of the *Toronto Star*; Prof. Martin Lockshin of York University; and Ellen Cole of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region.

The contest award was sponsored by Wanda D. Lerek, author of *Hold on to Life, Dear,* and the Holocaust Remembrance Committee (HRC) of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

"The annual provincial writing contest has been an enormous source of pride and satisfaction to our committee. The time, effort, care and sensitivity demonstrated in the submissions indicated that all of the participants worked very hard and thoughtfully in preparing for the contest," said Michael Herman, chair of the HRC.

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From left, Israeli Consul General Jehudi Kinar presents Yad Vashem's Righteous Among the Nations awards to Antonin Lesak of London, Ont., and posthumously to his mother Anna Lesak; Irena Leszkowicz, 84, also of London, and posthumously to her husband Ignacy; and Constantine Eckhardt of Toronto, who accepted for his late mother, Maria Eckhardt. At right is Hank Rosenbaum, chair of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem. [Ron Csillag photo]

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Zikaron v'atzmaut

Sirens will sound throughout Israel on the 4th of Iyar. In the cities, on the farms, on the roads and in the playgrounds, people will stop in their places, bringing to a momentary halt the full dizzying pace of life in this Mediterranean miracle.

Almost 20,000 men and women have fallen in Israel's defence since 1948. The sirens are a call to their memory. In reverence and in love, people obey. Up and down the length of the tiny country, they will visit the cemeteries and the many monuments that mark the countless emotional contours of the ancient and beautiful landscape. Mourners' tears will fall to the earth to mingle with the sun-baked soil or perhaps, to dampen for a moment the dust on a memorial stone.

But at the end of the day, when the stars are visible in heaven, and when mourning has given way to sunrise, the sound of the sirens yields to the sound of singing. Up and down the length of the tiny country, on the 5th of Iyar, the people of Israel will celebrate their independence.

In cities and on farms, in the hills, in the valleys, in the playgrounds, on all the beaches and in houses of prayer, people will rejoice. Festival songs will fill the air, hovering like an approaching fine mist that then settles with the twilight upon the dust and the earth to help one day bring forth flowers in the field.

Their call to memory summons us too; their celebration must inspire our song. For we sing of the return, 49 years ago, of Jewish sovereignty to the land of our Jewish ancestors.

Human spirit undaunted

Over the past few weeks, all along the Red River Valley, nature showed its merciless face. The river flowed relentlessly northward into Manitoba, swelling over its banks, pouring onto adjacent fields, swallowing houses, farms and entire communities. And as the flood moved forward through Ste. Agathe in south Manitoba, it rained, it snowed and bitterly cold winds gusted more than 50 kilometres an hour.

But, though in awe of the sheer magnitude of its adversary's force, the human spirit responded, undaunted. Manitoba residents fought the flood with all their strength. Neighbors helped. And, as in the Saguenay flooding of last summer, Canadians too from all across the country are sending relief supplies.

The worst of the flooding has passed, but not the misery or the heartbreak for the thousands of people whose homes and livelihoods have been swept through the mud of the raging river.

We are inspired by the determination and the will of the fighters of the Red River flood. Their tenacity in the face of such an overwhelming foe is an example to all Canadians — lending a helping hand, standing shoulder to shoulder alongside their neighbor, and finding strength in common cause.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"How will (Jewish migration) be stopped? Simply by the gradual decrease and the final cessation of anti-Semitism. Thus it is that we understand and anticipate the solution to the Jewish problem."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

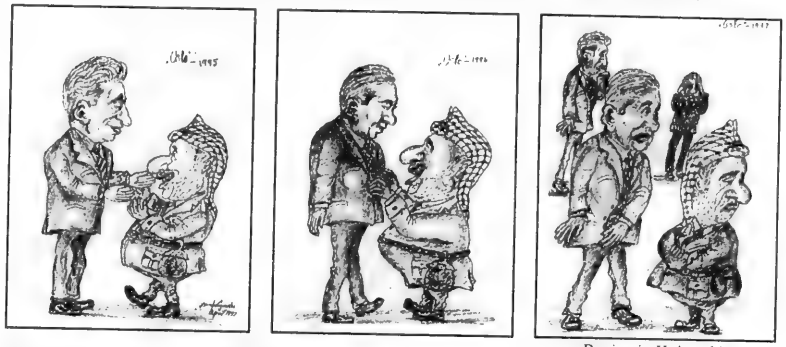
Dry Bones

OUR POLITICAL PARTIES BASH EACH OTHER ON INTERNATIONAL TV NEWS SHOWS
OUR EXTREMISTS ARE TRYING TO EXCOMMUNICATE THE MAJORITY OF WORLD JEWRY
OUR ENEMIES HAVE WON THE WAR FOR WORLD PUBLIC OPINION
AND YET THE MIRACLE CONTINUES!
HAPPY ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY TO US ALL!!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

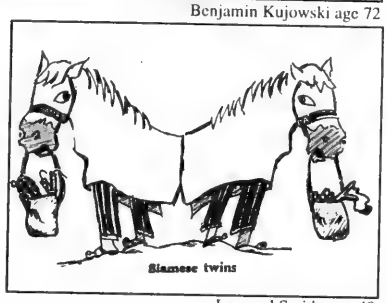
May 8, 1968 the first meeting of the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada was held.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

YOM HA'ATZMAUT CARTOON CONTEST

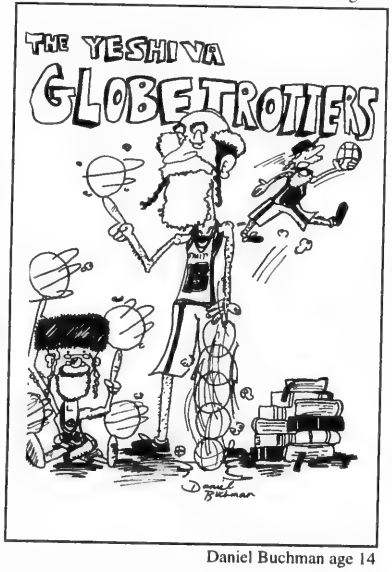


Benjamin Kujowski age 72

Orli Goldberg age 17



Leonard Smith age 49



Daniel Buchman age 14

Incident on train to Bavaria

We are looking for Moshe Arens or Arends, now approximately 74 years old, or any survivors of an incident in a train in Germany from the Ruhr Valley to Bavaria March 15 to 18, 1940. Some Jewish children under Nazi police or SS guards were travelling on this train. A young German boy 7 years old tried to contact them and confronted the guards, which ended in an ugly scene.

The Holocaust Remembrance Committee
4600 Bathurst St., North York, Ont. M2R 3V2

A Young reader questions statements

The article (*CJN*, April 3) about the guy teaching baseball to kids was interesting, but I don't think a person doing good things should mention the money he makes. People who really are successful don't need to do that and it's not what being a Jew is or should be about.

Also, he called being a teacher something to fall back on. Being a teacher is the most important job there is. The word rabbi means teacher. Being a teacher should never be called falling back.

Anyway, my friends and I read your paper all the time and we are happy when you print stories that appeal to young Jewish people.

Hayli Gold
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

A most noble liberation movement

One of the most powerful examples of modern oratory was the speech delivered in the United Nations General Assembly by Ambassador Chaim Herzog during the debate on the infamous resolution, Nov. 10, 1975, the anniversary of Kristallnacht, declaring Zionism to be a form of racism. As we know, the resolution was adopted by the General Assembly only to be repealed 16 years later in 1991.

We have excerpted portions from Herzog's speech. It is a fitting commemoration both for Yom Ha'atzmaut, which we celebrate on the fifth day of Iyar and for his shloshim.

I do not come to this rostrum to defend the moral and historical values of the Jewish people. They do not need to be defended. They speak for themselves. They have given to mankind much of what is great and eternal. They have done for the spirit of man more than can readily be appreciated by a forum such as this one.

I come here to denounce the two great evils which menace society in general and a society of nations in particular. These two evils are hatred and ignorance. These two evils are the motivating force behind the proponents of this resolution and their supporters. These two evils characterize those who would drag this world organization, the ideals of which were first conceived by the prophets of Israel, to the depths to which it has been dragged today.

The key to understanding Zionism is in its name. The eastern most of the two hills of ancient Jerusalem during the 10th century BCE was called Zion. In fact, the name Zion, referring to Jerusalem, appears 152 times in the Old Testament. The name is overwhelmingly a poetic and prophetic designation. The religious and emotional qualities of the name arise from the importance of Jerusalem as the Royal City and the City of the Temple. "Mount Zion" is the place where God dwells. Jerusalem, or Zion, is a place where the Lord is King, and where He has installed his king, David.

King David made Jerusalem the capital of Israel almost three thousand years ago, and Jerusalem has remained the capital ever since. During the centuries, the term "Zion" grew and expanded to mean the whole of Israel. The Israelites in exile could not forget Zion. The Hebrew Psalmist sat by the waters of Babylon and swore: "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning." This oath has been repeated for thousands of years by Jews throughout the world. It is an oath which was made over 700 years before the advent of Christianity and over 1,200 years before the advent of Islam; and Zion came to mean the Jewish homeland, symbolic of Judaism, of Jewish national aspirations.

While praying to his God, every Jew, wherever he is in the world, faces towards Jerusalem. For over 2,000 years of exile, these prayers have expressed the yearning of the Jewish people to return to their ancient homeland, Israel. In fact, a continuous Jewish presence, in larger or smaller numbers, has been maintained in the country over the centuries.

Zionism is the name of the national movement of the Jewish people and is the modern expression of the ancient Jewish heritage. The Zionist ideal, as set out in the Bible, has been, and is, an integral part of the Jewish religion.

Zionism is to the Jewish people what the liberation movements of Africa and Asia have been to their own people.

Zionism is one of the most dynamic and vibrant national movements in human history. Historically it is based on a unique and unbroken connection, extending some 4,000 years, between the People of the Book and the Land of the Bible.

In modern times, in the late 19th century, spurred by the twin forces of anti-Semitic persecution and nationalism, the Jewish people organized the Zionist movement in order to transform their dream into reality. Zionism as a political movement was the revolt of an oppressed nation against the depredation and wicked discrimination and oppression of the countries in which anti-Semitism flourished. It is no coincidence that the co-sponsors and supporters of this resolution include countries who are guilty of the horrible crimes of anti-Semitism and discrimination to this very day...

The re-establishment of Jewish independence in Israel, after centuries of struggle to overcome foreign conquest and exile, is a vindication of the fundamental concepts of the equality of nations and of self-determination. To question the Jewish people's right to national existence and freedom is not only to deny to the Jewish people the right accorded to every other people on this globe, but it is also to deny the central precepts of the Unites Nations...

How sad it is to see here a group of nations, many of whom have but recently freed themselves of colonial rule, deriding one of the most noble liberation movements of this century, a movement which not only gave an example of encouragement and determination to the peoples struggling for independence, but also actively aided many of them either during the period of preparation for their independence or immediately thereafter.

Here you have a movement which is the embodiment of a unique pioneering spirit, of the dignity of labor, and of enduring human values, a movement which has presented to the world an example of social equality and open democracy...

We in Israel have endeavored to create a society which strives to implement the highest ideals of society — political, social and cultural — for all the inhabitants of Israel, irrespective of religious belief, race or sex...

Zionism is our attempt to build a society, imperfect though it may be, in which the visions of the prophets of Israel will be realized. I know that we have problems. I know that many disagree with our government's policies. Many in Israel too disagree from time to time with the government's policies ...and are free to do so because Zionism has created the first and only real democratic state in a part of the world that never really knew democracy and freedom of speech...

As I stand on this rostrum, the long and proud history of my people unravels itself before my inward eye. I see the oppressors of our people over the ages as they pass one another in evil procession into oblivion. I stand here before you as the representative of a strong and flourishing people which has survived them all and which will survive this shameful exhibition and the proponents of this resolution.

The great moments of Jewish history come to mind as I face you, once again outnumbered and the would-be victim of hate, ignorance and evil... I am mindful at this moment of the Jewish people throughout the world wherever they may be, be it in freedom or in slavery, whose prayers and thoughts are with me at this moment.

I stand here not as a supplicant...

The vote of each delegation will record in history its country's stand on anti-Semitic racism and anti-Judaism. You yourselves bear the responsibility for your stand before history, for as such will you be viewed in history. *We*, the Jewish people, will not forget.

For us, the Jewish people, this is but a passing episode in a rich and event-filled history. We put our trust in our Providence, in our faith and beliefs, in our time-hallowed tradition, in our striving for social advance and human values, and in our people wherever they may be. For us, the Jewish people, this resolution based on hatred, falsehood and arrogance, is devoid of any moral or legal value.

At this point, Ambassador Herzog tore up the draft text of the resolution before the Assembly.

Celebrating the very first Yom Ha'atzmaut on the streets of Tel Aviv in 1949

Orling

Opinions

The Bar-On residue

The so-called "Bar-On affair" will continue to fester like a sore in the Israeli body politic. The decision of the attorney general and legal counsel to the cabinet to indict Aryeh Deri, leader of Shas, but to refrain from indicting the prime minister or any of the others involved in the case (although the investigation into the roles of Avigdor Lieberman, Netanyahu's right-hand man and Minister of Justice Tsachi Hanegbi will continue) has resolved the immediate legal questions, but has left open the ethical questions raised by the story. The affair, like many political incidents of this kind, has no easy "solution," because it cuts through several fissures in Israeli society that find expression in the reactions to this unsavory episode in Israel's political life.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

In the reactions to the Bar-On affair, five existing fault lines can be discerned. The first is the debate over the basic tenets of democracy, the rule of law and ethical government. The second is the debate between religious and secular visions of the Jewish state. The third is the historic schism between Israelis of Ashkenazi (European) and Sephardi (Middle Eastern) origin. The fourth is the debate over the role of a free press in a democracy. And overarching all is the longstanding split between left and right on the peace issue in Israeli politics.

In Israel, these fault lines coincide, rather than conflict. In other words, those on the political left tend to be of Ashkenazi origin, more liberal on freedom of the press, more secular in their lifestyle and committed to democracy in western terms. Those on the right tend to be more traditional in their lifestyle, more critical of the press' liberal tendencies and less concerned about the nuances of ethical government and democratic practice.

As in similar episodes in Israel's history, there is hardly any discussion of the merits of the issue. In this case, these should involve the nature of due process in government appointments and the unacceptable introduction of extraneous, political considerations in an appointment that should be made strictly on professional merit. The position of legal counsel to the cabinet, which does not exist in the Canadian political system, ensures that cabinet decisions are screened against a test of the law. The person who holds the position must be free to act independently of the government's political interests, which in and of themselves are legitimate. He or she is there to challenge where necessary, rather than to find a way to justify the government's policies where they may run afoul of the law.

All prime ministers in Israel's history have found it difficult to live with legal counsel that is independently minded. But all have tolerated the necessity to have this independent view by their side. In the Bar-On case, the appointment was influenced by Deri's personal and political interests. This much is clear, even if the information that emerged during the police investigation did not lead to indictments.

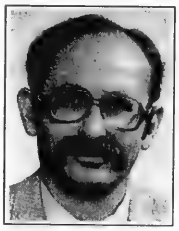
In Israel's politicized society, these issues have been colored by the fissures described earlier. Deri's accusation that he was, yet again, the victim of historic discrimination against Sephardi Israelis has acted as a rallying cry for those who identify with that grievance (although the decision to indict him alone has raised eyebrows in other quarters as well. It takes two to tango to make a deal, but he has been singled out). And that primary identification, on ethnic grounds, leads to all the rest.

Shas is a unique phenomenon in Israeli politics in the powerful package of ethnic, emotional and traditional religious messages that it evokes for its voters. In attaching itself to the political right as it has, Shas poses a difficult challenge to the left. The burden of proof is on the Labor party when it comes to its own social sensibility towards the disadvantaged in Israeli society.

In the longer term, the ethnic fissure can move in one of two ways. It can continue to act as a coalescing force for a coalition of aggrieved interests. On the other hand, the coalition of the former "outsiders" that has been in place since 1977 and that includes the political right, the Haredim and the Sephardim, could fall apart if Netanyahu fails on the peace front, or if the demands of the Haredim become too onerous for the political centre to tolerate. The Bar-On affair has simply highlighted the sensitivities attached to this simmering tension in Israel.

Seinfeld and Jewish identity

Jews have had a large impact on popular culture in North America for most of the 20th century. Burlesque, radio, movies and television have seen may individual Jews who have played valuable roles as producers, owners, directors, writers and actors. Yet as Irving Howe and other cultural critics have noted, explicit Jewish themes and images were rare, right through the 1960s.



By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

American popular culture was for the longest time ethnically and racially sanitized. The pervasive insecurities fostered by anti-Semitism and racism helped chase ethnic and cultural distinctiveness from any popular cultural products, even when produced by an "ethnic" artist, if it was aimed at a mass American audience.

Beginning in the 1960s and continuing steadily, America has rediscovered its diversity, and in the arts at least, has begun a tentative process of multicultural celebration. As minority groups became more self-confident, more often were ethnic characters to be found on television and movie screens. And contrary to the rhetoric of some minority advocates, research indicates that the depictions on these mainstream movies and television shows increasingly reflects a range of characters, rather than a uniform set of negative stereotypes. (The main exception might be Italian Americans, where the linkage with crime remains a staple of American movies, often create by Italian-American actors and directors).

Jews in particular have emerged from the cultural closet. Perhaps no show epitomizes this better than the TV sitcom *Seinfeld*. (*The Nanny* with Fran Drescher is comparable, but that show has not sustained the popular and critical acclaim of *Seinfeld*.) Not only is the lead character of *Seinfeld* Jewish, but there is a periodic use of Jewish themes, terms and subplots, ranging from mohels to *Schindler's List* to Jewish singles groups.

Jerry Seinfeld captures the ambiguous ambience of modern Jewish life with much of the same sensibility as Woody Allen when he is trying to be funny and not profound. Seinfeld is a New York Jew whose parents own a condo in Florida, but who is not observant in any meaningful sense.

A recent episode featured a dentist who converts to Judaism — we are not sure why — and starts to tell Jewish jokes and use Yiddish words. The show then draws a satirical parallel between the anti-Semite and the "anti-dentite," with dentists, like Jews, the victims of slurs, jokes and prejudice. The show ends on a bittersweet note: Seinfeld's prospective girlfriend jokes about getting rid of dentists, and then unexpectedly, of Jews and blacks as well...

I have no idea what impact shows such as *Seinfeld* have on non-Jews, who obviously are watching the show in droves. Research on the media suggests that such shows can reinforce stereotypes. I am just not clear what sorts of stereotypes — and whether positive or negative — a show like *Seinfeld* would reinforce in the mind of the average North American viewer, particularly someone beyond the New York area.

In addition, it is equally intriguing to speculate about possible impacts on the many Jews who also watch the show, particularly teenagers. On the one hand we could argue that like TV generally, the show presents a superficial and diluted view of Judaism. *Seinfeld* clearly does not keep kosher or observe Shabbat. But neither do most American Jews.

On the other hand, whatever minimal Judaic references are found in the show may well serve to reinforce Jewish identity by giving it the legitimacy of the *Seinfeld* aura. This is comparable to the security which immigrant Jewish families found in earlier generations when identifying with Jewish performers on the *Ed Sullivan Show*. Was there a Jewish home where watching *Ed Sullivan* — that friend of the Jews married to a Jewish woman — was not a defining ritual every Sunday night?

Both of these topics — the actual influences of Jewish content in popular culture on non-Jews and on Jews — could be the subject of serious doctoral dissertations. Such studies should try to go beyond analysis of the characters themselves, to trying to measure impacts in the areas of attitude changes or identity.

Already an Internet discussion group of Judaic scholars wrestled passionately with the question of whether George Costanza (another character on *Seinfeld*) was in fact Jewish. The consensus emerged that while he may be of Greek or Italian origin, he and his loud, stereotypical parents appeared to be quintessential New York Jews, and might well be thought so by viewers of the show.

People who worry about the Jewish future ought to recognize the importance of studying the link among Jews, Judaism and popular culture. For the sad truth may be that programs like Seinfeld, indeed the world of popular culture, both reflect and shape Jewish identity as strongly as do synagogues and Jewish schools.

Memories of Lidice

The village of Lidice is remembered as the scene of one of the more chilling of Nazi atrocities. Fifty-five years ago, in nearby Prague, the supreme ruler of Bohemia installed by Hitler was Reinhard Heydrich, who lacked all moral scruples and ruled with unprecedented cruelty. A small and dedicated underground movement decided to assassinate Hitler's hated representative. This threw the Führer into a frenzy of revenge and he ordered Heinrich Himmler to take appropriate action, which meant the Czechs should be once and for all dissuaded from making a similar attempt on a German overlord.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The Nazis picked a small town to be publicly destroyed as a symbol of Nazi determination to suppress all opposition.

Jews, though not involved in the assassination, were of course also targeted for revenge. Three thousand were taken from Terezin and selected for immediate extinction. Another death selection was made by Goebbels in Berlin, who ordered 152 Jews to be executed as a form of "just reprisal."

Chroniclers have tried to recreate the terror and agony that befell little Lidice. First, the men. The order was given to assemble them in the town square, where the town house became a silent witness to Nazi capacity for cruelty. All men were shot in front of their families who, by command of the Nazis, were assembled in the square.

When the macabre ritual was over, trucks rode up; the women and children were separated, the former sent to the concentration camp at Ravensbruck, the latter to Gneisenau. At Ravensbruck, the women underwent medical experiments of the most gruesome sort; at Gneisenau, the children were either worked to death or — if they were blond and very young — were parceled out to German families in search of adoptable children.

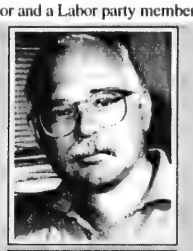
The end of Lidice itself came quickly. All homes were dynamited and blown up; what remained was levelled, the ground scorched, the corpses consumed in a wave of fire. Lidice was meant as a warning to the Czechs. Instead, it became a lasting symbol of Nazism in action. To make sure the lesson was learned, other places were exposed to a similar fate. Czechs would remember Lezaky, Bernatrice and Pardubica, along with Lidice; the world would remember only the latter.

All this came back to mind when recently an art exhibition entitled Homage to Lidice opened in Europe. Fifty-two German artists contributed to it, and the exhibit has attracted wide attention. In the end, only the imagination of artists can bring back the essence of something that words fail to describe. The Holocaust is of this order, and Lidice — though no Jews lived among the 450 inhabitants — partook of a demonstration that showed the potential of human cruelty.

Lidice was different from the Holocaust in one important respect: the destruction of the town and its men took place in public, for the Nazis wanted it to serve as a deterrent. No such effect was attached to the murder of Jews, and its nature and immense extent were withheld with great care from the world. And alas, when the news did leak out, the world paid little attention.

The Kirshner File

Chaim Herzog was guided by pragmatism



By Sheldon Kirshner

I met the late Chaim Herzog twice, in the late summer of 1982, when he was a touring author and a Labor party member of the Knesset, and in the summer of 1983, when he was president of Israel and in Canada on an official visit.

On both occasions, Herzog, his Irish brogue rising and falling, struck me as an urbane sophisticate who bore himself with regal bearing and who, in contemporary parlance, had seen that and done that.

Herzog served his country in a dizzying array of capacities, being a soldier, a spymaster, an ambassador, a parliamentarian and, finally, a president.

But above all else, as he revealed in his memoirs and epitaph, *Living History* (Random House, $42), which was published several months before his death on April 17 at the age of 78, he was a soldier.

"I have been many things," he writes,"but perhaps more than anything, I consider myself a soldier. If one has a great cause, I believe nothing is so noble as the willingness to fight and sacrifice for it."

These were not mere words. Herzog was the son of the chief rabbi of Ireland and the first Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Israel. He was born and raised in Belfast, but when he was a young man he and his family moved to Palestine, a British mandate.

When he was 16 years old, he joined the Haganah, the military arm of the Yishuv, and after he finished his law studies at London University he volunteered for service in the British army.

"I felt," he recalls in *Living History*, "it was my duty to be part of the forces fighting Hitler in his war against the Jewish people."

As a British intelligence officer, Herzog was among the first soldiers to cross into Germany in 1945. On Passover, he spent the night in a slit trench covered by a tarpaulin as Allied artillery pounded the Germans.

Just outside the city of Bremen, he came upon a small concentration camp, filled with emaciated figures clad in striped pajamas. But the real horrors of the Holocaust were not revealed to him until he drove into Bergen-Belsen, whose terrifying tableau left an indelible impression.

His Zionist convictions galvanized by these experiences, Herzog, still in uniform, breached regulations by doing everything in his powers to help illegal Jewish immigrants reach Palestine in operation Aliyah Bet.

Returning home to Palestine, Herzog briefly practised law before rejoining the Haganah as an observer, charged with monitoring the workings of the United Nations Special Commission on Palestine.

During the War of Independence, he was second in command of the brigade ordered to capture Latrun, which controlled the approach to Jerusalem. Herzog, sensing that it was ill-prepared for the mission, advised his commander to reconsider the planned offensive. But his advice was ignored, and the first battle for Latrun was a major defeat for Israel. However, as he points out, the struggle for Latrun pinned down Jordan's Arab Legion and was thus a prime factor in saving Jewish Jerusalem.

With the war still raging, Herzog was appointed deputy director of military intelligence. He lobbied hard for the job, as he recounts in his cogent memoirs. "The army was suffering casualties because of the absence of an effective intelligence organization. I knew I could change all that."

In January 1949, when the war had virtually petered out, he was promoted director of military intelligence, a post to which he would be appointed twice. Subsequently, Herzog was defence attache at Israel's embassy in Washington, commander of the Jerusalem Brigade, chief of staff of the Southern Command and, capping his career in the army, the first military governor of the West Bank.

As a person, Herzog could be exceedingly courteous, courtly and diplomatic, as learned when I interviewed him in Toronto. But Herzog, who was an assured and distinguished radio commentator during the Six Day War and the Yom Kippur War, was also a person who could cut to the core of an issue, however complex.

And in *Living History*, an apt title for a book whose author is nothing if not seasoned and worldly, there are no shortages of examples to illustrate this trait in Herzog's personality.

Israel, Herzog believes, missed opportunities in the wake of the Six Day War. Among them was the chance to create an autonomous Palestinian regime in the territories.

In his view, it would have enabled Israel and the Palestinians "to get along independently and cooperatively." I'm not at all sure that Herzog's perscription for peaceful coexistence would have enjoyed the confidence and support of the Palestinians, but it should have been tried.

Herzog was Israel's representative at the United Nations when the Zionism-equals-racism resolution was passed. "We were facing the severest attack on the Jewish people since Hitler, yet the silence of the U.S. Jewish community was deafeaning..." he notes indignantly.

In his opinion, the 1982 invasion of Lebanon was "a disaster for Israel," a judgment which found little favor with so-called Jewish community leaders as it unfolded.

Steeped in history, unafraid of future

"It proved that no matter how just the cause, it is wrong for a nation to damage that cause by grasping for more power. It also impaired Israel's deterrent posture, cost many lives, diminished our self-confidence, wasted years which could have been devoted to developing the new peace with Egypt, and, most serious of all, broke a heretofore national consensus on our ability to wage war and the moral basis for doing so."

Herzog's pragmatism is also evident in his views of post-war Germany and of Franco's Spain.

In the late 1950s, Herzog paid the first official visit of an Israeli army officer to the Bundeswehr, West Germany's army. With the Holocaust still fresh in his mind, he doubtless had reservations about stepping on German soil. But, finally, he went. "While Jews, especially, can't forget the past, we must live for the future," he observes. "We must move forward — and that includes forging relationships with Germans and Germany."

As he reflects on this trip, he writes: "Since 1965, when Israel and Germany established diplomatic relations, Germany (has) done more to strengthen Israel than any country other than the United States."

As for Spain, Herzog thinks that Israel erred in rebuffing a 1952 overture by Madrid to establish formal ties. "...we could not be guided either by events of 500 years before — the expulsion of the Jews — or by the nature of the current government. If we were prepared to establish relations with the Soviet Union under Stalin, and would have been prepared to do so with the Arabs, with their complete absence of human rights, then the fascist nature of the dictatorship of Spain did not warrant our failure to establish relations with a country sharing the Mediterranean and of great geopolitical importance to Israel."

Herzog's realism was applicable to the Middle East as well. In the concluding pages of *Living History*, he urges Benjamin Netanyahu "to move from slogans to a clear policy." He adds: "It will be interesting to see how he reconciles his earlier rhetoric with the need to move toward peace."

As usual, Herzog hit the nail on the head. He was a man steeped in history, but unafraid of the future. For that he will be remembered.

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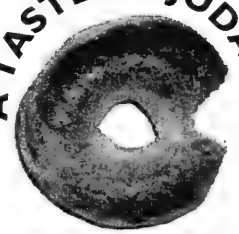

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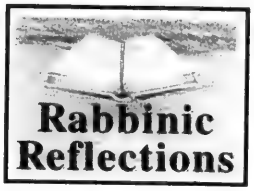


Politics in Israel threatens Jewish unity

By RABBI LAWRENCE M. COLTON

We must be brought back sharply to reality even in the afterglow of Pesach observance.

Two major issues threatened to eclipse Pesach this year — the Shas Conversion Bill issue and the latest Israeli political scandal involving some of the highest Israeli political leaders. Whether the current Israeli government survives the latter, the first issue clearly poses a threat to the Jewish people that is far greater than whether a government pulls through. Depending on this Israeli government's status, we could still be on the eve of the Shas Conversion Bill's being introduced into the Knesset. This bill would enter into the Israeli legal codes a law forbidding conversions not authorized by the Rabbanut.

Israeli government leaders must be made to understand just how serious this is. The problems that were predicted as a result of the religious monopoly granted to the Orthodox establishment in the State of Israel have finally come home to roost. De facto, this legislation alone is clearly an attack on the Diaspora. There were damaging consequences to the sense of amchah that has kept the Jewish world unified. There is no more time to procrastinate.

Those who continue to remain silent in the face of the threat of this legislation are joining forces with the most radical elements — those who in North America recently declared that Reform and Conservative Judaism are not Jewish.

At the heart of the bickering is not the question of whether non-Orthodox conversions will be allowed b'Eretz Yisrael, but whether world Jewry will remain unified, strong and unequivocally whole. What must still be confronted now, in a timely fashion, is the spectre of the Jewish world's becoming irretrievably divided.

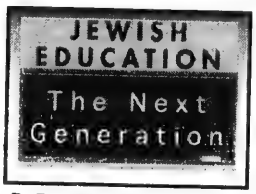
Responsible rabbis, along with equally responsible Jewish leaders, must decide conclusively that the so-called righteous and holy acrimony must cease. Israeli government leaders cannot continue to claim that the Diaspora is interfering in national state matters. This is a religious crisis that transcends borders.

It is scandalous to continue to read in the public press that the Reform and the Conservative movements are not Jewish. It may well have been only a small splinter group of extremists who dared to say this. Yes, the support given since then, with mainstream Jewish leaders of all persuasions repudiating the statement, was noteworthy. But the fact remains that the core of the issue, the Shas Conversion Bill, gave birth to this public disgrace. The general world read the rhetoric and hear the vindictiveness through worldwide cable television news. The key spokespeople for extremism received worldwide coverage.

We Jews must first live peacefully with each other if we are ever to live peacefully with the world at large. No Jew can sanction an internal division that threatens to separate us. There still are serious consequences to the Knesset bill. We can never again continue doing business as usual. The times now are different. The Jewish world must be strengthened by remembering and reactivating the biblical dictum, "All Israel is responsible each for the other."

Therefore, I called upon the federations, Canadian Jewish Congress, B'nai Brith Canada and all Jewish organizations and their leaders to join in denouncing this action pending in the Knesset; to disclaim these radicals who besmirch the Jewish image; and to seek and implement methods to guarantee that Jews can find ways to coexist. When all the dust settles in this latest Israeli political scandal, the Shas mind-set to deny all but Orthodox conversions performed in Israel will still be an agenda item of discrimination and anger. They will still direct their disdain towards the Reform and Conservative movements in Israel and the Diaspora.

Rabbi Colton is spiritual leader of Temple Sinai in Toronto.



Kids need our help understanding world

By Dr. ELLIOTT MALAMET

All parents want to give their children as much as, if not more than, they had growing up. Beyond material comforts, even beyond love, what young children need from us is a way to understand the world and make sense of it, to negotiate the moral and ethical dilemmas of the sandbox and the schoolyard. Although they may express their concerns in a manner that could seem simplistic were an adult to speak in that way, they are fully capable of entering into a dialogue about the most important issues in life, ideas that lie at the very centre of the Torah and of Judaism.

Is there an order to things or does the universe operate in random fashion? Why do some people act virtuously and others tend towards bad actions? Where is God and what happens after I die? Such inquiries, which constitute the core of any moral quest for understanding, reflect the concerns that lie at the heart of a child's world — meaning, predictability, security, justice.

Young children almost exclusively express themselves in play and fantasy rather than in scientific facts or abstract ideas. Here's a brief story written by a 9-year-old girl. It is analyzed in David Heller's wonderful book, *The Children's God.*

"Once upon a time in heaven, God woke up from his nap. It was His birthday, but nobody knew it was His birthday but one angel. And this angel rounds up all these other angels, and when He gets out of the shower, they have a surprise party for Him."

In story form, this girl is expressing a desire to be the special angel, the one who serves God in a special way. The story makes the divine approachable by describing God in terms of ordinary human activities — sleeping, bathing and so on.

It is primarily in this way that kids, especially younger children, play out their deeply filled thoughts and anxieties about meaning and morality. And when we pay attention and feed back to them, perhaps by discussing with them how their story can be understood in Jewish terms, we have the making of a real spiritual dialogue between parent and child and the beginnings of an identification with the Jewish World view.

When a child asks a specific question about a specific topic, whether it is about Passover or about why people steal, they are not simply looking for a answer to their question. What they are testing out is how do you think, Mommy and Daddy, about the world. They are absorbing how we analyze situations, what we value, what kind of language we use and how we understand reality. Each specific question they ask us carries with it this larger baggage.

So, as we answer their specific question, we should be aware of how they are learning to think about life from our response, and that sometimes the most trivial topic can leave a large impact on children.

Each time we link a topic to some kind of Jewish idea or teaching, we imprint on our children the fact that for us, Judaism is essential in how we negotiate the world, and hence it becomes an important tool and foundation for them to understand reality as well. If, in our answers, we begin to quote Jewish sources, as opposed to say, the newspaper and television, then they will both consciously and unconsciously learn to seek out Judaism as a source of wisdom, or at least recognize that it is a source of wisdom for their parents who are the key figures in their life. In truth, that is the most important Jewish education they will ever receive.

Jewish Life

Remembrance, celebrations

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

On the 5th of Iyar (May 12 this year), Israel will celebrate its 49th year of independence. And even if you can't make it to Jerusalem for the official celebrations, you can still join the party thanks to the Jewish Highway.

But before the Yom Ha'atzmaut festivities begin, Israel observes Yom Hazikaron. This is the day dedicated to the memory of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. At 11 a.m. on May 11, sirens throughout the country will wail to proclaim two minutes of silence for the country's fallen soldiers and the civilians who have become victims of terror.

Unfortunately, this year has seen its share of tragedies. In February, the collision of two Israeli Air Force helicopters killed 73 soldiers **[http://www.iconet.net/public/info.htm]**. In March, seven schoolgirls were murdered by a Jordanian soldier while they were on a field trip to the Jordan Valley **[http://www.jpost.com/com/Archive/14.Mar.1997/]**. And a week later, two women were killed and dozens of others injured when a suicide terrorist detonated a bomb in a crowded Tel Aviv cafe **[http://www.jpost.com/com/Archive/21.Mar.1997/]**.

In addition, thousands of war veterans have been permanently disabled since the founding of the state. You can learn more about their loss and their attempts to reintegrate into society at the site maintained by the Israel Defence Forces Disabled Veterans Organization **[http://www.inter.net.il/~zdvo/]**. For a personal view of Yom Hazikaron and how it inspired a Commitment of a Lifetime, see **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/yomzik.htm]**. And in The Never-Ending Story, one father explains how he came to terms with the tragic loss of his son. **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/memorial/]**.

As the sun sets on Yom Hazikaron, the mood in Israel shifts from sorrow to joy as Yom Ha'atzmaut begins. Why not start the day with a rousing rendition of Hatikvah? You can listen to four versions of Hatikvah at the Israeli-Jewish-Yiddish-Hebrew-Folk Cultural Music Midi Free Library **[http://members.aol.com/israelmidi/index.html#FOLK]**. While you're listening, you can read a fascinating article about Israel's national anthem **[http://merlion.singnet.com.sg/~ruthlee/tqvhmain.htm]**. And you can find sheet music and lyrics to the national anthem at **[http://www.israel-mfa.gov.il/facts/state/fstate1.html]**.

At the same site, you'll find an explanation of some of the country's other national symbols, such as its flag and the menorah. In addition, there's also the full English text of Israel's Declaration of Independence. If you prefer, you can hear David Ben-Gurion read some of it to you in the original Hebrew (using RealAudio) or you can even watch a two-minute documentary about Ben Gurion and the Declaration of Independence at **[http://shani.net/israel-independence]**. (In order to properly view this video clip you will need a powerful computer with a fast Internet connection. And you'll need to download the free VDOLive Video Player from **[http://www.vdo.net/download/]**.)

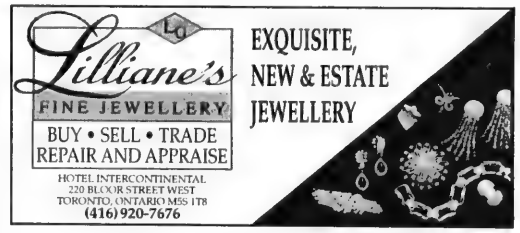
And for thoughts about the religious role of the Jewish State, take a look at **[http://torah.org/learning/yomtov/isrlindy.htm]** or take a listen to **[http://www.613.org/independence.html]**. There, you'll hear lectures from such speakers at Rabbi Berel Wein and Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre **[http://www.wiesenthal.com/index.html]**.

So Israel is having a birthday and you don't know what to send her?

Don't worry. How about sending your best wishes for many, many more years of health, prosperity and peace. **[http://shani.net/israel-independence/greet.html]**.

Have a very happy Yom Ha'atzmaut.

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].



Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

will be held

MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1997

Danilack Education Centre, 6100 Leslie Street Boardroom 8:30 p.m.

for the following purposes:

1. To receive the Annual Report of the President;
2. To receive the Financial Report of the School;
3. To appoint auditors;
4. To transact such further and other business as may properly come before the meeting, or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

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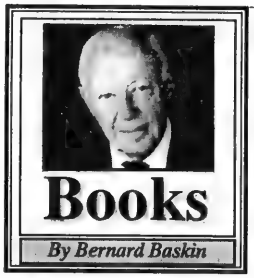

By Bernard Baskin

The new Russia

***Resurrection: The Struggle for a New Russia* by David Remnick (Random House, $36).**

Lenin's Tomb, David Remnick's remarkable and eloquent chronicle of the Soviet Empire's demise, was awarded a coveted Pulitzer Prize in 1994.

In *Resurrection*, he takes on the new Russia — a country in the painful throes of post-Communist transformation. As in his former book he presents the reader with a vast panoramic picture and skillfully turns "reportage into history and history into reportage."

Remnick's account begins with the portentous meeting of the leaders of 11 Soviet Republics in December 1991, at which time the Soviet Union came to an inglorious end and Mikhail Gorbachev was sent into political oblivion.

Boris Yeltsin, lost in his cups, had to be helped from the room. His inept leadership had led to widespread crime and corruption. By 1996, his popularity rating had sunk to single digits. His cronies and political allies had become rich, but the country was adrift. Life expectancy for men had plunged and public health was close to chaotic.

The war against the Chechens which his minister of defence had assured him would be over in two hours, eventually led to more than 80,000 casualties.

What about anti-Semitism in present day Russia? The notion that Solzhenitsyn is anti-Semitic — a charge sometimes levelled against him — is regarded by Remnick as preposterous.

Vladimir Zhirinovsky is dismissed as a buffoon whose anti-Jewish rantings are not to be taken seriously. On the other hand, Genedy Zyuganov, leader of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, is regarded as a potential threat. He recently wrote, "The ideology, culture and world outlook of the western world are becoming more and more influenced by the Jews scattered around the world. Jewish influence grows not by the day, but by the hour. The Jewish Diaspora...is becoming more and more the owner of the controlling interest in all the stocks of western civilization and is socio-economic system."

Remnick concludes that anti-Semitism has no political attraction as many feared it would. He indicates that Zyuganov's national bolshevism and other anti-Semitic, anti-western platforms have repelled most Russian voters — no matter how disappointed they are with Yeltsin.

The author maintains that Russia must find its way back to political stability; wage war against corruption and crime and create a middle class through the more equitable spread of wealth. If these changes are not made it faces inevitable decline and breakdown. He reminds us, however, that, "unlike China, whose population is still dominated by rural poverty and illiteracy, Russia is an increasingly urban nation with a literacy rate of 99 percent."

In the end, all things considered, he is surprisingly optimistic about Russia's future. He is convinced that its prospects over the coming years and decades are more promising than ever before in its history.

This book, unfailingly interesting, anecdotal, knowledgeable and written in a popular style, is warmly recommended.

CORRECTION

In Rabbi Bernard Baskin's review of Holocaust literature (April 24), he indicated that Vera Schiff, author of *Theresienstadt: The Town the Nazis gave to the Jews*, was sent with her parents to Theresienstadt in 1948. That date was incorrect. The correct date should have been 1938.

Greater Toronto Area

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Race relations committee explores future in megacity

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The North York Race and Ethnic Relations Committee is pushing for a meeting with other Metro area anti-racism committees to formulate a plan to ensure their work will continue under the new megacity.

"I'd like to see a [megacity] committee to deal with these issues [of equity and racism], with quarters, staff, directors and volunteers," said Morley Wolfe, chair of North York's anti-racism committee.

Given Metro's diverse population, "in order for people of so many backgrounds to live together properly, there should be maintenance of race relations professionals to make sure no one is left out or discriminated against," he said.

With the planned amalgamation of six Toronto-area cities into one new "megacity" on Jan. 1, 1998, the future of the cities' anti-racism committees and that of Metro is unclear.

Metro Chair Alan Tonks, who heads the transition team to smooth the way to the new megacity, said a key issue in the planned merger is continuity.

Anti-racism committees in the Toronto area are leaders in formulating pro-active programs to counter racism and ensure equity. "One of the tasks of the transition committee is to identify these kinds of initiatives and make sure they are not lost in the shuffle," he said.

"These kinds of structures should find a new form in the new government," Tonks added.

Tonks was speaking shortly after a meeting of Metro's anti-racism, access and equity committee. One of the items on the committee's agenda was discussion of a study prepared by Canadian Jewish Congress, titled *From Marches to Modems: A Report on Organized Hate in Metropolitan Toronto.*

The report surveyed the racist agenda in Metro and made a number of recommendations, including continued anti-racist education and countering racist propaganda on the Internet.

The committee heard deputations from Congress spokesperson Bernie Farber; Karen Mock, representing B'nai Brith Canada and Antoni Shelton of the Urban Alliance on Race Relations. The committee has voted to accept the recommendations in the Congress report.

It was also scheduled to hear a presentation from former school teacher Paul Fromm, who is contesting his dismissal by the Peel Board of Education for violating its race relations policy. Fromm's failure to appear prompted caustic remarks from councillor Jack Layton.

"Ultimately the racist is a coward," he said. "You've got to wonder where these cowards are."

Following a request by Mock, the committee voted to support a September symposium on racism planned by B'nai Brith. It also voted in favor of encouraging broadcasters to air anti-racist messages and to investigate ways of distributing anti-racism materials to the public.

JF&CS 'THIRD SEDER'

More than 180 Toronto seniors gathered during Passover for a "third seder" lunch, sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service's chaplaincy program. Among the enthusiastic dancers to music provided by Mickey Lewin was 88-year-old Edith Uscier from the Achavat Achim Residence, and her partner, staffer Nitzan Sahar. [Photo by Myer Gordon]

YOM HAZIKARON YOM HA'ATZMAUT
SUNDAY MAY 11, 1997
AT
BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION
1700 BATHURST ST. TORONTO

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✡ Israeli Food, Art & Dancing ✡
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7:45 PM YOM HA'ATZMAUT CONCERT

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish volunteers among North York honorees

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish volunteers were among those honored last week by North York city council as part of National Volunteer Week.

Anita Feldman was honored for her volunteer work with Meals On Wheels, as a teacher's assistant and library aide at her children's school, and at Temple Har Zion, the Ontario Breast Screening Program, the Ontario Community Support Association, Red Cross blood clinics, and the Niagara Symphony during the five years she lived in St. Catharines.

Louis Goldenberg, 83, has volunteered with the Bernard Betel Centre for 27 years. Among his interests there are the High Holy Day Committee, political events, members' council, the Abuse Education Project, and representing the centre at the Alliance of Seniors to Protect Canada's Social Program.

He was also founder and first president of the Earl Bales Seniors' Centre and and is active with the North York Seniors' Games.

Rita Grotsky founded the self-help support group People with Schizophrenia, and has since been active in organizing meetings, leading discussions, finding speakers and contacting isolated survivors, hospitals, doctors' offices and social service agencies.

She has also volunteered for Baycrest Hospital, Meals on Wheels, the Canadian Mental Health Association and the Bernard Betel Centre, and the Canadian Mental Health Association.

Edes Sarner has helped out at the North York West Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society, and has assisted at the Adult Basic Literacy Class at Firgrove Public School.

She has also volunteered for Northview Heights Secondary School, the Canadian Red Cross, the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Foundation, the North York Harvest Food Bank, Baycrest Centre, Branson Hospital, Canadian Institute for the Blind, and Temple Sinai's Nursery for Retarded Children.

Mayor Mel Lastman praised the winners as "incredible people who give selflessly of their time, energy and effort to make our community a better place to live, work and play."

He noted that the honored volunteers range in age from 16 to 87, and have given over 177 years of service and more than 275 hours per week combined.

The North York Volunteers of the Year Awards were established in 1984 to acknowledge and encourage volunteerism in the city.

Rothschild to receive WZO award

TORONTO — Kurt Rothschild, world chair of the Mizrachi Movement and president of the Canadian Zionist Federation, will receive this year's 1997 Jerusalem Prize for Jewish Education in the Diaspora, presented annually by the World Zionist Organization's Torah Education and Culture Department to a lay leader who has made major contributions to the advancement of Diaspora Jewish schools.

The Jerusalem Prize selection committee, chaired by Judge Yaakov Bezek, announced the award.

The Jerusalem Prize will be presented to Rothschild by the president of the State of Israel, Ezer Weizman during Yom Yerushalayim celebration on June 4.

The awards committee said Rothschild "symbolizes the unity of the Jewish people and is respected and revered by all streams in the Jewish community."

The Canadian Technion Society is pleased to invite you to join our Guest of Honour, Art Eggleton, Minister for International Trade, in support of Technion's Art Eggleton Canadian Centre for Molecular Medicine Research.

The Canadian Technion Society is pleased to announce the establishment of the Art Eggleton Canadian Centre for Molecular Medicine Research at Technion in Israel. The Centre is headed by former Torontonian, Dr. Karl Skorecki, a world renowned doctor and scientist. Dr. Skorecki and his team are focusing their research on the genetics of the kidney and the diseases which effect kidney function. Using leading edge technology, these scientists analyze abnormal genes and their building blocks in order to develop gene therapies that will target treatment of disease directly at the molecular level.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, May 12, is deadline for May 22 issue. Due to Victoria Day, deadline for May 29 issue is Tuesday, May 20. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, May 9

ONEG SHABBAT

Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kippendavie Ave., celebrates Yom Ha'atzmaut with a special Oneg Shabbat. Bring vegetarian dish or dessert for pot luck dinner, 6 p.m. Services at 7:30 followed by songs and dancing at 8. 694-7942.

Sunday, May 11

JEWISH MUSIC

Holy Blossom Temple Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration, From the Shtetl to Jerusalem, an evening of song and food of Israel, starring superstar of Jewish music **Sol Zim**, and featuring Holy Blossom Children's Choir, Temple Singers and Instrumental Ensemble, 7:30 p.m.

OHR SOMAYACH LECTURE

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto lecture, Can We Know There Is a G-d? with **Rabbi David Gottlieb**, senior lecturer for Ohr Somayach in Jerusalem, 8:30 p.m., Temmy Latner Learning Exchange, 446 Spadina Rd., Suite 203. $5.

ISRAEL'S ANNIVERSARY

Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration for the entire community at Beth Tzedec Synagogue with music, song, dance, teen song and dance troupe from Israel, and local day school choirs, 8 p.m. Preceded by Yom Hazikaron service at 6:15.

REFORM JUDAISM

At Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood breakfast program, **Rabbi John Moscowitz** speaks on Reform Judaism: Future or Fantasy? Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30. lecture at 10.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Come listen, come tell at Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

Monday, May 12

YOM HA'ATZMAUT

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Yom Ha'atzmaut service, 8 a.m. followed by Israeli breakfast and candlelighting. Tickets at synagogue office.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, general meeting, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, fun exercise class with **Gladys Aaron**. Prospective members invited. **Joy** 905-770-9086 or **Jo** 480-2538.

CANADA HEALTH DAY

North York Public Health Department salutes Canada Health Day, Yorkdale Shopping Centre, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. How to Keep Your Heart Healthy. 395-7600.

Tuesday, May 13

JUSTICES' SERIES

Beth Tzedec Congregation Ethics of the Fathers — Justices' Series continues with **Mr. Justice Sidney Linden**, Ontario Court of Justice (Provincial Division), 7:30 p.m.

SURVIVING

Dr. Andre Stein speaks to Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood about the Intergenerational Experience of Surviving, 8 p.m. Guests $3.

SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood luncheon,12:30 p.m., pharmacist **Irving Knopman** discusses Arthritis and Related Diseases. Reserve! **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

Wednesday, May 14

PARENTS UNDER SIEGE

Jewish Family & Child Service, York Region office, and Westmount Collegiate present psychiatrist **Dr. Harvey Armstrong**, executive director of Parents of Youth, whose topic, Parents Under Siege, addresses the challenges of parenting your adolescent, 7:30 p.m., at the collegiate, 1000 New Westminster Dr. $5. 905-882-2331.

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[Cont'd. on page 17

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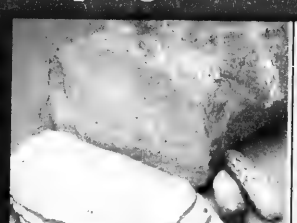
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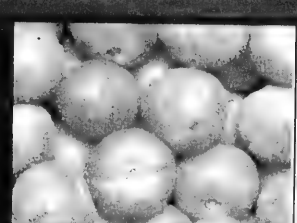
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

Cantor Tom and **Leslie Schwartz**, joined by children's choirs of other Reform temples in a musical program honoring Israel's Independence Day, 7:30 p.m.

SAFETY IN THE HOME

Baycrest Centre Wellness Education Group session, Safety in the Home, guest speaker **Bianca Stern**, director of occupational therapy at Baycrest, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. $2 at door. **Denise Oakes** 785-2500, ext. 2341.

FREE FORM KNITTING

At Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting **Debbie New** demonstrates her technique for free form knitting for both beginner and advanced knitters, plus slide presentation, 8 p.m. Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, board room, lower level. **Janet** 225-2002 or **Rona** 905-764-3620.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Tzavta panel discussion on The Future of Jewish Religious Freedom and Pluralism in Israel, panelists **Eva Goldfinger**, Toronto Congregation of Oraynu; **Norman Rosenblum**, New Israel Fund of Canada; **Harvey Zimmerman,** Arzenu, International Federation of Progressive and Religious Reform Zionists; 7:30 p.m, Barbara Frum Library. $5. Yehuda Marle 736-1339 or Randi Sokolsky 651-7347.

THE CARING COMMUNITY

Our Spring Gathering, 2 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Musical duo flutist **Kirsten McKnight** and guitarist **Michael Whitla**. Reservations/transportation **Leslie Lewis** 789-3291, ext. 233, by May 9. Information. **Toby Isaacs,** 782-4265 or **Daisy Jacobs** 256-0136 or **Debby Vigoda** 787-0487.

CAFIP MEETING

CAFIP (Canadian Association for Israel Philately) meeting **Michael Madesker** speaking on Pre-Postage Stamp Mail from Jewish doges in Venice in the 18th and 19th centuries, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. 635-1749.

Thursday, May 15

PILLAR OF FIRE

Screening of Chapters VI and VII of *Pillar of Fire*, a history of Israel's rebirth 1898-1948, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Sponsored by Arza-Canada, Herut-Likud, Mercaz-Canada, Canadian Zionist Federation, Central Region and Beth David. 633-5500 or 633-3988.

LIFE IN POLAND

Cranbrooke Friendship Club of United Jewish Peoples' Order slide presentation and lecture on Life Before the War in a Small Yiddish Town in Poland by folk painter **Meyer Kirshenblatt,** preceded by light lunch, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. $3 789-5502.

BOOK LAUNCH

Book launching of *Shattered! 50 Years of Silence: History and Voices of Tragedy in Romania and Transnistria*, winner of 1997 Yad Vashem Holocaust History Prize awarded by the Jewish Book Award Committee of the Koffler Centre of the Arts, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building. Special address by **Manuel Prutschi**, executive director, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region. RSVP **Hanna** 635-2883, ext. 153.

And What Else Is New

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Beth Tzedec Sisterhood Tribute Dinner honoring Woman of the Year **Yvonne Stein**, sisterhood president 1974-78 and honorary life president, past member Beth Tzedec board of governors, Tuesday, May 27, reception 6:30 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., entertainment following. Guests, non-members $25. RSVP by May 13, 781-3511, ext. 10.

A HEALING POWER

The Association of Jewish Chaplains of Ontario in conjunction with Toronto Jewish Healing Project presents a discussion, How Jewish Faith Can be a Healing Power in Coping with the Complexities of Life, speakers **Dr. Vivian Rakoff,** psychiatrist, Clarke Institute; **Rabbi Mark Dratch**, Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue; social worker **Etta Ginsberg McEwan**; and moderator **Rabbi Joseph Kelman**, Wednesday, May 28, 7:30 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

WOMEN AND HEALTH

Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary Symposium on Osteoporosis, Thursday, May 22, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Keynote address by **Dr. Ethel Silverman Siris**; panel moderator **Dr. Marla Shapiro**; panelists **Dr. Michael Devlin, Dr. Gillian Hawker, Gail Lemieux,** Women Against Osteoporosis; **Marsha Rosen**, dietician. Interactive displays: Dairy Farmers of Ontario; **Jan Main**, home economist; **Josie Tominac,** physical therapy coordinator; Osteoporosis Society of Canada. $25 includes lunch. Register early. 586-8290

COMPUTER COURSES

Human Resources Development Canada is sponsoring two Microcomputer Business Application Programs at Success Business College, first class starting May 26 and second June 16. Course is recommended for individuals seeking employment as office workers or in the clerical field. **Tamy** 487-6493.

ART CLASSES

Drawing and painting, all levels, Thursdays 1-3 p.m., starting May 8, Beth Sholom Synagogue. Seven sessions $50, individual class $10. **Terri** 487-7244.

JUDAICA CRAFTSPEOPLE

Organizers of Ashkenaz '97 Festival invite craftspeople engaged in Judaica to participate in the Ashkenartz Marketplace at Harbourfront on Labor Day weekend, Aug. 31-Sept. 1. Application deadline May 9. **Michael Shapiro** 924-6997.

ART WORKSHOPS

Artist **Tutzi Haspel-Seguin** offers free monthly workshops in various forms of art in her studio, the first Wednesday of the month starting June 4, 1:30-2:30 p.m., 23 Camberwell Rd. Early registration. 783-0781.

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue weekday services, Shacharit 8:30 a.m., Minchah, Ma'ariv 7 p.m.; Shabbat 9 a.m. preceded by Torah study with **Rabbi Gershon Samonovitz**. Call **David** 256-1600.

USDS GOLF DAY

Monday, June 2, United Synagogue Day School (USDS) Golf Day includes kosher lunch and dinner, 18 holes of golf and cart at Glen Eagle Golf Club, grab bags, amazing prizes, raffles and auctions. $180 per person, partial tax receipt. Registration/information 225-5928.

VARIETY SHOW

Russian Dance & Music Company gala variety show, Wednesday and Thursday, May 14 and 15, 2 p.m. and Saturday, May 31 7:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Box office 224-1296. Manager **Mary Godlust.**

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Independence Day Sunday, May 11, 7:30 p.m., music, dancing by Teddy Band, singer **Dalia Dahary**, light meal, wine and fun.Video show from London by **Jackie Mason**, Thursday, May 15. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Mother's Day luncheon Monday, May 12, 12:30 p.m.; *Dames at Sea*, June 1; Kingston cruise July 15; Boat Farm Aug. 12; *Camelot* at Stratford Sept. 17. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday, May 18, dance to music of live band; Ottawa Tulip Festival May 13-15; Casino Rama May 21; group discussion, Taking Charge, with **Leonard Rubenstein** May 22; Markville Mall, May 28; *Forever Plaid* June 4; Casino Niagara June 16; Oscardo factory (ties and umbrellas) June 25; the musical *Jolson* at the Royal Alexandra Aug. 28; upcoming trips Washington and Atlantic City, Holocaust Muscum. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club: Stage West, *Shirley Valentine* June 25; Stratford, *Camelot* Sept. 3; Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W Phone 225-2112.

Recreation activities include Crafts, Dance, Discussion Groups, Games, Performing Groups, Social Clubs, Special Social Programs. Most of these programs are in partnership with North York Board of Education.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Yom Hazikaron ceremony 9:15 a.m., Saturday, May 10. Yom Ha'atzmaut party Wednesday, May 14, 7 p.m. **Anna.**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Thursday, May 15, visit to Metropolitan Toronto Police Museum, including talk by retired staff superintendant **Jack Webster** on Crime in Old Toronto: Famous Cases of the '30s and '40s, leaving Bloor JCC at 2:15 p.m. Museum is at 40 College St. Call **Judy** and state if you are meeting at Bloor JCC or at entrance to Police Headquarters at 2:45 p.m. Coffee afterwards at Fran's. Register by May 13. There is no charge.

LIONS CLUB HELPS NCJW HELP NEEDY

Representatives of the Forest Hill Lions Club present a $500 cheque to National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) for its annual Passover food basket project. From left, Charlene Arje and Rebecca Ber of NCJW accept cheque from volunteers Jason and Sol Mednick, first vice-president of the club, and Steve Burnstein, president. [Frances Kraft photo]

Cuisinart Full Size 7 cup "Classic" Food Processor

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KOSHER 1 lb. RAKUSEN English Matzos 2.19	1 L GALILEE Sunflower Oil 1.59	KOSHER Assorted Varieties, 225 g MANISCHEWITZ Tam Tam Crackers 2.49
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KOSHER 170 g GARDEN PATCH Kettle Chips 1.19	KOSHER 170 g HADAR Tuna 89¢	KOSHER 1.18 L WELCH'S Grape Juice 2.59
Assorted Varieties 340 g KELLOGG'S Pop Tarts 1.39	1.36 L ROUGEMONT Apple Juice 99¢	1 L. HEINZ Ketchup 1.99
Assorted Varieties 312 g KELLOGG'S Eggo Waffles 1.39	Assorted Varieties 208 – 319 g WEIGHT WATCHERS Frozen Dinners 1.99	Assorted Varieties 340 g MCCAIN Frozen Pie 99¢
Product of U.S.A. No. 1 Grade, Size 9 Cantaloupe 1.49 /ea.	Product of Canada No. 1 Grade HOTHOUSE Tomatoes 2.84/kg 1.29 /lb.	Product of Canada WHITE Mushrooms 4.39/kg 1.99 /lb.
KOSHER 375 g HEBREW NATIONAL Beef Franks 3.49	KOSHER 750 g HEBREW NATIONAL Beef Salami 8.49	KOSHER 375 g HEBREW NATIONAL Bologna 3.49

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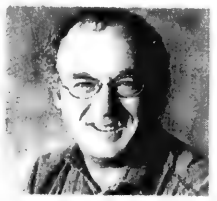
גידי קורן וחברים

ארץ ישראל, 1997:



הכל פורח, חשמש רכה ונעימה , באוויר אפשר להריח את פריחת ההדרים, האנשים בתכונה של לפני פסח. אני מדפדף בעיתון למצוא ידיעות משמחות, מעודדות, אבל קשה. עמוד ראשון: "חזרה ליסיעור - חזרה לכאב". "מצצה פוליטית-המלצה להגיש כתב אישום נגד נתניהו". "הפלשתינים מקימים תעשיה צבאית." ובמנים - אונס קטינות, זנות בגיל 12, כל הדברים שמוכרים עיתון ערב. אספתי מקבץ קטן שיש בו משהוא שמספר על הלך הרוח של ישראל 97 :

"שופט זיכה קצין שירות בתי הסוהר שניסה לנשק קצינה נגד רצונה - הוא רק שוביניסט גס רוח, אבל בהחלט לא סוטה מין". "זוועה בראש העין: גופתה של נסיה סוצין, עולה חדשה שנפטרה, חובאה על ידי חברה קדישא לחדרו של ראש העיר כמחאה על שלא קבלו את משכורת פסח... לא האמנו שיהודים יעשו דבר כזה אמרו בניח של הנפטרת". "חרדה במושב תלמים: רב המושב, הרב יוסף דידי פוטר וגורש מן המושב, וארבעה אנשים מתו תוך שבוע שלא כדרך הטבע. עכשיו תושבים מצעיים לוועד לפנות לרב ולבקש את סליחתו". "מאות דגי קרפיון ננגבים מבריכות הקיבוצים לקראת פסח" ממש לפני שאני מתייאש וזורק את העיתון לפח, אני מוצא ידיעה אחת חיובית ומקדיש לה פינה מיוחדת:

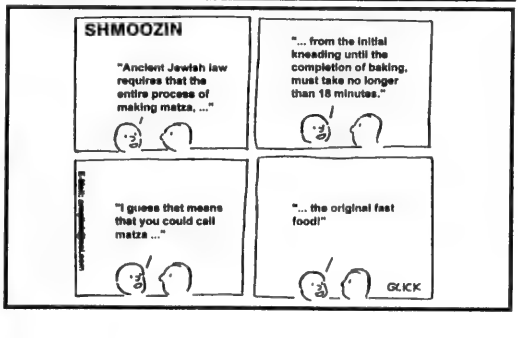
ישראל מגיעה את הביצי השני:

סין מייצרת כל שנה 92 אלף טון ביצי, מה שהופך אותה ליצרנית השניה בגודלה בעולם אחרי טייוואן. אלא מה - הביצי מבשיל בבת אחת בדרום סין ועד שמספיקים להעביר אותו לצפון המדינה או לייצאו - נאלצים להשמיד אלפי טונות. ישראל מייצרת סך הכל 300 טונות, ומתוכם לא הולך לאיבוד אף ביצי, כש 250 טונות הולכות ליצוא. איך זה יתכן? מדעני מכון וולקאני והפקולטה לחקלאות פיתחו טיפול כימי לפרי שמאריך את חיי המדף שלו למשך 4-5 שבועות. כך יכולה ישראל לייצא ביצי לא רק בהטסה לאירופה אלא גם במכולות קירור לארה"ב. התעשיין והיזם הישראלי, עמוס יודן, הוא זה שבישר לסינים על הטכנולוגיה החדשה והביא אותם לרכוש את הטכנולוגיה והמכונות הדרושות בישראל (200 אלף דולר לכל מערך) . תגידו : מה האינטרס של ישראל להגדיל את הסחורה של מדינה מתחרה? תשובה: הביצי הישראלי מבשיל בעונה אחרת ואין הוא בתחרות עם בן דודו הסיני.

רואים? יש בשורות טובות, רק שצריך למצוא אותן דרך הרבה דם יזע ודמעות.

כמו ברוח רטוב במים :

בשעת כתיבת הדברים, פחות מיממה לאחר שהמשטרה המליצה לפרקליטות על העמדתו של נתניהו לדין בפרשת היועץ המשפטי, נראה שעל פניו צריך ראש הממשלה להתפטר/להשעות את עצמו זמנית וכו. וכו. עד להופעת הטור יתהפך הנושא בודאי מספר פעמים, אך החשדות לכאורה שמצאה המשטרה עדיין לא יופרכו. במחשבה שניה, שלישית ורביעית, אני די ספקן! במדינת ישראל בשנים האחרונות, זוכו בזה אחר זה הרבה אנשי ציבור שנחשדו בפלילים. כלומר: החשדות של המשטרה, כתב האישום של הפרקליטות - כל אלה התגלו כבלתי מספקים במבחן הראיות של בית המשפט. הגיעו דברים לידי כך שהשבוע החליט שופט מחוזי בפסיקה תקדימית שעל המדינה לפצות נאשמים שיימצאו זכאים על ידי בית המשפט. במקרה של נתניהו, בניגוד לשלושת החשודים הנוספים, מודה אפילו המשטרה שאין בידיה ראיות מוצקות כפי שיש לה במקרים האחרים. העד היחיד הוא עורך דינו לשעבר של דרעי, שהיה בעצמו מועמד למשרת היועץ המשפטי. היטיב לסכם את תחושותי בנושא העיתונאי סבר פלוצקר שכתב: "פרשת בר-און לא עשויה מהחומרים הנורמים לממשלות ליפול. לא בישראל... כדי לאבד שלטון בישראל, לא מספיק להיות מושחת, ולא מספיק לעשות קונניות פוליטיות מסריחות. זאת עושים רבים. צריך גם להיכשל כישלון חמור בניהול ענייני המדינה הגדולים: חוץ, ביטחון, כלכלה, חברה... מדינאים שלנו רגילים לדרוך בבוץ ולעבור דרכו בשלום. מתנערים מהלכלוך כמו ברווז רטוב מהמים"



RALLY AGAINST WAR CRIMINALS

One is too many. That's the message residents of the Greater Toronto Area will be sending the federal government on May 22.

The rally to support prosecution of alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada, at 7:30 p.m. at North York City Hall Council Chambers, 5100 Yonge St., is being co-sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, and UJA Federation. All members of the community are urged to attend.

The Toronto event, one of many across Canada designed to increase public awareness of the issue, has been planned to coincide with the federal election campaign.

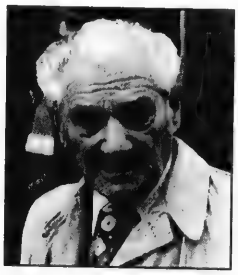
"It's an ideal time to impress upon voters and candidates the importance of this issue," explains Moshe Ronen, Chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region.

Federal Justice Minister Allan Rock has stepped up the government's pursuit of alleged war criminals in response to requests from both Jewish and non-Jewish groups.

Bernie Farber, Congress' Director of Community Relations, called the location of the rally symbolic, citing North York as home to the largest concentration of Jews and Holocaust survivors in Canada.

UJA Federation and Congress would like members of other ethno-cultural faith communities to attend the gathering as well. "All Canadians have much to gain from ridding the country of anyone found guilty of crimes against humanity," says UJA Federation President Sandra Brown. "We must all take responsibility to ensure the country we live in is not known as a safe haven for war criminals."

Efraim Zuroff , director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Jerusalem, will deliver a special address. The Centre is devoted to identifying and tracking down Nazi war criminals.



Alleged war criminal Konrads Kalejs (left) is in the midst of a deportation hearing. Joseph Nemsila (right), who was convicted in absentia in 1996, recently died in the Czech Republic (photos courtesy CJN).

Zero hour approaching to prosecute

There could be thousands of Nazi war criminals living in Canada according to expert Irving Abella who chairs the Canadian Jewish Congress War Crimes Committee. "As each day passes," says Abella "the likelihood of finding and prosecuting them is greatly reduced."

In 1986, a Royal Commission report released by Justice Jules Deschenes provided federal investigators with the names of 250 alleged war criminals, but to date, only one man, Jacob Luitjens, has been deported. Abella and others want to know what happened to the rest.

A recent request for information by Congress representatives on the status of war crimes investigations was turned down by the government.

Although there are currently twelve cases working their way through the judicial system, which Abella notes is four times more than in the last five decades, calls for justice to be served are becoming more urgent.

"This is the last opportunity any government will have to move against war criminals," Abella warns."Many of these men are nearing the end of their lives and without immediate action on the part of the government, they will die without having answered for the thousands of innocent lives they took."

According to Abella, the key years for successful prosecution of suspects were 1986-1995 when most of them were still alive and relatively healthy as were the witnesses against them. "Not prosecuting them in these years," says Abella, "meant not prosecuting them ever."

Holocaust survivor and veteran UJA Federation volunteer Mike Rosenberg is glad to see some government action even though he feels it's fifty years too late. "I commend the government for finally doing the right thing, but they must move expeditiously."

As the War Crimes Unit and Federal Justice Minister Allan Rock intensify efforts in this area, thousands of Jewish and non-Jewish voices across Canada have already begun to demand more action. Public rallies in major Canadian cities began on May 4 and will continue throughout the month, ending with one in Toronto on May 22, at 7:30 p.m. at North York Council Chambers.

WOMAN ABUSE: MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

A leading expert on woman abuse in Toronto's Jewish community believes the number of reported cases is only "the tip of the iceberg."

Gail Gould, Supervisor of the Woman Abuse Program at Jewish Family and Child Service, says more than 300 women come to her office each year reporting physical and mental abuse caused by their husbands and common law partners. But Gould feels there are many more victims who don't come forward for help because they are too embarrassed and concerned about the consequences of their actions.

On Tuesday May 20, Jewish Women's Federation and the UJA Federation Women's Campaign are sponsoring *Sounds of Silence: Issues of Woman Abuse in the Jewish Family*, to help raise community awareness about the problem and to inform women about the options available to them. The panel discussion, at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue at 7:30 p.m., will feature Gail Gould, Rabbi Mark Dratch and Marsha Sfeir, a specialist in wife assault education.

Rabbi Mark Dratch

"Jewish women are in greater denial," explains Gould, "because of the stigma attached to this type of victim in the Jewish community. They experience enormous shame in admitting their husbands are either physically hurting or mentally abusing them."

Alysa Golden, who heads a national research project to gather information about the problem of woman abuse in Jewish communities across Canada, confirms Gould's observation.

"I believe there are thousands of Jewish women who are victims of abuse," she said. In fact, preliminary research conducted by Golden, using U.S. statistics and a demographic study published by UJA Federation in 1995, shows the number of abuse victims could be anywhere between 10,000 and 12,500 women in Toronto alone.

U.S. studies indicate 20-25% of women will encounter abuse at some point in their lives.

"The problem is most of them are too scared to tell anyone about what they're going through," says Gould.

A 1990 Jewish Family and Child Service study indicates Jewish women stay in abusive marriages twice as long as women in the general population.

"Most of us want to believe this sort of thing doesn't happen in Jewish homes," says Gould. She also points out female financial dependency and the desire to maintain peace at home, also prevent women from speaking out. "Many victims feel tremendous guilt about breaking up the family and therefore prefer to suffer in silence."

In spite of the taboos and shame, Gould reports receiving several calls a week from women reporting abuse in addition to the 300 women JF&CS serves yearly. The agency also runs programs to help male abusers and children who are abuse victims.

The important message to get across to the community is "wife abuse is no longer something that has to be kept a family secret," says Gould. "Women need to know they have the right to express their anger and that someone is there to listen."

For more information about *Sounds of Silence: Issues of Woman Abuse in the Jewish Family* on May 20, call (416) 631-5683.

Community Matters

We Are Steppin' Out For Israel Walk '97

UJA FEDERATION

SUNDAY, MAY 25

TWO ROUTES

RAIN OR SHINE

1. LEAVING FROM
PROMENADE SHOPPING CENTRE
BATHURST STREET ENTRANCE
CHECK IN FROM **9:45- 10:30 A.M.**

2. LEAVING FROM
BATHURST JEWISH CENTRE
4588 BATHURST STREET - LOWER PARKING LOT;
CHECK IN FROM **12:00-12:30 P.M.**

TO NORTH YORK CENTENNIAL CENTRE (580 FINCH AVENUE WEST)

Please call the **UJA Walk for Israel Hotline** at **(416) 631-5700** if you have any questions.
Visit the ***Jewish Toronto*** Web Site at **www.feduja.org** for more information.

A Matter of Class

Jewish school for the 90s

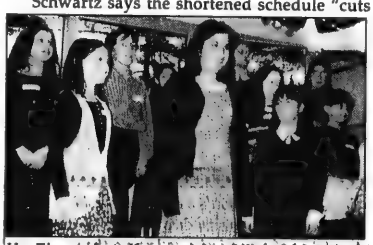
A Matter of Class is a regular column profiling supplementary schools affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation.

Har Zion Religious School is doing whatever it can to accommodate the hectic lives of Jewish families in the 90s.

"Our number one priority is making it easier for families with all kinds of needs to obtain a quality Jewish education," explains Principal Chari Schwartz.

The school, which runs classes from junior kindergarten to grade ten at Leo Baeck Day School in Thornhill, was the first to launch an innovative two-day a week program in 1995. Instead of attending classes three times a week, as most supplementary programs require, students come on Tuesdays for Hebrew instruction and Saturdays for both Hebrew and religious study.

Schwartz says the shortened schedule "cuts down on demands for working parents to drive their kids to school," while maintaining a "high quality of instruction." Har Zion also integrates Saturday courses in language and religion to provide both students and teachers with curriculum reinforcement and what Schwartz calls a "better flow."



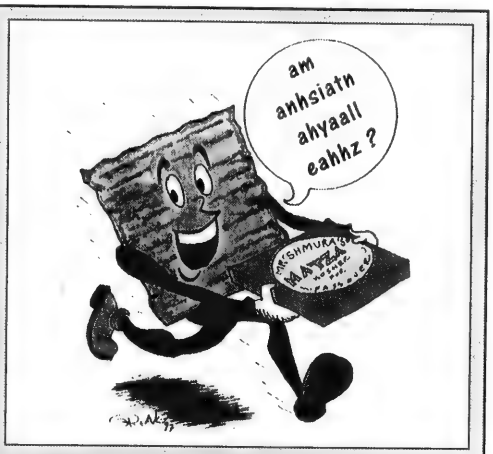
Har Zion students (front row, from left to right) Rebecca Saslove, Cheryl Okorofsky and Cally Schwartz perform solos at a family service.

But integration at Har Zion doesn't end there. Schwartz is particularly proud of the school's commitment to children with special needs. "We find ways to sensitize the classroom and provide whatever support we can," explains Schwartz. Additional support includes everything from extra staff to braille books for visually impaired students. "We do our best to make all kids feel part of the class."

For older students, the senior school combines informal programming with family education reflecting the popular trend for parents to learn with their children. "Jewish education doesn't end after the bar or bat mitzva," notes Schwartz. Programs such as Parent Teen Dialogue, and guest speakers "engage students to go beyond their formal learning."

Har Zion also has an extensive music program which includes weekly music lessons for all grades and three choirs. "Music is an important element to convey the spirit of Jewish education," Schwartz observes.

For more information about Har Zion or any other supplementary religious schools in the Greater Toronto Area please call the Board of Jewish Education at (416) 633-7770



Speaking of Mr. Matza Man

In the Passover edition of *junior* UJA *news*, distributed to thousands of children in the Greater Toronto area, readers were challenged to decipher what an excited Mr. Matza Man was saying. Well, here's the translation:

Ma nishtana halayla hazeh
Why is this night different?

Congratulations to everyone who uncovered Mr. Matza Man's mysterious message!

Community Matters

TORONTO TO CELEBRATE ISRAEL'S 50TH

Julia Koschitzky, one of the Jewish world's most respected leaders, will be heading the Toronto steering committee to plan community celebrations for Israel's 50th anniversary next year. Koschitzky, whose term as Chair of the Keren Hayesod Board of Trustees recently expired, decided to take on the task, after a request came from Israeli consul general Jehudi Kinar. He has asked UJA Federation to coordinate Toronto celebrations.

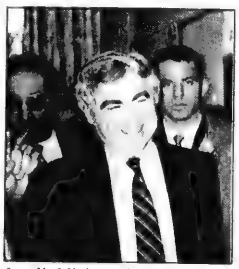
"Israel's 50th Jubilee offers our community a remarkable opportunity to collectively demonstrate the centrality of Israel to our lives, to reinvigorate our relationship with Israel and to involve thousands of community members, especially the young in this historic undertaking," Koschitzky said.

The steering committee, composed of representatives from Greater Toronto area Jewish organizations, will be the central coordinating body for local festivities. It will be working closely with an operations committee and a consortium of individuals, who will form a Parliament-like structure representing every segment of the community. The first steering committee meeting is scheduled for May 13.

יובל החמישים לישראל
ISRAEL 50TH JUBILEE
YOUR DATE WITH HISTORY

In Israel, planning is already underway for an unprecedented celebration on April 30, 1998 - Yom Ha'atzmaut - at Ramat Gan Stadium, with 50,000 participants - many from Canada and the United States. The show will be produced by Gary Smith and David Wolper, the men behind opening ceremonies at the Atlanta Olympics. Wolper has received 150 awards during his career, including 2 Oscars and 50 Emmys. The Ramat Gan spectacular will be broadcast by satellite to North American cities. "We should never underestimate how much Israel means to our lives and how strongly it has defined our Jewish identity," noted Koschitzky. "For thousands of years, we have been bound to Israel by emotional and spiritual ties. Next year, we will not only be celebrating a major milestone, but our eternal link to Israel."

Prime Minister's Mission: The other side of Jewish life



Israel's Minister of Education Zevulun Hammer visited an ulpan class in Moscow with the Mission.

A group of top UJA Federation supporters recently sampled a taste of Jewish life they had never experienced before.

Participants on the Prime Minister's Mission to Moscow, St Petersburg and Israel, got up close and personal with Russian children learning their first Hebrew words, and teenagers preparing to make aliya, thanks to the UJA Federation-funded Jewish Agency. The group also met Israel's ambassador to Russia and key people who ensure that Jews in the former Soviet Union can live Jewish lives.

While visiting participants in the Jewish Agency's *Naaleh 16* program, which sends Russian teens to live in Israel, often without their parents, mission members even had the chance to meet Israel's Minister of Education Zevulun Hammer.

UJA Federation Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar said he witnessed many "acts of bravery," by Jewish Agency personnel and small children who often have to venture into unsafe neighbourhoods to attend school.

"These people sacrifice so much just to live Jewish lives," observed Goldhar, who travelled with wife Sala. "It made me realize more than ever how important it is that we do whatever we can to help."

Annette and Richard Pivnick were equally moved by what they experienced. "That could have been anyone of us," noted Annette. "Seeing how much people value their Jewish freedom and how hard others work to make that possible was very inspirational."

While in St. Petersburg, hundreds of items of new clothing, collected by UJA Federation's Fashion Division, were given to the Joint Distribution Committee and a Jewish Agency youth club. "Some of the younger kids put their Canada T-shirts on right away," recalled Abe Glowinsky, co-chair of UJA Federation's Business Cabinet. "It was very rewarding to see the smiles on their faces."

UJA Federation's Campaign Chair Leo Goldhar (right) and Business Cabinet co-Chair Abe Glowinsky (left), present Joint Distribution Committee representative Paulina Mendelevich with clothing items collected by UJA Federation's Fashion Division. Toronto's Laurie Cohen and Jeff Alter co-chair the ongoing drive.

Mission participants Karen Miller (center) and Josephine Grad (right) with Israel's Ambassador to Russia Yehudit Shinhar (left). In back row at right are Richard and Annette Pivnick.

Leo Goldhar shares an afternoon snack with children at a daycare centre in Kfar Gvirol, a UJA Federation-funded Project Renewal site.

Israel highlights included visits to Canada Centre in Metulla, and an aliya absorption centre in Tiberias, where participants met with recent arrivals from the former Soviet Union. "Our whole experience came full circle when we saw how the people we had met in Russia preparing for aliya were being settled in their new home after they made aliya," Glowinsky recalled.

About 60,000 Jews are expected to leave the former Soviet Union for Israel this year.

The group also visited the controversial Har Homa site in Jerusalem where they heard a debate between Media Watch director, Yisrael Medad, who supports housing construction at Har Homa and Palestinian Daoud Kuttab, director of the Al-Quds Institute of Modern Media, who opposes it.

UJA Federation sings choir's praises

Les Aaron, co-chair of UJA Federation's Young Leadership Cabinet, presents Naomi Faran, musical director of Israel's Mörim Choir, with a token of appreciation following the choir's recent Toronto concert.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Greater Toronto Area

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National Ballet principal dancer Karen Kain (right) presents an award to a young dance troupe at the third annual Dance for Orly.

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$85,000 raised for Orly fund

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The third annual Dance for Orly competition did more than keep alive the memory of Orly Watkin, a 15-year-old girl who died of meningitis three years ago.

It also raised $85,000 for the Orly Watkin Meningitis Research Fund at Sunnybrook Hospital.

The event took place at the Minkler Auditorium of Seneca College. Groups of dancers from eight dance schools, 350 youngsters in all, competed in jazz, tap and ballet.

The Orly Watkin trophy, for the group that gave the most cheerful and lively presentation, was presented by Orly's sister Tali, to Danceology from North York.

Other prize winners were All That Dance, North York; Coffey's Danc'n Place, Brampton; Creative Dance Workshop, Oshawa, and The Dance Exchange, Oakville.

Orly Watkin's father, Shlomo, established both the dance competition and the research fund.

A media release explains that "Orly was a dancer for most of her short life. In fact, only two days before her death, she won four gold medals at a regional dance competition at York University."

Scientists at Sunnybrook Hospital are studying the bacteria streptococcus pneunoniae and neisseria meningitidis, considered the leading causes of meningitis.

Their research has shown that across Canada, both bacteria are becoming increasingly resistant to penicillin and other antibiotics, the media release warns.

Dr. Andy Simor, director of microbiology at Sunnybrook, who accepted the cheque from National Ballet principal dancer Karen Kain, and his colleagues are also studying newer antibiotics, more rapid diagnosis of the disease, and extending surveillance of the bacteria that cause meningitis across the country to determine how they spread.

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish book awards announced

TORONTO — The Jewish book awards committee of the Koffler Centre of the Arts recently announced the winners of the 1997 Canadian Jewish Book Awards.

Eleven authors will share $5,000 in prizes in nine categories ranging from fiction and poetry to history, biblical scholarship and Holocaust writing published in Canada in the last two years.

As a highlight of awards night, May 27 at 8 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre, Canadian actress-singer Theresa Tova will read selections from some of this year's winning works.

Anne Michaels wins the Martin and Beatrice Fischer Prize in Fiction for her acclaimed novel, *Fugitive Pieces* (McClelland & Stewart), while Carol Matas will be awarded the Rachel Bessin-Frisch Memorial prize for Young Adult Fiction for *After The War* (Scholastic).

Laurentian University professor Roger Nash wins the Henry Fuerstenberg Poetry Prize for his recent collection, *In The Kosher Chow Mein Restaurant* (Your Scrivener Press), while Seymour Mayne and Glen Rotchin win the Louis Lockshin Memorial Award for their edition of Canadian poetry, *Jerusalem* (Vehicle Press).

The Koffler Centre President's Prize will be awarded to Manny Drukier for his Holocaust biography/memoir, *Carved In Stone* (University of Toronto Press), while The Yad Vashem Prize for Holocaust History goes to Dr. Felicia Carmelly for *Shattered: 50 Years of Silence* (Abbeyfield Publishers), a history of the Holocaust in Romania and Transnistria.

The Harry and Florence Topper Foundation-Milton Shier Award for Translation from Yiddish goes to poet Simcha Simchovitch for *A Song Will Remain* (Lugus).

The Betty and Morris Aaron Prize for Scholarship on a Canadian Jewish Subject will be awarded to Concordia University professors Mervyn Butovsky and Ira Robinson for their essays on Montreal's immigrant Jewish community, *Renewing Our Days* (Vehicule Press), while Rabbi Steven Saltzman wins this year's Penina Rubinoff Memorial Award for Biblical Scholarship for *A Small Glimmer of Hope: Reflections on the Book of Genesis* (Ktav).

The Joseph and Fay Tanenbaum Award for Canadian Jewish History will be shared by Québécois historian Yves Lavertu for *The Bernonville Affair* (Robert Davies Publishing) and Vancouverite Fraidie Martz for *Open Your Hearts* (Vehicule Press), the story of the Canadian Jewish community's absorption of war-era orphans.

GOLDFARB SCHOLARSHIP

Bialik Hebrew Day School recently announced the establishment of the Marina Goldfarb Yabrov Scholarship fund to provide a $500 scholarship each year to two Bialik graduates, a boy and a girl, who are planning to study in Israel. The scholarship will be offered yearly by Dr. Liudmila and Lev Goldfarb in memory of their daughter, Marina (right), a Bialik graduate. For more information, call Sonia Shron at 783-3346.

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Normal deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date. Due to the Victoria Day holiday, the deadline for the May 22 issue is Tuesday, May 13 at 2 p.m.

For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836.

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Beth Tikvah marks 30th year

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In the past three decades, Beth Tikvah Synagogue has grown from a fledgling group of 85 young families to a 1,000-family congregation recognized for its musical programs, educational programs and even a perfume-free sanctuary section, all of which have won awards from United Synagogue, the umbrella group for Conservative congregations.

The Bayview Avenue facility, which houses a branch of United Synagogue Day School, has been partially refurbished for its 30th anniversary this year. Recent enhancements include attractive new doors for the chapel entrance and the sanctuary ark.

But it's the "involvement of the membership and the commitment of the lay participants to expressing their Jewishness in every way possible" that has most impressed Stuart Razin, director of fundraising and director of adult-centred activities, in the 22 years he's worked for the shul.

The synagogue's lengthy participation in the fight to free then-Refusenik Anatoly Scharansky — lobbying, holding rallies, raising funds — exemplified, for Razin, "the best Beth Tikvah can offer...You feel good when you're in the presence of these types of people."

Rabbi Wayne Allen, Beth Tikvah's spiritual leader for the past decade, characterizes the congregation as "musical, active, challenging, dynamic, energetic, to a large degree Judaically knowledgeable, and committed."

Beth Tikvah dates back to 1964, when Shaarei Tikvah congregation was begun by 18 families; they later merged with the Bayview Synagogue Association.

Rabbi Herbert Feder was hired as Beth Tikvah's first spiritual leader in 1967, but it wasn't until 1971 that the current building was completed and the congregation was able to move out of its portable home. Following Rabbi Feder's aliyah in the early 1980s, Rabbi Robert Marcus became spiritual leader for five years, preceding Rabbi Allen.

Since its inception, Beth Tikvah has placed an emphasis on music, with three or four major musical programs every year. According to Heather Shapero, chair of the board and first vice-president, Beth Tikvah was the first Toronto synagogue to have a composer-in-residence, Srul Glick, who also conducts the synagogue's two choirs.

More recently, the congregation has been innovative in a different way, becoming the only synagogue in town to offer a choice of caterers. The transition was lengthy, costly and complex, but the response has been "very good" and all four caterers are getting business, said Shapero.

In honor of Beth Tikvah's 30th anniversary, scheduled events are geared to "try to reflect the areas of interest Beth Tikvah has highlighted over the years," said Merle Goldman, chair of the 30th anniversary program committee.

A March concert by Israeli singer Chava Alberstein was the kickoff event, also marking the 18th anniversary of the Toronto chapter of Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University. A lecture series began in March with Professor Arnold Ages discussing artist Marc Chagall; writer Vanessa Ochs spoke on Women's Spirituality and lawyer Sergio Karas is scheduled to speak May 15 on the Swiss and Holocaust History. The series will continue in the fall.

Five years ago Goldman, then president of the shul, wrote about Beth Tikvah's future on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. "We have built a community where education, music, prayer and a sense of community have become pillars of this congregation."

Among her dreams for Beth Tikvah's future were "sufficient self-confidence to allow for alternative expressions of prayer...maybe even an egalitarian minyan."

That hasn't happened, although there have been changes over the past decade: women are now permitted to open the ark, have an aliyah for maftir, and lead Kaballat Shabbat services.

There have been expanding roles for women," said Rabbi Allen. "Within the confines of a respectful adherence to Jewish law, we try to find as many opportunities as possible.

When it comes to services for "adults with a different religious orientation," he noted, "I would say our synagoguge has wisely determined that prayer should not be an issue for divisiveness."

Some members might draw different conclusions, but according to Shapero, only "a small group" is interested in studying the option of egalitarian services.

"We're reasonably traditional," said Beth Tikvah president Earl Biderman. "It's not something we're likely to change quickly. I don't foresee an egalitarian service, but short of that, there are many opportunities to provide alternative service approaches for interest groups within the synagogue."

Rabbi Allen sees Beth Tikvah as "a place where people can grow, develop and learn in a nurturing, friendly and caring environment where open-minded inquiry is welcome and adherence to tradition is our hallmark."

Greater Toronto Area

Wheelchair fails to stop Mazor

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Dan Mazor

TORONTO — Still a novice at manoeuvering his hi-tech sip-and-puff wheelchair, Dan Mazor gamely negotiates an outdoor path on the attractively landscaped grounds of West Park Hospital, where he is undergoing intensive rehabilitation following a fluke accident that paralyzed him below the neck last October.

His front wheel veers onto the soft grass bordering the paved walkway. Mazor, 30, glances in the rear-view mirror mounted on the wide left armrest of his wheelchair – the same model used by paralyzed actor Christopher Reeve. He sips from the hefty chair's delicate-looking mouthpiece, causing it to move backward onto the path, then inches forward again by blowing into the straw.

Again, the wheel goes astray. Back and forward; back and forward. His mother, Dorit, summons a staff member to help, but in the end it's Mazor who puts himself back on track — a small victory in his ongoing effort to regain a measure of independence.

When his rehabilitation is complete, he hopes to resume his career as a music producer. At West Park, he's learning to operate a computer by using a straw-like device similar to the one that controls his wheelchair. The new skills will enable him to translate his musical ideas into reality using existing computer technology.

Before his accident, Mazor co-ran his own company, Prime Time Studios, producing CDs such as the eponymous *Paul London* and contributing songs to *Dance Mix USA*.

Mazor's world changed last October, on the fourth day of a week-long vacation to Cuba when, standing in knee-deep water, he was struck and flipped by a powerful wave, likely the aftermath of a hurricane off the Florida coast. Only the night before, he had played keyboard with the hotel band in an impromptu jam session.

"I must have hit my neck on a sand bar, and that's it. Over," recalls Mazor.

An alert lifeguard rescued and resuscitated him, but he would need resuscitating twice more, as well as surgery to stabilize his damaged second and third vertebrae before he could be flown out of Cuba. His father Jerry flew down to accompany him by air ambulance to Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre here, where he was to spend three months in the Neurological Intensive Care Unit. He has returned to Sunnybrook once for a bladder infection, not an uncommon complication.

Now one of his biggest priorities — and challenges — is weaning himself from his ventilator, a necessity if there is a problem with the equipment and medical attention is not immediately available. With the help of a respiratory therapist at West Park, Mazor has progressed from two minutes to 2½ hours of breathing on his own.

Physiotherapy, to stretch the muscles he can no longer work himself, is also part of his routine. "Sometimes we go roller blading," he jokes.

Before his accident, Mazor didn't know anyone who used a wheelchair. "Actually, it intimidated me," he said.

But a visit by a quadriplegic who heard about his accident and drove himself to Sunnybrook in a specially equipped van gave Mazor courage and hope. "It showed me there's still a life."

Supportive family and friends have played a big role in maintaining his positive attitude, Mazor said. His parents visit daily, his brother Ron, almost as often.

Ron and his wife Raina have organized a benefit performance at Comedywood later this month to raise money both for him and for the Richmond Hill-based Canadian Spinal Cord Research Organization (CSRO), which is seeking a cure for paralysis.

About 1,100 new spinal cord injuries occur yearly in Canada, according to the CSRO. Costs to families and the government run into millions of dollars over each lifetime. A van equipped for someone like Mazor would cost about $50,000 (US), said a CSRO representative.

Mazor eschews self-pity, preferring to work toward the day he can re-integrate into society, resume his career, visit friends and attend concerts. "Once you come to understand your limitations, it's not so bad.

"It's not so *good*," he amends quickly, with a laugh, "but you know what you can and can't do, and for me there's more that I can or can try to do, than I can't. My mind and the way I think are still the same."

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For information and registration please call A TIME FOR ME at (416) 635-2900, ext. 413

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Fiddler helps CSRO fundraiser

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the opening in Toronto of *Fiddler On The Roof*, the play's film version was screened recently at the Eglinton Theatre, followed by a gala reception at the Four Seasons Hotel.

The fundraising event for the Canadian Spinal Research Organization (CSRO), hosted by director and producer Norman Jewison, was chaired by Michelle Levy with a special guest appearance by Israeli-born actor Chaim Topol, who portrayed Tevye the Milkman in the film and the stage productions on Broadway, London and on tour.

The mood for the evening was created by volunteers garbed in shtetl-like clothing. Supporters were treated to Yiddish and klezmer music with a performance at the reception by singer-actor Theresa Tova.

Jewison, who has received 12 Academy Awards, introduced the film and spoke of CSRO's achievements. The organization was founded by people with spinal cord injuries, in order to raise funds for scientific and medical research.

Award-winning filmmaker Norman Jewison (left), Michelle Levy, and Chaim Topol are seen at the fundraising reception for the Canadian Spinal Research Organization.

"Increasing awareness and raising necessary funding is critical as we strive to find a cure for people with spinal cord injuries," says Levy.

"This one-time only gala screening will help us reach our goal."

Topol divides his time between London and Israel. He told *The CJN* that this was the first time that he viewed the film from beginning to end.

"I cried a lot — I was immersed in the show," he said. "When I played the role of Tevye 25 years ago, it was before my three children were married. Now that I experienced the marriages of my children and have grandchildren, I appreciate every year that goes by."

Married 40 years, Topol says that he now understands the significance of the film. He added that "it was wonderful for me to view the film at this time of my life."

Spokesperson for CSRO Wendy Crawford-Burton was a 19-year-old model on her way to the Toronto Pearson airport in 1984 to catch a plane when a drunk driver rear-ended her car. She was hit in the back of her neck by her suitcase and has been paralyzed from the shoulders down ever since.

She explained that the average age of those with spinal injuries is 19. More than 30,000 Canadians have spinal cord injuries. Crawford-Burton thanked the supporters and noted that since her injury 13 years ago, many things have changed and progress is being made through research. "But we still have a long way to go."

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invites the community to join in
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Rabbi Irwin Witty — Gary Levine
Thursday, May 15, 8:00 p.m.
Sam Ferman Hall
B'nai Torah Synagogue
465 Patricia Avenue, North York

On Campus

Jewish soul needs proper nourishment

By JASON YOUNG

TORONTO — In many ways the Jewish soul is like the stomach, in that when you feed it, it grows and desires more. It needs more learning, more philosophy, more struggle.

Opinion

If you take the Jewish soul and starve it, at first there's a little bit of hunger, but after a while it shrinks and doesn't require as much food.

When we go to university, we require Jewish nourishment. We need a certain amount of Jewish culture to sustain us. Whether or not we get it determines how we will end up four years later and where our lives go.

The 19 Jewish student unions (JSU) across Ontario, all the way from Windsor to Ottawa, are the restaurants at each campus where our Jewish souls go to get nourishment.

These restaurants are run by the chefs, who are the JSU executives and presidents.

They prepare the meals and serve the menu at each of these restaurants. How good they are and how good their ingredients are defines how strong the Jewish program at each campus is.

This brings us to Kol Hastudentim, the council of chefs from each of these restaurants. We got together one day and said, "People are still walking out of our restaurants hungry. Something is not being satisfied." In some cases, they're very hungry. In some cases, they just need certain areas.

We know that when you walk into a restaurant, sometimes you want a coffee, sometimes you just want a piece of cake, and sometimes you want a whole dinner.

When kids go away to campus, it's exactly the same situation. Everyone wants something else. Some people just want the cake, and some people want the whole meal.

What we have to be able to do as leaders on campus is to provide what's asked of us. Not by the greater community, but by the students themselves because they're the ones that are going to decide if they come to the programs or not. They're the ones that we have to listen to when they tell us what they're looking for.

So when we got together as this council of JSU presidents and executives, we decided what was missing from our menus, and we came up with some solutions.

Problem number one was that not every restaurant was serving every dish being asked for. Some people want things that aren't on the menu.

One solution was to let each restaurant know what the other restaurants are serving, so that people know where to go to get them. In real terms, I'm talking about intercampus communication, using e-mail and phones and whatever means we have including the Web to get the campus programs advertised to each of the other campuses.

There's a huge difference this year from last as far as intercampus cooperation in programming. We've seen programs at Waterloo where buses came in from McMaster and Guelph. We've seen programs at McMaster where buses came in from Toronto and London. We've seen the Purim party in London where buses came in from the other schools.

All of these small campuses that only have the resources to serve a few dishes at their restaurant specialize in those dishes and then each campus lets their students know about what's being offered elsewhere.

Since Ontario has 10 or 11 different universities along one strip of the 401, it's very easy for people to jump back and forth between these restaurants and get the meal they're looking for. That's what's been happening this year, and that hasn't happened in past years.

Solution number two was, two or three times a year, to provide a feast for everyone, a feast of dishes not offered anywhere else. These include the Holocaust education trip we organized in October, the ski retreat that we called Fire and Ice, which was in December, and Ontario-wide shabbatons this year, which Guelph ran by itself.

Problem number two is that not all restaurants have great food. This is either because the chefs have training and ability but lack some ingredients, or they have the ingredients and resources but they're lacking a little training and they're fresh out of chef school.

Our solution to this is to bring all these chefs together at least once a year in addition to the existing leadership development programs, and make them better chefs, give them more ingredients, make them better at what they're doing. In real terms, again, that's the mega-conference that is coming up in May, which is for all of the Ontario schools.

We're not the leaders of tomorrow any more; we're the leaders of today. We're trying to bring people together. That is a very deep part of what Kol Hastudentim stands for.

Jason Young, a University of Toronto student, is the chair of Kol Hastudentim. This is an excerpt from his CJC plenary speech.

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The Toronto Jewish Folk Choir
Mother's Day Concert
Sunday, May 11th at 2:30 p.m.
Walter Hall
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Guest Artists:
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THE GENERAL COMMUNITY
IN CELEBRATION OF THE SYNAGOGUE'S
30th Anniversary
Thursday, May 15th at 8:00 p.m.
Subject: The Swiss Bankers and Holocaust History
Speaker: Sergio Karas, noted lawyer acting on behalf of the Canadian Jewish Community
Sergio Karas has been involved in the fight to recover the assets in Swiss bank accounts belonging to Holocaust victims since the issue became public knowledge. He has been regularly consulted by the Canadian, U.S. and European media and spends a great deal of time researching relevant issues as they arise.
– Refreshments will be served –
This lecture is sponsored by the Kurtz-Karasik Fund

Calgary's B'nai Tikvah marks double anniversary

By MELANIE COLLISON
Special to The CJN

CALGARY — Temple B'nai Tikvah has come a long way in the past 18 years. From a handful of families meeting in the basement of a member's home, the Reform synagogue has grown to 200 families.

Members and friends of Temple B'nai Tikvah gathered recently for a dinner at the Palliser Hotel to celebrate what MC Debbie Baylin called "the joys and oys" of temple.

For Temple B'nai Tikvah, this was a double anniversary — celebrating 18 years since the synagogue's founding and 10 years of spiritual leadership by its rabbi, Jordan Goldson.

Among the 170 celebrants at the dinner were several rabbis who travelled long distances to share in honoring the temple's founders and its rabbi.

Rabbi Dan Gottlieb, past executive director of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ), and who has been instrumental in helping create vibrant Jewish congregations across Canada, characterized Temple B'nai Tikvah as "a community of dedicated and seriously committed religious Jews, with a unique contribution to make."

Rabbi Paul Golomb, regional director of the CCRJ and Rabbi Art Benjamin, current president, travelled from Toronto to join the celebration, along with incoming president Nancy Bercovitch.

Rabbi Don Goor, who as a student rabbi often visited Calgary to officiate at temple services, came from California "to celebrate with a congregation and a rabbi that are very dear to my heart." It was Rabbi Goor who encouraged the newly ordained Goldson to consider accepting the job at Temple B'nai Tikvah 10 years ago.

Chazzan Norm Yanofsky praised Rabbi Goldson for developing temple programming and Jewish education, for his special sensitivity towards potential converts, and for his musicality.

Congregants presented Rabbi Goldson with gifts, including a new tallit. In thanking the congregation, the rabbi said: "When I put on my tallit, I am reminded that when we are dealing with everyday life, we do so enwrapped by God.

"When I go out to [rabbinical conferences] representing this congregation, I am enwrapped in its love and support. It is with a sense of awe that I describe what you are doing to make Judaism a force in Western Canada."

Alan Newton, the Staff
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are greatly saddened by the sudden
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Rabbi
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In celebration of
Yom Ha'Atzmaut
Rabbi Plaut will deliver the sermon
Shabbat - May 10, 1997
Service - 9:00 a.m.
Adath Israel Synagogue
37 Southbourne Ave., Downsview, Ontario
(1 block north of Wilson Ave., east of Bathurst Street)
Congregational Kiddush Following
Everyone is Welcome!

Windsor JNF dinner set

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

WINDSOR — Windsor's Jewish community will honor C. Yves Landry, chair, president and CFO of Chrysler Canada Limited at its National Fund (JNF) Negev Tribute Dinner on June 17 at the Caboto Club.

Keynote speaker will be former Ontario premier Bob Rae. Solicitor General Herb Gray, himself a former Windsor Negev Dinner honoree, will present the JNF citation.

Proceeds from the dinner will go towards the Chrysler Canada Arboretum within JNF Park Jerusalem 3000.

Landry and Michael Walker, director of government affairs at Chrysler Canada, who recently returned from a brief tour of Israel as guests of the JNF, were enthusiastic about the country, said Windsor JNF executive co-ordinator Sharon Kaplan.

Landry, born in 1938 in Thetford Mines, Que., worked in the asbestos mines from the age of 16 in order to pay for his education at Laval University. He graduated with a masters degree at 20 and held senior sales positions with two major Canadian oil companies before he turned 30.

Landry joined Chrysler Canada in 1969 as regional sales manager in the company's Quebec office in Montreal. In 1990, he was named president and chief executive officer.

Convinced that industry and education must work together to meet the next century's challenges, Landry was instrumental in establishing Canada's first Automotive Research and Development Centre in 1994.

He is a recipient of numerous awards and academic honors.

Dinner chairs will be Dr. Paul Cassano, vice-president of the University of Windsor, and Gerald Freed, a former Windsor Negev Dinner honoree.

From coast to coast

Debating champs

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Adrian Leipsic and Michael Kives, Canadian national debating champions know how to talk the talk.

The two students attend St. John's-Ravenscourt (SJR) School, noted internationally for its debating program which begins in Grade 8.

Kives, a Grade 10 student, was persuaded to enter the debating program by his classmate, friend and debating partner Jason Quinton.

"I wasn't interested at first," he says. "I entered as a team with Jason in our first competition. Because another team dropped out though, we were split up."

Not only did Kives finish first as an individual, he also finished first as part of a team and by the end of Grade 8, he qualified for the national competition in Halifax. He was the youngest competitor and finished first in his category.

Last year, he won the national championship again, making him the first person to win championships two years in a row.

In October, he placed first in the Western Canada National Debating Seminars and in March, he won the right to represent Manitoba in the National High School Debating Seminars in Halifax, which take place at the end of April. If he finishes in the top five, he will qualify for the World Debating Seminars scheduled for Jerusalem next January.

Leipsic, a Grade 12 student, also began debating in Grade 8.

He won the national public speaking championship in impromptu speaking, which was held in Winnipeg and led him to participate in the International Independent Schools Public Speaking Championship in London, England. He finished second in a field of 60 students from several different countries.

Next year, Leipsic is planning to enrol at McGill University, which is also well known for its debating program. He is interested in pursuing a career in either law or literature.

Kives is also considering a career in criminal law.

WITH THIS RING...

United Synagogue Day School, Bayview campus, grade 8 students completed a unit of study on the laws governing Jewish marriage. Students studied the parts of the marriage ceremony, designed beautiful ketubot and held a ceremony and a simcha afterwards. Shown here after the ceremony are the bride, Katherine Devlin and the groom Jesse Kline alone with the grade 8 student celebrants.

Advt.

THE BORINS BEAT

We Can't Spell S ccess Without "U". I am happy to report that the final phase of the very successful three-year capital campaign in support of the **Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre** has begun. As you know the Centre will be completed soon with a final cost of $7.7 million. Teams of energetic and committed volunteers are now hard at work raising the remaining necessary funds to complete the Battle Centre.

We have asked people with influence, most with philanthropic experience, to join us for this specific period of time to help **Reena** achieve its financial objectives. I always let volunteers know that fundraisers are the catalyst and that they have the privilege of relating to those generous, special people who want to help others in their community.

Named gifts encourage others to give. They create a wonderful memorial to the act of philanthropy and the good works of the special people and corporations in our community. A unique piece of art encompassing sight and music has been created to recognize those members of the community who find it within their hearts and resources to support Reena.

The Battle Centre will be a modern, fully equipped adult day centre purposely designed to provide a wide range of services and activities for thousands of adults with developmental handicaps in the communities of Metropolitan Toronto and York Region. It will also assist families by teaching life skills, providing a respite and support to loved ones cared for at home, and offering a better quality of life for the whole family. The centre is located in the City of Vaughan, the fastest growing community in the Greater Toronto Area. It is a highly visible, fully accessible facility on Clark Street, just west of Bathurst Street, close to public transportation and other community services and activities.

Reena touches the lives of thousands of people each year. Its clients come from many cultural backgrounds. Our services are, accordingly, multi-cultural and inclusive. Reena was established in 1973 from the dreams of a concerned group of parents and quickly became a strong voice, addressing quality-of-life issues for children and adults with developmental handicaps. Today, Reena is the second largest provider of residential services for people with developmental handicaps an the Greater Toronto Area.

The Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre is already recognized internationally. Scores of community groups have expressed interest in participating at the new, fabulous, well-equipped centre. Requests for assistance, information and training have reached us from Winnipeg, Israel and United States. There is great need for centralized information and training. This will provide exposure for Reena and its supporters that is unprecedented!

I am pleased to be part of this exciting time at Reena, a milestone in the 24 years of Reena's wonderful history. A better community is everybody's business to ensure a healthy and civil society.

The **JNF/Reena Golf Tournament** takes place June 18th at the **Royal Woodbine Golf Club.** JNF co-chairs are **Marilyn & Sheldon Berg.** I recall their efforts for the 1995 Negev Dinner tribute to **Leslie Dan, B.Sc. Phm.** Call Lil at the JNF ((416) 638-7200) to reserve your spot and register. It's always great to see **Marilyn, Sandy Poslins & Judy Wilson** on their visits to Reena.

I love hearing from groups like the **Grand Slam Bridge Club,** "where good friends meet," who have generously selected Reena as the charity of choice to benefit from its special week of bridge activities May 25-31. Call your hosts **John** or **Nick Bruno** at (905) 771-9723.

Next time, more about **Phil Droznika, Amherst Pharmacy, (416) 258-2022, & Gary Starr, Countrywide Silverstarr Realty Inc.,** (416) 218-1117, each of whom have special charity golf tournaments planned this summer.

Great to see that **Norm Gardner** has entered the federal race as the Progressive Conservative candidate to represent Willowdale in the soon-to-be announced federal election.

Did you catch the headline in the Toronto Star "Canada's film producers now world class players", referring to **Alliance Communications** and **Paragon Entertainment. Yasher Koach** to **Jeff Rayman, Allen Karp, Gerry Schwartz, Alek Grossman, Joe Rotman, Syd Cooper, Jon Sian** and **Richard Borchiver.**

Jerry Borins is the Capital Campaign Director for the Reena Foundation's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre in Vaughan. The Centre will ensure people with developmental handicaps realize their full potential. The $7.7 million campaign will be successfully completed in May, 1997. Call Jerry at (416) 787-9554

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Tuesday, May 20th - 8:00 p.m.
THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH-
THE ODYSSEY OF MEDICAL ETHICS IN CHRISTIAN, JEWISH AND MUSLIM TRADITIONS
Mount Sinai Hospital Auditorium, 18th Floor
600 University Avenue

Wednesday, May 21st - 8:00 p.m.
MAIMONIDES- A JEWISH PHYSICIAN IN MEDIEVAL EGYPT
Leah Posluns Theatre- Bathurst Jewish Centre
4588 Bathurst Street - (north of Sheppard Avenue)

THE COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO ATTEND FREE ADMISSION

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Mount Sinai Hospital Phone- 416-586-8560, Fax- 416- 586-8600, Email: cprato@mtsinai.on.ca

Red River Flood

Dike building unites community

By MATT BELLAN
The Jewish Post and News

WINNIPEG — Local media have been calling it the Flood of The Century, making it sound like a Hollywood natural disaster movie.

Indeed, the camaraderie of dike-building, and the feeling that "we're all in this together" has given the growing Red River flood here a bit of a carnival-like air.

But for Winnipeggers buying sump pumps to fight water backup in their basements or building dikes to protect riverside homes, the flood that's slowly edging into parts of the city is anything but fun.

It's heartening to see how organizations and individuals in the Jewish community are lending a hand, sometimes with the help of non-Jewish agencies. Dozens of students from Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate helped fortify dikes along Scotia Street.

Students from that Jewish high school, Jewish youths from other city schools and Jewish adults also pitched in last week, as water levels rose. Omnitsky Kosher Foods and Bathurst Street Market also generously donated kosher for Passover snacks for Jewish volunteer dike-builders on Scotia, with the Salvation Army transporting and delivering the food.

Amid all the preparation, some Jewish Winnipeggers waxed nostalgic last week about the last big flood the city experienced, in 1950.

Shirley Barsky, wife of the late Dr. Percy Barsky, recalled moving with her family to Winnipeg from Halifax in February 1950, as an unmarried girl.

"We bought a house on Glenwood Crescent" on the east side of the Red River, "and moved in May 1," she said. "We moved out May 7. Water was gushing in."

Rose Knight remembers "people were getting inoculated for something – I don't know what...There was such pollution when the water went down...I lived on Alfred Avenue. We didn't have any water, that I can remember, but everyone was so scared."

Evelyn Hecht, the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council's community relations director, recalled that during the 1950 flood, "they shut down the schools in the city."

Her future husband, Larry Hecht, had to go with his sisters to his family's cottage in Gimli for three months. "It was awful."

"I remember, I was a kid, and we were building a home on Smithfield, but the lumber floated away," Evelyn Hecht added.

Prof. Elliott Levine had little time for nostalgia last week, as he tried to protect his and wife Zelda's home on Kingston Crescent from rising floodwaters. But his family managed to preserve its sense of humor during a seder night in that house.

"My son-in-law joked that he wanted the floodwaters to come, so God would come, and part the waters."

As for the possibility that the rising Red might disrupt the Jewish community calendar a bit, an older member of the community put that fear to rest.

"I know it sounds cruel," the organizer of a Sunday afternoon Yiddish concert responded, when told many Jewish Winnipeggers might not be able to attend because of flood preparations. "But people can still take off an hour and a half and come see the concert. Yiddish is important, too!"

NORTH DAKOTA TOWN FLOODED
A utility truck makes its way through the waters of the Red River in downtown Grand Forks, N.D. This tiny Jewish community has been hit hard by recent flooding in the Red River Valley. The entire city, including some 50 Jewish families, was forced to evacuate as a result of the natural disaster that struck before Passover. B'nai Israel Synagogue, the only Jewish institution in Grand Forks, incurred some damage to its library, basement and social hall. But the sanctuary, prayer books and Torah scrolls are intact, Robin Silverman, president of the 58-year-old Reform synagogue, reported to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. [RNS/Reuters photo]

In Tribute to the memory of

MARY GELLER ז"ל

A woman of great valor, beloved wife, devoted mother, cherished grandmother & dear friend; who lived life with strength, grace & beauty; and who enriched the lives of everyone around her.

The unveiling of a monument to her beloved memory will take place
Sunday, May 18th at 12:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
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Community Section DDD Phase III
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts
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בס"ד

An Evening With Eitz Chaim

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Red River Flood

'Unusual things keep happening'

By MATT BELLAN
The Jewish Post & News

WINNIPEG — For Marie Lavitt, one of the biggest changes has been the noise.

"It's been stressful," said the North End Jewish resident, who lives with husband Larry and three young children only three houses away from the swollen Red River.

"Unusual things keep happening," Lavitt explained late last week.

"Helicopters are flying overhead three or four times a day....And the pontoon boats on the water make a lot of noise. There are constant reminders you might be in harm's way."

For the Lavitts and other Jewish families living on or near Winnipeg rivers, the ongoing "flood of the century" poses an unusually immediate threat.

But a wide variety of Jewish organizations have been pitching in, in response to the emergency. Meanwhile, local media announced the Red River had crested May 2 without causing any serious flooding in this city, protected by dikes and a floodway, but was expected to remain at that maximum level for about a week.

The Jewish Foundation of Manitoba (JFM)late last month contributed $10,000 for flood relief, joining forces with the Thomas Still Foundation and Winnipeg Foundation, which provided $10,000 each.

"We feel the Jewish community should participate equally with everyone" in funding relief efforts, said David Cohen, JFM's executive director.

"We're part of the broader community," Cohen added, noting that the JFM "reached out" to the other two foundations, suggesting the joint effort. Of the $30,000 in donations, $15,000 will go to the Manitoba Division of the Canadian Red Cross, and $15,000 to the Salvation Army in support of its flood relief efforts.

Among other things, the money will help pay for food for volunteer sandbaggers and Manitobans displaced by the flood.

B'nai Brith Canada is setting up a fund to help the more than 24,000 Manitoba flood victims evacuated from their homes. The organization announced it will collect new and used clothing and charitable donations.

Donations can be sent to B'nai Brith Foundation — Manitoba Relief Fund, 370 Hargrave St, 2nd floor, Winnipeg, R3B 2K1 or to its national office at 15 Hove St. North York, Ont. M3H 4Y8.

Tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

Robert Freedman, executive director of The Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) said a food donation was made to the Salvation Army. "We gave them crates of apples, oranges, fruit juices and soft drinks for people working on the dikes."

Senior staff members from the WJCC and the YMHA Jewish Community Centre have also met over the past few weeks with Sharon Home personnel to discuss "contingency plans" for the Jewish nursing home near the Red River, should any residents have to be evacuated.

But Freedman, Hecht, and Daniel Ruth, the Sharon Home's chief executive officer, stressed that there was only a slim chance residents would have to be evacuated.

"Flooding of the Sharon Home is extremely remote," Ruth confirmed, adding that the river would likely have to rise "another nine feet" to reach the nursing home's property.

As for other Jewish community facilities near Winnipeg rivers, Freedman said the Asper Jewish Community Campus, near the Assiniboine River just east of Assiniboine Park, is in "pretty decent shape."

Meanwhile, about 300 people showed up at Shaarey Zedek Synagogue recently to build a sandbag dike at the northwest corner of the synagogue parking lot, Sandy Tapper, Shaarey Zedek's executive director said.

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Groups gear up for election

[Cont'd. from page 1]

And the Canada-Israel Committee (C-IC) is encouraging groups and individuals to inject advocacy on Israel into the campaign. National executive director Rob Ritter says issues include Canada's positions on Jerusalem and the settlements, and Israelis claiming refugee status here.

CJC's guide, assembled under Prof. Gerald Gall in Edmonton, will be sent to all the main political parties to indicate where Canadian Jews stand on five major areas: international affairs, social justice, community relations, Israel and national unity.

Those areas in turn break down to discuss Holocaust reparations; refugee and immigration policies; the social safety net; anti-Semitism and racism in Canada and in its military; employment equity; hate on the Internet; membership of Israel's Magen David Adom in the International Red Cross; and national unity.

Late last year, the Quebec region of CJC joined the province's Greek and Italian communities in calling for "urgent" action to renew federalism and recognize Quebec's distinctiveness.

The initiative was called Three R's to National Unity: Reconciliation, Recognition and Renewal. As its title implies, the coalition wants Ottawa to patch up wounds left by the 1995 referendum, by recognizing Quebec's uniqueness and rejuvenating federalism. But it stopped short of calling for constitutional entrenchment of distinct society status for Quebec.

National unity is the "key" issue for Montreal Jewry, says CJC Quebec region chair Reisa Teitelbaum.

The city's community is "feeling vulnerable. [A] priority in other parts of the country is not necessarily one here."

The region will be holding "power lunches" with candidates from all parties, she said, and is considering presenting larger events touting unity with its Greek and Italian coalition partners.

CJC's election guide will also be sent to all Congress regions for use at the local level, says Eric Vernon, director of CJC's Ottawa advocacy office. Vernon says Jewish communities are encouraged to use the guide to formulate questions for candidates.

BBC's task force will try to meet as many candidates as possible before the election, says Lisa Armony, director of the group's institute for international affairs.

Beginning next issue, The CJN *will bring readers complete election coverage, including riding profiles and, it is hoped, interviews with the leaders of all the major parties.*

Rock defends party's record

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Rock defended the Liberals' record, but conceded, "I'm sure we have not done enough." He said he told the religious leaders that Ottawa plans "a strong moral commitment to the effort, a recognition that action is needed, and a commitment to intensify the effort we have made, where the evidence justifies it."

He said that in addition to the 12 deportation cases the Liberals have started, additional cases will be initiated "in the months ahead," and that efforts will be made in the immigration department to ensure that Canada does not become a haven for modern-day war criminals.

Ottawa "is going in the right direction. We have a strong and firm resolve to proceed. Resources will not stand in the way."

Asked by *The CJN* whether the Liberals can ever deliver on deporting suspects, given that three of them have died of old age since 1994, Rock said "it's for the courts to decide."

Rock said there was discussion of a public apology for Canada's past inaction, but "I think what's owing is that we use the opportunity to do everything possible on the moral imperative...I put the emphasis on action. The best way we can honor the memories of those who died is to take action."

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Weizman, Arafat scheduled to talk peace

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Second meeting between the leaders

JERUSALEM — In an effort to give new momentum to the stalemated peace process, President Ezer Weizman was to meet this week with Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The meeting was to take place on the Israeli side of the Erez checkpoint at the entrance to the Gaza Strip, the President's Office announced.

This is the second time Weizman has intervened in the peace process. He invited Arafat to his Caesarea home last October, after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu failed to set a date to meet with the PA head.

Netanyahu then announced a meeting and met with Arafat before Arafat had met with Weizman.

Sources said Weizman's current move has been closely coordinated with Netanyahu, via contacts between cabinet secretary Danny Naveh and Weizman's bureau chief, Arye Shumer. Foreign Minister David Levy was also involved.

Weeks of international diplomatic efforts, particularly by U.S. coordinator Dennis Ross, who was said to have played a pivotal role, preceded the announcement of the meeting. Also involved in efforts to bring the sides together were the Europeans, particularly European Union envoy Miguel Moratinos, who is currently visiting Israel, the sources said.

Meanwhile, Netanyahu was to meet with Levy and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai earlier to discuss the peace process prior to Ross's arrival.

Arafat flew to Egypt last Sunday to meet with President Hosni Mubarak, a visit Palestinian sources said is aimed at coordinating a position in advance of the expected resumption of talks.

Despite the crisis between the government and the PA, Weizman continued to keep the lines open. Shumer, who had been in contact with Palestinian leaders over the weekend, met with Arafat adviser Ahmed Tibi to finalize details of the meeting. The official announcement of the breakthrough followed shortly afterward.

Tibi said later that the Palestinians are placing their hopes on the president's ability to help patch up the tensions between the two sides.

These, he said, were caused by the decision to go ahead with the Har Choma building project and "the unfortunate decision with regard to redeploying [in the West Bank by] only by two percent." But these were not the only problems, he said, and the meeting was intended to ease the "overall tensions."

Arafat was interested in meeting with the president, Tibi added, because Weizman enjoys wide popular support, can influence public opinion, and has experience with the peace process.

As in his previous meetings with regional leaders at times of crisis, the president was not expected to make concrete suggestions, but rather to create a more relaxed atmosphere between the two sides and to pave the way for Netanyahu-Arafat talks, sources said.

"The peace process has to move forward. There is no alternative. I hope the [Weizman-Arafat] meeting will contribute towards this," Levy said before the meeting. He stressed, however, that the Palestinians would have to prove they are willing to take stronger steps to counteract terrorism and to cooperate with Israel in its prevention.

According to reporter Liat Collins, National Religious Party chair Hanan Porat was critical of Weizman's decision to meet with Arafat. Porat accused Weizman of involving the presidency in politics and blurring the boundaries between the branches of government.

Following Porat's comments, Collins said, MK Yossi Beilin, a candidate for the Labor party leadership, responded: "Porat expresses regret at anything that could further peace. I call on the president to continue his efforts to promote peace and in this way save the region from a political stalemate which will bring about a violent deterioration in the situation."

Israel rejects talks with Syria

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Bentsur said the final communique of the recent Malta Conference included a call by the 27 member states for negotiations between Syria and Israel to be resumed on the basis of the Madrid Conference.

The announcement was formulated with the consensus of all the states at the conference, including Syria.

Bentsur pointed out that the announcement was in keeping with a proposal Levy made three months ago that was rejected at the time by the Syrians. He suggested this might provide an opening for a bridging formula that would enable negotiations to resume.

The possibility of resuming talks with Syria on the basis of the Madrid Conference was expected to be discussed by Levy, Bentsur and Moratinos at their meeting.

Under the Labor government, the sides appeared on the verge of a Golan-for-peace deal, but it was never finalized. The Netanyahu government opposes a complete Golan pullout.

Bentsur told Israel Radio that Israel is open to renewing the peace talks based on the Madrid model, which imposed no preconditions on either side.

Netanyahu participated in the Madrid Conference as deputy foreign minister.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Blair sympathetic to Jewish concerns

By JOSEPH MILLIS
London Jewish Chronicle

LONDON — As 18 years of Conservative rule in Britain are swept away in a tidal wave of anger, discontent and frustration, Anglo-Jewry is waking up to the fact that the new Labor-led government will be the first in a generation to be without any recognizable members of the community.

Analysis

In addition, some of the community's better known political supporters — both Jewish and non-Jewish — are among the more than 170 Conservative parliamentarians who lost their seats in the May 1 elections that brought Prime Minister Tony Blair to power.

But Britain's youthful new premier can be expected to be sympathetic to the needs of the country's Jewish population.

A devout Christian and Britain's youngest prime minister since 1812, the 44-year-old Blair has close links with the Jewish community and sees Judaism's values and morals as mirroring his own.

Some of his biggest backers in the run-up to his landslide victory were prominent members of the Jewish community.

In addition, when they were young lawyers, Blair and his wife, Cherie, shared offices with Eldred Tabatchnik, who is president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the community's national lay leadership organization.

The three have remained close friends ever since.

The new Labor government is expected to take a tough line on racism.

When it was in the opposition, the party had initiated legislation to make Holocaust denial illegal, in line with the policies of other western European countries.

Labor is also likely to support moves to tighten up legislation on the publication of racist and anti-Semitic literature.

Regarding the Middle East, there are likely to be few changes in Britain's stance, especially since the country is already thought to be among the friendliest in Europe toward Israel.

There will be few, if any, specific policy changes because these are governed both by the civil servants at the Foreign Office — once referred to as the "Camel Corps" because of a perceived pro-Arab bias — and by the joint policies of the European Union, with which Britain is now expected to have closer ties.

Robin Cook, the foreign secretary in the new Blair government, has been at pains to stress that there is little difference between the Labor Party and the Conservatives on Middle East policy.

Issues affecting the Middle East "shouldn't be a political football" between Britain's two main parties, he said.

Cook, who is from Scotland, will play a key role in Britain's negotiations for a new treaty among the 15 members of the European Union that is slated to be finalized next month.

Perhaps the most high-profile Jewish politician to lose in the Labor landslide was Malcolm Rifkind, the foreign secretary of the outgoing Tory government. He was once considered a candidate to take over the leadership of the Conservative Party.

Labor's Greville Janner, a veteran campaigner on behalf of the Jewish community, also will be missing from the incoming Parliament.

Janner, a member of the World Jewish Congress, decided not to run for another term.

Also gone is Conservative John Marshall, who represented a district in northwest London that has a large Jewish constituency.

Although not Jewish, Marshall was well liked by the community and spearheaded some parliamentary campaigns on its behalf, including a call for anti-racist legislation.

Of the 659 seats in the House of Commons, Labor won 419, giving it 179 more seats than all the other parties combined. The Conservatives won only 165 seats, suffering its heaviest defeat since 1832 and ending its 18 years in power that began with Margaret Thatcher's 1979 victory.

After losing, former Prime Minister John Major relinquished leadership of the Conservatives. There are now several contenders for the unenviable job of reviving the badly bruised party.

Although Britain has no sizable "Jewish vote," some of its 659 constituencies have a Jewish population that presumably swung to Labor — like most of the general populace.

U.S.: No evidence Arafat knew of Trade Center bombing

By HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Justice Department has dismissed a *Jerusalem Post* report alleging Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat knew in advance of the 1993 World Trade Centre bombing, citing a lack of evidence to back up the claim.

In a letter sent to Pennsylvania Sen. Arlen Specter last week, Assistant Attorney General Andrew Fois said the department "is unaware of any information that Yasser Arafat either had prior knowledge of the bombing of the World Trade Centre or was in any way involved in the conspiracy to bomb the building."

The Justice Department also asked Israeli officials about Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled's claims of Israel's knowledge of Arafat's involvement, and "they [the Israelis] deny the accuracy of the statements attributed" to Peled, Fois wrote.

Specter wrote to Attorney General Janet Reno last month asking her to investigate the claims contained in the March 26 Jerusalem Post lead story. In the last Congress, Specter served as chair of the Senate select committee on intelligence.

A senior American official said that the United States never put any credence in the news report and has seen no intelligence indicating Arafat was in any way involved in the plot.

The *Post* report had quoted Peled as saying Arafat "was part of the discussions on the [World Trade Center bombing] operation," and calling on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "to give the information to the Americans, so they'll know who they're dealing with."

PA lawyer arrested

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A lawyer working for the Palestinian Authority (PA) has been jailed in Gaza for writing an article about the Bar-On Affair that compared the PA legal system unfavorably to the Israeli system.

Jamil Salameh, who works at the Ministry of Planning, headed by Nabil Shaath, wrote the article for the Gaza Bar Association journal. But when he showed it to the journal's editors for publication, they passed it on to the public prosecutor, Khalid al-Qidrah, who ordered Salameh arrested.

He was arrested last week and is being held at the Gaza Central Prison.

It is the first time a writer in Gaza has been jailed by the PA for an unpublished article.

The article expressed admiration for the way the Israel Police investigated the Bar-On Affair and commented particularly on the investigation of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi.

Many articles published in the Palestinian press have said the same thing. However, Salameh went further, asking when such an independent legal system would be adopted by the PA, according to Bassem Eid of the Human Rights Monitoring Group.

Eid was speaking at a forum on the media and democracy organized by the Israel-Palestine Centre for Research and Information.

Al-Qidrah said that Salameh was charged with security offences, and that while freedom of the press was to be defended, this did not permit slander.

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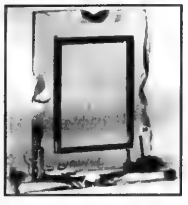

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The Week in Israel

April 28

• IDF troops shot dead 18-year-old Issam Akabneh and lightly wounded another Palestinian during rioting in Haras Village near Hebron on Sunday night. Soldiers and border policemen were attacked with stones and firebombs. To disperse the rioters, soldiers opened fire at the Palestinians, resulting in Akabneh's death.

April 29

• Labor party leadership candidate MK Yossi Beilin held talks with Yasser Arafat in Jericho and offered a three-point formula for breaking the impasse in the peace process. Government spokesperson David Bar-Ilan said the government would not consider the proposal.

April 30

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he had no plans for a cabinet reshuffle in the wake of the Bar-On affair.

• Jonathan Pollard petitioned Israel's High Court demanding the state disclose what is being done to secure his release from jail in the United States.

• Turkey's defence minister began an official three-day visit aimed at strengthening ties with Israel.

May 1

• Netanyahu announced the formation of a ministerial forum with members of the Likud, Gesher and Tsomet in a bid to build confidence in the government following the negative publicity surrounding the Bar-On affair.

• Soldiers and police forcibly removed two trailer homes illegally established near Mizpeh Jericho.

• Israel's soccer team defeated Cyprus 2-0 in a World Cup qualifying match, retaining the top spot in the qualifiers' fifth group.

May 2

• In response to media reports concerning Syrian attempts to acquire nerve gas weapons, Netanyahu said: "The Middle East is not about to explode...but we are watching things closely and are ready to respond. We do have answers."

With files from the JTA.

Egyptian media at 'war'

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

When Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was in Cairo recently for talks with President Hosni Mubarak, he invited Egypt's major newspaper editors for a tete-a-tete. Disdainfully rejecting his invitation, they added insult to injury by launching ad hominem attacks on Netanyahu in the form of blistering editorial comments and inflammatory cartoons.

Observers were hardly surprised. Since Egypt became the first Arab country to sign a peace treaty with the Jewish state in 1979, Israel and its leaders, their political affiliations notwithstanding, have been consistently vilified in the Egyptian press.

As a result, an entire generation of Egyptians has been weaned on a fairly steady diet of anti-Israel — and anti-Semitic — vitriol. At the very least, this hostility weakens Israel's pivotal relationship with Egypt and thereby contributes to the cold peace between the two nations.

Furthermore, since Egyptian newspapers are read throughout the region, it is quite probable that their nasty treatment of Israel and Jews has a negative impact on public opinion in the Arab world.

At a press conference in Washington last month, following the release of an Anti-Defamation League report entitled *Anti-Semitism in the Egyptian Media,* Mubarak was asked to comment on the subject.

Obviously prepared for the questions, Mubarak replied that he could not, nor would not, try to control Egypt's "free press." Then, to no one's astonishment, his aides released a booklet of unflattering Israeli press accounts and cartoons about Egypt that Mubarak described as "racist."

On the other side of town, meanwhile, Egypt's foreign minister, Amr Moussa, blithely told U.S. congressmen that the whole matter had been blown out of all proportion. How, he wondered disengenuously, could Arabs be anti-Semitic when they were Semites themselves?

In point of fact, the media in Egypt is notoriously anti-Israel and anti-Semitic. Islamic and Arab nationalist-oriented newspapers are the worst offenders. But, as the Anti-Defamation League report points out, mainstream, mass-circulation government-backed newspapers, such as *Al-Ahram* and *Al-Gouhuriyya,* can be equally as harsh.

In defaming Israel, the Egyptian press repeatedly harps on several themes, all too often blurring the differences between anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism.

Israel is racist, militaristic and expansionist. Netanyahu is another Hitler. Israel seeks to dominate the Middle East through economic means. Israel is flooding Egypt with fruits and vegetables laced with poison. Israel is spreading the AIDS virus to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Israeli-made chewing gum, exported to Egypt, is intended to make Arab women promiscuous.

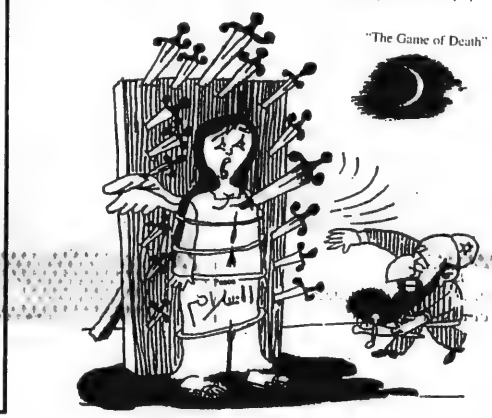
Judaism is a sinister religion, based upon blood rituals and cabals. Jews are trying to undermine Islam. Israel is the base of an international Jewish conspiracy.

These Nazi-like calumnies not only dehumanize Jews and delegitimize Israel, but constitute a major setback to the development of normal relations between Egypt and Israel.

Usually, anti-Israel and anti-Semitic rhetoric reaches a crescendo of intensity during stressful periods. In the 1980s, Israel was lambasted for bombing Iraq's nuclear reactor, annexing the Golan Heights, constructing settlements in the territories, invading Lebanon and trying to crush the intifadah.

More recently, Israel has been excoriated for refusing to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, blocking an investigation over allegations that Israeli troops killed Egyptian prisoners of war in 1956 and again in 1967, opening an archeological tunnel in East Jerusalem and building a residential neighborhood in Har Choma over the protests of the Palestinians.

Amid these developments, the Egyptian press is likely to step up its virulent campaign against Israel and Jews. Israel and Egypt are at peace, but you may not know it by reading Egyptian newspapers.



Al-Ahram, March 1, 1994

JIAS CANADA

NOTICE

RE: 1997 Annual Meeting

The 1997 Annual Meeting of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba at the Jewish Community Campus on Sunday, June 22, 1997 at 9:30 a.m.

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Yom Ha'atzmaut

Diaspora Jews can help Israel's democracy

By IRVING GREENBERG

Forty-nine years ago, the Jewish people created a nation state.

The Jewish state was born in a cauldron of ethnic conflict and religious clashes. But despite its internal problems, Israel saw itself as the state of the Jewish people worldwide and felt an obligation to them. It took on responsibilities that transcended national boundaries.

Under the Law of Return, hundreds of thousands of individuals, even those who would have been excluded from other countries for medical or financial reasons, were admitted, taken care of and fully integrated.

Israel also acted as the guardian of persecuted Jews elsewhere and in effect, intervened in the domestic politics of other states in order to do so.

In turn, Israel was caught in a crossfire. It drew the wrath of Joseph Stalin for undermining the monolithic Soviet empire. Third World movements and radical blacks attacked the Jewish state as a way of attacking the westernized white world to which world Jewry belonged.

For their part, Jews worldwide gradually overcame their fear of being tarred with the brush of dual loyalty. Jews sang Hatikvah as their people's anthem, not stopping to get permission from the countries of which they were citizens.

They undertook to lobby national policies on Israel. They raised substantial funds to build Israel and they created a powerful network of links to Jews all over the world.

As an outgrowth of the pro-Israel policies, North American Jews eventually became leading supporters of foreign aid.

Similarly, the demand to intervene in oppressor countries to help suffering Jewish communities turned into disproportionate Jewish support for pro-democratic and interventionist foreign policies. No wonder the International Campaign for Tibet and recently, the nascent movement to check persecution of Christians worldwide turned to the Jewish community for help.

Out of deep attachments to fellow Jews and Judaism's classic teaching that no loyalty, other than to God, should be absolute, Jewry has developed a model to fight the negative aspects of nationalism.

This model is also good for the internal life of Jews. Ten years ago, the "Who Is A Jew?" controversy erupted. In defiance of the logic that democratic politicians must serve only their voters, Israel's political leadership derailed a law that was backed by local voters in favor of the counter needs and feelings of Diaspora Jews who had no vote in Israel.

Even now when the new law disqualifying non-Orthodox conversions in Israel appears to be irresistible due to the makeup of the ruling coalition, the objections of Diaspora Jews have exerted their influence. Many Knesset members are uneasy. A national unity government would likely stop the legislation.

North American Jews must bear down not only to affect this legislation, but to build multiple loyalties in Israel that will help it be a better democracy.

The concept of multiple loyalties also has helped make Israel the most magnetic, vibrant total Jewish environment in the world today.

The sense of profound intertwining of destiny remains one of the deep structures of Jewish identity. Therefore, study and living experiences in Israel are among the most powerful Jewish identity-affirming mechanisms.

Jews should reject the policies that use Israel's ox to gore North American Jewish denominations. They should equally resist calls to distance ourselves from Israel over these issues. Instead, North American Jews should determine how communal funds can underwrite a massive upgrade of Jewish identity through the Israel experience.

When all Jewish children are connected to Israel through living and study, they will be permanently connected to the Jewish people and the Jewish tradition as well. Thus, the next Jewish generation will be a force for internationalism and humane foreign policy even as it links the Diaspora and Israel — and Israelis and Diaspora Jews — in an unbreakable bond.

***

Irving Greenberg is president of The National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership (CLAL).

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Yom Ha'atzmaut

Canadian karate champ finds new life in IDF

By EDGAR ASHER
Special to The CJN

PARDESS HANNAH — He welcomes you like an old friend. Big creases appear near his mouth and at the corner of his eyes as he smiles and offers you his hand. From his gentle demeanor you would never guess that he is a world class karate champion. In fact, for three years, from 1992 to 1994, Yossi Schlesinger was the karate champion of the Canadian and American Association of Karate.

"You know I was a violent child," Schlesinger says in response to the comment that he does not appear to be very aggressive. "When I was six years old I used to get beat up a lot by the kids at school. I was a weak child. My mum said, 'Enough is enough, you've got to learn how to defend yourself from the school bullies.' So she enrolled me in a judo class near my home in Kiryat Yam [near Haifa]. I really took to judo, it gave me self-confidence and courage to face up to people and look after myself. It got a bit out of hand and I was using my newly learned skills aggressively."

Schlesinger was born in Kiryat Yam in 1971. In 1974, his parents divorced and Schlesinger and his mother moved to Canada. However, when he was six years old his mother decided to return to Israel.

"It was very hard for me," Schlesinger said. "I didn't have a father to help me and perhaps that is why I had this aggressive period after I learned judo. It didn't last too long because my grandfather sorted me out and got me in good order."

Just four months after his bar mitzvah, Schlesinger returned to Canada with his mother and his sister and settled in North York. He went to Northview Heights Secondary School and he decided to further develop his interest in sport by playing basketball and doing gymnastics. At the same time, he decided to take his martial arts passion a step further and he began to learn ju-jitsu and kung fu.

"Soon after I arrived back in Canada I heard that they were giving karate lessons at the Jewish Community Centre (JCC). I went and joined the karate class and I enjoyed it very much. Besides giving me body power, it gave me a deep inner peace. It enabled me to control my temper."

He continued to learn other arts similar to karate. By 1993, already a champion and a teacher, he had earned a third degree black belt in karate.

"The year 1993 was important for me because I came to Israel to represent Canada in the Maccabiah Games. Unfortunately, I was disqualified on a technicality. Anyway, I was so happy to be in Israel again that I decided I would come back for good and make aliyah. I never really felt at home in Canada. I just didn't feel Canadian. And I had dreamt since I was a teenager of becoming an officer in the Israeli army. When I came back and met my friends again, it was as though I had never left. My friends are like brothers."

Yossi Schlesinger

In December 1996, Schlesinger then 25, made aliyah, leaving his mother and sister in Toronto. Almost immediately, he applied to join the army.

"I was attracted to a career in the army because of my karate experience," he said. "Army discipline is the same as in the martial arts. Karate helps you under pressure. I wanted to join a *cravi* [fighting] unit and eventually train to become an officer."

Schlesinger's induction into the IDF was to be his first test of army discipline, because most of his immediate instructors were younger than he was and the new recruits were 18 years old. He joined an armored corps unit and after his basic training, he began his training on tanks.

"I had no problem being with younger guys. We were all friends together, we all helped each other. I am not saying that it wasn't hard at times, but even greasing a tank can be fun if you think it's necessary and important."

The IDF, as a people's army, has developed institutions that are unique. One such category is known as *chayal boded* (the single soldier). Many young people who are in Israel without their immediate family, such as children of Israelis living abroad are given this category. The army will help such soldiers in all aspects of their everyday life, including with additional financial help, rent accommodation and contribution towards other household bills. The *chayal boded* will also be given extended leave to go abroad and visit his family.

"The army is always ready to help me. After my basic training, I started learning all about tanks. There is always a distance between the officers and new soldiers, but we have a respect for each other. The discipline in karate helps me a great deal in the army."

When he is on leave, Schlesinger lives here in Pardess Hannah, about 13 kilometres south of Kiryat Yam where he was born. He rents a small apartment from the Kodoshi family.

"When I came back to Israel at the end of last year," he said, "I found a job in a large home and gardens supermarket near Pardes Hannah. Reuven Kodoshi was the manager of the supermarket and he soon became my adopted brother. Reuven had a son, also named Yossi, who fell in the 1973 Yom Kippur War."

Schlesinger would like to see more routine instruction in the martial arts in the IDF. "Apart from the obvious practical value as self defence, which is good for everybody, it teaches you to learn self respect and respect for others."

The first part of his dream has been fulfilled. He is confident that the long and difficult path to becoming an officer will also come about. He also dreams of one day representing Israel in international karate competitions. To this end, he has devised his own style of karate which he calls kihondo (the spirit of the mind).

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IPO celebrates 60 years

By SARAH HERSHENSON
Special to the CJN

Opening of the Mann Auditorium, home of the IPO in Oct. 1957. Leonard Bernstein is conducting. David Ben-Gurion is at his side.

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra (IPO) knows how to throw a party. The year 1996 marked its 60th anniversary and for two weeks in December, conductor Zubin Mehta, members of the IPO, and 17 of the music world's finest soloists celebrated with 12 star-studded performances.

All concerts were sold out and several performances were broadcast live on radio and television. Such was the atmosphere, that soloists even showed up at concerts at which they were not playing. "Are you having a night off?" Pinchas Zuckerman was asked. "No" he answered with a smile. "A night off is going to the movies." He was backstage, he said, to enjoy the wonderful event and the excellent music with family and friends.

"We are the 'Kosher Nostra' quipped Daniel Barenboim, pianist and conductor. Each soloist volunteered his or her services, including conductors Mehta and Kurt Masur; violinists Itzhak Perlman, Zuckerman, Isaac Stern, Gil Shaham, Shlomo Mintz, Maxim Vengerov, Ida Haendel, Mannheim Breuer, Ariel Shamai, and Ivry Gitlis; pianists Barenboim, Murray Perahia, Yefim Bronfman and Itamar Golan, and cellist Mischa Maisky.

Mehta, the IPO's lifetime appointed conductor, emphasized that the IPO and the soloists are like his close family. But, he continued, "No one has been closer to the orchestra than the violinist Issac Stern."

Stern came to the fledgling state 47 years ago to play his first concert with the Israel Philharmonic. "Two important things happened that year," Stern reminisced. "The first, of course, was the establishment of the State of Israel. The second was the feeling of pride to be a Jew — a person among persons, a state among states."

There was a feeling of "belongingness" in the air, said Stern, recalling one of his early concert trips to Israel. "When I got in a cab one afternoon and asked to be taken to some place other than the concert hall, the cab driver looked at his watch and turned to me, 'Don't forget you have a concert tonight, Mr. Stern.' People care, and that is one of the beauties of Israel."

The audience has remained loyal and supportive throughout the years, Stern said. "When the orchestra performed in the small and tattered Ohel Shem Hall that seated 920 people it did not matter. The hall was filled and half the people in the auditorium were in army uniform. Everyone listened from their pores."

Today the orchestra's home is in Tel Aviv at the Mann Auditorium, whose principal benefactor was American Fredric R. Mann, but the audience is as knowledgeable and enthusiastic as ever.

'Kosher Nostra'

Stern also recalls when the Siege of Jerusalem was lifted during the War of Independence and the first convoys of armor-plated buses could break through. The Jerusalem residents, he said, knew that other convoys were coming, but right now they needed music. Members of the IPO were in the first convoy, regardless of the dangers of attack.

A photograph, from the IPO archives, of the orchestra members pushing a bus that had broken down on the road leading to Jerusalem, shows their strength and determination.

In truth, the history of the Israel Philharmonic documents the history of the State of Israel itself. The orchestra was formed in 1936 by the violinist Bronislaw Huberman who persuaded 75 musicians from Europe to go and live in Palestine and play on the "sand dunes of Tel Aviv." The maestro Arturo Toscanini took leave of the NBC Symphony and conducted the IPO's first concert. "This is for humanity," he said.

On May 14, 1948, the IPO proudly played Hatikva at the Declaration of Independence ceremony. The orchestra's senior members recalled the concert in November of the same year for 5,000 war exhausted soldiers who sat on the sand dunes surrounding a newly liberated Beersheva. It was conducted by a young Leonard Bernstein with all the spirit and joy that were to be the trademarks of the man whose love of Israel and the orchestra was boundless.

Throughout the decades, the orchestra grew in prestige and in 1971, the IPO began participating in major European music festivals. Though there were heated discussions as whether or not to perform in Berlin, the decision was made to play, and Mehta led the orchestra in an enthusiastically received performance of Mahler's *Symphony No. 1*. When the cheers of "Encore, Encore" rang out, Mehta turned to the orchestra and declared "Hatikva." Thus our national anthem was played a few hundred meters from the Reichstag, where the annihilation of European Jewry had been planned.

"We have never left the podium," says Avi Shoshani, executive director of the IPO since 1973. "We have been here through wars and changes of governments. Mehta rushed to Israel during the Gulf War to conduct a memorable performance of the Mozart Requiem and Isaac Stern, gas mask in tow, conducted a concert during a Scud attack."

With concerts planned and soloists booked until the year 2000, the Israel Philharmonic looks forward to many more gala anniversary celebrations of music and friendship. A source of pride to all Israelis, the IPO is much more than just another orchestra. It is something unique in musical and Jewish history.

IPO members push their broken-down armored bus on the Burma Road en route to a performance in Jerusalem in 1948.

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Beit din arbitration becoming popular

By Jonathan Shiff

Moshe and Yaffa hired contractors to build a two-storey addition onto their house – basement and ground floor. Before the building was complete, they discovered significant faults in the work that require tearing down the whole addition and having it rebuilt.

Being religious people, and not trusting the courts to act speedily, the parties took the dispute to arbitration in front of three rabbis.

More than 18 months later, the rabbis have still not made a decision, but it appears they are going to find for the contractors.

If that is the final decision, Moshe and Yaffa will have no right to appeal or have a court review the decision.

The arbitrators will not even have to give reasons for their decision.

Danny and Rachel rented a store to a business which sells women's clothing.

After a few months the tenant stopped paying rent and ran off with items belonging to Danny and Rachel worth several tens of thousands of dollars.

The parties referred their dispute to arbitration in front of the Jerusalem beit din, and after several months of stalling on the part of the tenant, Danny and Rachel received a notice that the arbitrators had ruled against them since they did not appear for hearings.

They had never received notice of the phantom hearings.

The above stories are true, and will likely lead to years of costly litigation, in an attempt to overturn the decisions.

It wasn't meant to be that way: as in other parts of the world, the courts are overloaded and cases take years to complete.

It is natural, therefore, that arbitration has become a popular solution.

For religious Jews, the idea of allowing rabbis to decide disputes has an added appeal, since the secular courts are often regarded with suspicion.

The Knesset itself decided to encourage arbitration of civil disputes a few years ago by granting the courts the power, if the parties agree, to transfer lawsuits to arbitrators or to a procedure for making compromises.

In fact, the very same attributes which make arbitration efficient, can often bring on the nightmares described above.

The best way to ensure a speedy decision is to agree that the arbitrator is not bound by the substantive law or the intricate laws of evidence, and is not required to provide reasoning for the decision.

Furthermore, most decisions cannot be appealed unless there have been gross violations of a party's rights, such as if the arbitrator makes a decision without hearing both sides.

This should be a recipe for quick decisions which do not end up back in court.

On the other hand, if the arbitrator is not proficient in the subject under dispute, or if there is a conflict of interest, the results can be disastrous.

I know of one arbitrator who found for the plaintiff but so misunderstood the economic significance of the decision that the result was a huge financial loss due to what was essentially a mathematical error.

If a court had made such a mistake, the decision could have been appealed and reversed.

In this case, the plaintiff had no recourse.

On the other hand, it has become common for parties to large disputes over salaries, pensions and the like to refer the matter to an accountant, who is often able to make a quick decision based on a thorough understanding of both the law and the numbers.

Recent changes in the law in Israel also provide for alternate dispute resolution in divorce cases, and several lawyers have taken courses where they learn both the law regarding division of assets and the skills required to facilitate compromise between parties in an emotionally charged situation.

In such cases, arbitration can save significant amounts of money for the parties involved as well as years of heartache and litigation.

The savings to the court system are probably incalculable.

According to the Mishnah, there is a shortcut which is long, and a long way which is short.

It would be in the best interests of many people to try arbitration as a way to bypass the clogged courts and impatient judges who populate them.

At the same time, experience has made it difficult to recommend arbitration except in very specific cases.

For too many people, this shortcut ends up being very long and expensive indeed.

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I had to stay in bed for six months. During this time I was introduced to Beit Halochem in Tel Aviv. I initially visited the Centre for physiotherapy and then learned there were many more activities. Beit Halochem became my second home. Everyone made me feel very comfortable because everyone was in the same boat. I felt protected and cared for. I have no doubt that Beit Halochem helped me in the best way possible. There were days when they actually helped me forget my dreadful injuries.

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Cohen overcomes her disability to help others

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Like thousands of others, Sheri Cohen has been coping with learning disabilities that are invisible yet affect her in a number of ways.

Because of what she herself has had to cope with, she understands the unique needs of individuals with learning disabilities and she has embarked on a number of voluntary projects and a career aimed at helping them live a better life and increase their opportunities to have fair and equal access to employment.

Born and educated in Winnipeg, Cohen, 40, says she struggled through her school years and required tutors. Her disabilities were not diagnosed until she was 28 years old. She has visual-spatial problems and difficulty dealing with abstract reasoning and in sequencing information — which means that she has difficulty with reading, writing and mathematics.

"I always knew I had a problem, but never knew what it was," she says, adding that after her problem was recognized, she began to develop strategies for coping.

For example, she began dictating into a tape recorder and transcribing and editing her material.

After moving to Toronto, she began a support group for adults, The Learning dis-Abilities Network, and a women's support group.

She went back to school and received a social service worker diploma from Centennial College in 1990 and a bachelor of social work degree from Ryerson University in 1996.

Using experience gained over 15 years of working with adolescents and adults with developmental disabilities, children and adults with autism and seniors through various home support agencies, she recently formed Sherco Consulting, working with learning disabled individuals.

"I and my associates believe that there is a lack of direct services for adults with learning disabilities and although community agencies are providing some services, we found that there wasn't ongoing expertise to help these individuals."

Cohen recently spearheaded a feasibility study in the Toronto area to examine existing services for adults with learning disabilities and to identify gaps in these services. A consumer board of people with learning disabilities was established and research consultants were hired to study numerous areas of concern, including employment-related issues.

Need for employment agency

Cohen says the preliminary results of the study indicate that there is a need for an agency which would provide employment opportunities, help people understand their learning disability, engage experts such as vocational and career counsellors and work with employers to educate them about people with learning disabilities.

She hopes that when the report is published this month, funding agencies, foundations, grants and other donations will make the needed resources available to individuals who, she says, "have been sadly neglected in the past."

Pediatric psychology award launched

TORONTO — The new Reva Gerstein Graduate Studentship in Pediatric Psychology at The Hospital for Sick Children (HSC) is the first endowed graduate student training award in pediatric psychology in Canada.

Endowed in perpetuity at the level of $500,000, the award honors Gerstein for her outstanding contribution and exemplary leadership on behalf of the children and families served by the hospital.

"I'm absolutely thrilled to receive this honor," says Gerstein. "The training program brings together two things that are very meaningful to me: psychology and The Hospital for Sick Children."

Gerstein is an HSC honorary trustee and an HSC Foundation director. Her volunteer work with the boards spans 25 years.

"I believe that this training program will reaffirm and strengthen the human aspects of ill health, embracing a broader idea of human development, one which takes into account the social aspects of our health," she says. "It feels like the continuation of work I began over 50 years ago, encompassing my growing interest in the neurological basis of coping skills."

Gerstein began her career with a PhD in developmental psychology. A recipient of the Order of Canada and the Order of Ontario, she is known for championing the rights and concerns of the vulnerable in society. She has received the National Hincks Award, and was appointed to the Premier's Health Strategy Council, where she chaired the committee on healthy public policies. She founded the Gerstein Crisis Centre for Psychiatric Patients in Toronto in 1988.

The announcement was made on Gerstein's birthday.

"Through this training award, Sick Kids will be able to attract the top graduate students into priority areas of the hospital, consistent with the hospital's mission," says Dr. Brian Shaw, director of psychology. "Most importantly, it will enable these students to work with the top pediatric psychology team in North America."

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CD's upbeat music has political message

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Marcia Beck and Friends Lisa recently launched their first CD with a concert that garnered cheers and encores from over 150 people at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

"There was so much warmth from the audience it felt like we were playing at a party," Beck said. "This was a big moment for us and it was wonderful to share with this audience. They were incredibly supportive."

The release of the CD, *Another Live Show*, was the "culmination of years of work," said singer/songwriter Beck, who's also a social worker.

In deed, Beck, 27, who has been singing semi-professionally since she was a teenager, began writing songs when she was seven years old, she said, noting that at the age of eight, she formed her first group with three other girls.

Beck put her current group together in 1994, but her friendship with the two Lisas (Lisa Barnoff and Lisa Goodman) dates back to her school days. Their instrumentals are limited to acoustic guitar and simple percussion instruments like the bongo drum.

The group performed a musically versatile selection of songs written and arranged by Beck at the concert, opening with *Generations of Children*, a song from the CD. Like most songs Beck writes, *Generations* has a strong social political message: Many people talk the talk about changing the world, but few are prepared to risk what they have to walk the walk of change. The music is up-beat and playful, with the vocal arrangements somewhat reminiscent of the mid-'60s pop style.

When You Understand Me, the second song of the first set and the opening song on the CD, beckons people to work harder to achieve greater harmony and understanding with one another. As in the CD, this arrangement featured prominent percussion, giving the piece a slight Middle Eastern flavor.

Beck textures the vocals by throwing her voice into falsetto à la Joni Mitchell. Beck said Mitchell's music has been a major influence on her own work.

Rise from Slumber, Beck's favorite song on the CD, is a "call to action. We can support each other in our struggle for social justice."

Slumber's slow, lyrical melody showcases the a cappella quality of the trio's impeccable three-part harmony.

Marcia Beck

Beck grew up in North York where she studied piano and voice. In her mid-teens she did the musical arrangements for Silver Lining, a female a cappella group.

At McGill University, where she studied communications, Beck took up the guitar, continued writing songs and performed regularly at a Montreal coffee house.

After finishing her masters in social work at the University of Toronto, she travelled to Israel and spent six months on a kibbutz. During her stay, she played at a folk festival near Jerusalem. Festival organizers subsequently featured her at folk music venues across the country.

Performing in Israel gave Beck the confidence to launch her singing career when she returned to Canada in 1993, she said. "I saw it was something I could really do seriously. It was something people would really appreciate."

Beck divides her time between a private practice in feminist counselling and her singing career. She has no plans to abandon social work, she said, because she feels helping people in need is a way she "can make a difference in this world.

"I like to think I'm spending half my time listening and half my time singing."

Marcia Beck and Friends Lisa will be appearing at the Free Times Cafe at 320 College St. May 14 at 8:30 p.m.

Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

LOST JEWISH MASTERPIECE FOUND

Stashed inside a book when its Jewish owner fled Nazi Germany in 1939, a painting by **Moritz Oppenheim**, the first major Jewish artist of modern times, was recently rediscovered by the owner's widow in Tel Aviv.

Unsure of its value, the widow took the 20-by-30-centimetre, oil-on-canvas portrait of a rabbinical-looking man to Sotheby's for appraisal.

"Every time I looked at it, it reminded me more and more of the work of 19th century artist Moritz Oppenheim, but so few works by Oppenheim survived the Holocaust I hardly dared to believe that this could be one of them," said David Breuer-Weil, an appraiser at the famed auction house.

"The painting was covered with a very dirty old varnish, so after gentle cleaning, I examined the painting under magnification and was amazed to find in the bottom right hand corner the monogram signature which Oppenheim frequently used."

Moritz Oppenheim (1800-82) was born in the ghetto town of Hanau near Frankfurt and, assisted by the Rothschilds and other aristocrats, turned to painting scenes of Jewish family life in his later years.

The rediscovered canvas was expected to fetch as much as $60,000 at a recent auction in Tel Aviv.

Painting & Sculpture

• UJPO Senior's Organization features folk painter **Meyer Kirshenblatt**, who uses slides of his paintings to illustrate the richness of Jewish life in the small town of Opatow, Poland between 1920 and 1934. Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave., May 12, 12:30 p.m. Admission $3 includes light lunch. 416-789-5502.

• Sculptor's Society of Canada presents the 1997 exhibition of its members' works, May 6 to 31, John B. Aird Gallery, 900 Bay St. at Wellesley, ground floor. Sonja Bata speaks (7 p.m.) at opening May 6, 6 to 9 p.m.

• Transformation: Prix Saidye Bronfman Award, 20 years worth of award winners presented by Seagrams at the Art Gallery of Ontario, May 8 to Aug. 4. Created by the Canadian Museum of Civilization in collaboration with The Samuel and Saidye Bronfman Family Foundation and the Canadian Crafts Council.

Israeli mime artist Hanoch Rosenn.

Music, Dance, Theatre, Film

• "Mime," says 37-year-old Israeli mime artist **Hanoch Rosenn**, "lies somewhere between dance and theatre, and for me it's a way to communicate with people who don't speak my language." See him at the Leah Posluns Theatre to find out why he's received rave reviews from Hong Kong to New York, Mexico City to Montreal. May 12, 8:15 p.m. Tickets $24.50 (two for $49). Presented by the Consulate General of Israel, Bank Hapoalim and the Bathurst Jewish Centre. 416-651-0551.

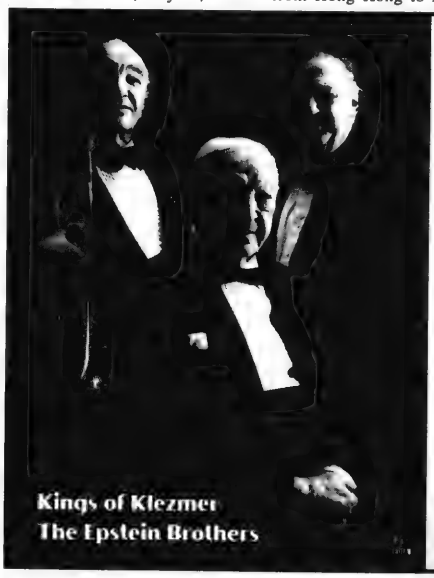
• The United Jewish People's Order is screening the 14-minute video **In Living Memory, Amy Gottlieb's** tribute to her father **Harry Gottlieb**, a visual artist and activist.

A performance by Yiddish folksinger **David Wall** of **The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band** rounds out the evening. May 4, 7:30 p.m., Morris Winchevsky Centre.

• Toronto Jewish Folk Choir performs its 71st annual spring concert with guest artists Chutzpah klezmer band. Composer **Milton Barnes** conducts his own work, *Fantasy on Jewish Themes*, featuring soloist **Michael Mandel**. May 11, 2:30 p.m., Walter Hall, Edward Johnson Building, 80 Queen's Park Rd. (near Museum subway station). Adults $15. 416-492-7110 or 416-489-7681.

• *Man Of La Mancha* by Stage Centre Productions continues at Fairview Library Theatre. May 14 at 8 p.m., May 10 & 17 at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. Adults $15. 416-299-5557.

• The Russian Dance & Music Company returns to the Leah Posluns Theatre, May 15, 16 and 31. Adults $20. 416-224-1296.



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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

A TIME FOR REMEMBRANCE

"Even unto them will I give in My house/ And within My walls a monument and a memorial / Better than sons and daughters; / I will give them an everlasting memorial/ That shall not be cut off."

— Isaiah 56:5

Groping through the blackness, one sees nothing but countless yellow dots of light, arrayed like an eerie city, silent and nameless in the dark.

These luminous pinpoints represent the more than one million children who perished in the Holocaust.

It is, of course, done with mirrors. In actuality, even though the eye takes in many thousands of flickering dots stretching to an illusory horizon, only four candles illuminate the simple yet powerful Children's Memorial at Yad Vashem.

Israel's famous museum of the Holocaust is not a pleasant place to visit but, for anyone seriously attempting to understand the modern Jewish psyche, it is an essential place to visit.

Since it was founded on Jerusalem's Mount Herzl in 1953, Yad Vashem has grown into a sombre complex of such sprawling proportion that the hill is now known as Har HaZikaron, the Mount of Remembrance.

Upon arrival, one walks along the Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations to the complex's centrepiece, a Historical Museum that presents the Holocaust chronologically through photographs, artifacts, documents and audio-visual aids.

The Israeli government still routinely arranges escorted private tours through this section for visiting heads of state and other VIPs, who usually emerge ashen-faced but far more aware of this definitive tragedy of Jewish history.

Archivists in Yad Vashem's Hall of Names are working to computerize the collected names and biographies of millions of martyrs, even as they continue their quest to obtain "Pages of Testimony" for all of the Six Million.

As part of its master plan, the institution is amassing newly available Holocaust-related documents from Eastern Europe and gathering videotaped eyewitness testimony in cooperation with Steven Spielberg's Visual History Foundation. A new archives building is under construction to house the new material along with some 45 million pages of documents already in Yad Vashem's possession.

Communities as well as people were destroyed by the Nazis, and the massive 2½-acre monument known as the Valley of the Communities memorializes thousands of them. Enroute to this stone-filled valley, which is a good 20-minute walk from the main building, one passes memorials to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, to the Deportees, and various other pieces of sculpture.

Last fall, a contingent of Canadians proudly laid the cornerstone on the International Centre's new Canadian Wing.

Yad Vashem's name means "a monument and a memorial," and comes from the above passage from Isaiah. It is closed Saturdays and all Jewish holidays. Admission is free. Allow anywhere from 90 minutes to half a day for a visit. 02-751-611.

* * *

Jerusalem City Guide: One of the most informative and cleanly written guidebooks to the Jewish state is *Lonely Planet's Israel*, which has served me well on my last two trips. A new release by Lonely Planet, the Jerusalem city guide (276 pages, $18.50) is equally informative on its more specific subject, and has the added benefit of being pocket-sized.

Any visitor who sets out by foot through the Old City, the New City or even East Jerusalem will appreciate the cleanly-drawn, detailed maps as well as the sensible traveller's advice for which Lonely Planet writers are renowned.

Careful readers may find a few bloopers in this first edition, such as two references to Canada's "acclaimed novelist Mordechai Richlieu."

Also, the book seems to mock Israel's so-called "ultra-Orthodox" minority.

Albeit subtle, the condescension is immature and unnecessary.

Counterbalancing these flaws, however, is much fresh information about little-known but worthy sites of interest, walking tours and panoramic viewing points.

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CORRECTION

On page 43 of the May 1 issue, the correct photographer's credit should have been Barry Shaninbaum.

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Repairs to washers, dryers, dishwashers and stoves. 2 yrs warr. Same Day Service. **FREE est.**
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Ahlfeld Appliance Ltd. Very reasonable and reliable service to your dishwasher, fridge, stove, washer, dryer & air conditioning. We pride ourselves on honesty. **Free est.** (905) 669-6561.

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368 CARPETS

CARPET CLEANING
Powerful Truck Mounted Steam/Soil Extraction

For Quality Service
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Professional Carpet Systems
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Brit Milah • Bar/Bat Mitzvahs
Home or Office • Shiva Meals • Corporate Accounts
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Weddings • Bar Mitzvahs
Tri ✡ Elm Catering
3 Banquet Halls • Joe Elmaleh
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Complete Janitorial Services Walls, Rugs, Smoke, Water Damage. 416-751-5885 or call Mobile 518-2740.

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405 FURNITURE

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410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS

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Fill-Ins	$15.00
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Before signing any contract make sure your contractor is appropriately licensed with the **Metropolitan Licensing Commission 392-3000**

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Women's talits: Unique handcrafted talit sets by a Jerusalem artist. 905-886-4969.

445 MOVING

B-K Movers. 2-28' trucks. Homes, offices, apts. Family busnss. Reasonable. 274-6144.

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Having a Simcha? Than you need a speech! Let me help you create one, perfect for the occasion. 416-485-7745.

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Every Person Has a Story. Don't lose those **precious memories!** Your Movies, slides & photos transferred to Video. ********Bar & Bat Mitzvah ******** *Video Coverage from $495.* **Spotlight Video 905-886-3210**

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Paralegal Services. Small Claims, Landlord & Tenant, Family Court, Uncontested Divorce kits, Process Serving, Reasonable Rates.Karen Kirsch & Associates. (416) 663-6135.

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TABLE PADS
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510 UPHOLSTERY

Arctic Custom Upholstering Free est. Let us beautify your yesterdays furniture. Free armcovers, free toss pillows with every 2-piece suite. 665-3445.

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• best prices by experienced and reliable company
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Shop at home. Verticals, venetians, rolling shades, pleated blinds, reupholstering, invisible repairs, cushion rubber change, stainguarding. Work guaranteed, **Free est.** Call anytime 224-2211, 223-1655.

520 WINDOW COVERINGS

Moshade. Blinds, Verticals, Venetians, Drapery tracks. Call 905-886-2352.

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for information on classified ad rates

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365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
378 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
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430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
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439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
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451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
453 GIFT SERVICES
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470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
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480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
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510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
550 WORKSHOPS

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

SPECTACULAR HOME ON 2 ACRES OF RAVINE
Highest quality, inground pool, $1,329,000. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

LOWER VILLAGE TUDOR – 6 BDRM. $859K
Mn. flr. fam. & den, gorgeous garden. Susan Smith* 488-2875

CASA LOMA AREA 1ST AD - 210' LOT
2 stry 4 bed, 5 bath, main flr fam. rm., walk-out to deck, cac., fin. lower level. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

YONGE-LAWRENCE STONEFRONT
2 sty., 3 bed, 4 baths, double garage. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS
4 bdrm. centre hall, renovated on 50'x142' lot. $459,000. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

CEDARVALE
4 bdrm., 3 bath, huge principal rms., close to temple. Susan Smith* 488-2875

GREAT FAMILY HOME – QUIET STREET
3 bdrms! 3 baths! Steps to all. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

BATHURST/LAWRENCE – $369K
4 bdrm., main flr. fam. rm. & powder room, 72' front. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

BATHURST/EGLINTON – $359K
Just Listed, spacious 3 bedroom. Barbara Peltz** 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS - 1ST AD – $329K
Fab 50'x150' lot, live in SOLD Patti Pollock* 226-1987

BATHURST/EGLINTON - JUST REDUCED – $279K
3 br., 3 baths, fin. bsmt., priv. dr.! David Wagman* 488-2875

LOCATION! LOCATION! BATHURST/WILSON
Spacious 3 bdrm. bunga SOLD 50'x120' ft. lot. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST/DREWRY ON PARK - SPACIOUS
Like new, 2 bdrm., 2 baths. Anne Eidlitz* 226-1987

GORGEOUS UPPER DUPLEX SUB-LEASE!
3 bdrms., 2 baths, lge kit., 2 car pkng. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS TO BE BUILT
6000 sq. ft. of luxury on 80'x150'. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW RIDGE – JUST LISTED 100'x250'
$1,395,000 exec. bungalow. Mark Cowan* 226-1987

EXCLUSIVE BRIDLE PATH AREA! UNIQUE
Stunning 4+ br. reno! Pool. J. Rosenblatt* 488-2875

NEW LISTING - GORDON RD! VALUE!
Custom 5000' 5 bdrm. res. Anna Pollock* 226-1987

FAB 2 YR. OLD HOUSE ON 1/2 ACRE
Pool, tennis ct., 3 car garage. Jerry Uslaner* 226-1987

DESTINY ROSE HOMES & FOREST HILL R.E.
Presents 6 custom built homes in North York. C. Jong*/F.Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW VILLAGE RAVINE! REDUCED
70'x249' reno. bungalow, w/out. Nancy Davar* 226-1987

NEW EXCLUSIVE - LESLIE/YORK MILLS
Fab. 4 bed. reno. bungalow. Anna Pollock* 226-1987

YONGE/YORK MILLS JUST $499K
110'x200' ft. lot, land value only! Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/16 - 5500 SQ. FT. LIVING
Just reduced! Beautiful 4 bdrm., fin. bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/HIGHWAY 7, WON'T LAST
Gorgeous 4 bdrm., 4 baths, cstm blt. home. F. Sversky**/ C. Jong* 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

YONGE & ARNOLD - NEW APPROX. 5000 SQ. FT.
Custom, elegant, 2 more to be built. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

REDUCED – WILTSHIRE-WESTWOOD MODEL
New decor, best street. Marlene Olan* 226-1987

BAYVIEW S. OF 16TH AVE. – $373,900
Must sell! Motivated vendor. R. Bass* 226-1987

BATHURST VILLAGE - BACKSPLIT!
5 bed., close to shuls. Rhoda Blass* 226-1987

ATTN: FIRST TIME BUYERS! $264,900
Cute 4 br., ensuite-shul. Rhoda Blass* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

YONGE/STEELES – $139K
3 bdrm., condo. apt., w/parking. Call Dina Maglietta** 226-1987

NEW LISTING! BLOOR/CHURCH $137K
2 br., 2 bath, freshly painted & new carpets! S. Dick-Goodman* 488-2875

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

Celebrating our 40th Year!

ALLENBY TRADITIONAL $374,900
Charming 3 bedroom, well maintained home with private drive, close to TTC & shopping. **Cheryl L. Joseph***

YONGE/SHEPPARD $499,000
Fantastic floor plan in this very bright 4 bedroom home on quiet cres. Ready to move into. **Cheryl L. Joseph***

AVENUE RD./WILSON $549,000
Stunning 4 bedroom "Wengle" designed home to be built for summer possession. Call **Cheryl L. Joseph***

CALL CHAIM AT AVE./LAWRENCE
470 Melrose-2200 sq. ft. open concept "Walden Homes" 5 bdrm.
476 Bedford Pk. 3200 sq. ft. "Across park" fully loaded.
65 Marmion & 102 Bideford - Homes to be built, choose layout & finishes. Model homes to view. **Chaim Talpalar***

CALL CHAIM AT AVE./LAWRENCE
305 St. Germain-custom stucco, open concept 150' landscaped lot "Doll House" 10++, 2 car pkg. move-in.
549 Fairlawn - Rare 60' south lot 4225 sq. ft. of luxury mn. flr. lib. & fam. rm. Custom millwork. **Chaim Talpalar*.**

DENLOW FABULOUS 5 BEDROOM
$589,000 Move-in & enjoy! Spacious, master w/sitting rm. & ensuite, 5 baths, built-ins, fin. bsmt. Call **Barbara Krieger***

FABULOUS RENOVATED BUNGALOW!
$699,000 - York Mills & Bayview. Huge new kitchen/family room, large lot. Call **Marion Alberga* & Simone Stern***

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to "Turning Point Charity" supporting Homeless Youth.

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NOW PREVIEWING

Just 12 luxury townhomes,
1 km. North of Hwy. 7, on Bathurst.
ONLY 5 LEFT!
- Some with double car garage
- Backing onto lush ravine
- Beside Richmond Hill Country Club & Golf Course
- Finished lower levels with walk out to ravine
- Approx. 2000 sq. ft. and up
- Priced from $249,500

Call Marlon & Clara Green
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Sales Office located at 8909 Bathurst St.
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Sales Representative
BUY & SELL WITH RESULTS
ALAN NEWTON REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR
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40 McKelvey	- $279,900 -	Fin. bsmt.
83 Bayhampton	- $330,000 -	SOLD m.
121 Redondo	- $280,000 -	SOLD smt.
216 Westmount	- $375,000 -	SOLD m.
166 Brownridge	- $275,000 -	SOLD smt.
7440 Bathurst #805	- $166,000 -	SOLD m., 2 baths
900 Steeles #805	- $178,000 -	SOLD m., hdwd. flrs.
58 Dawn Hill	- $379,900 -	4 bdrm., walk-out
98 Theobald's	- $350,000 -	SOLD n., 3300 sq. ft.
35 Hunter's Pt.	- $239,900 -	SOLD n., ingrd. pool

* SOME CONDITIONS APPLY
*NOT INTENDED TO SOLICIT PROPERTIES CURRENTLY LISTED FOR SALE

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

BATHURST MANOR
3 bdrm. bung. on generous 52' lot, bsmt. apt., hrdwd. floors, CAC, etc. Great starter home on a great street! Asking $279,900.

BATHURST / BROOKE
3 bdrm. backsplit on 45' x 130' lot, all new construction w / self-contained bsmt. apt. Excellent location, close to all amenities.

COTTAGES! BELLE EWART!
Two side-by-side waterfront cottages, lots totalling 125' x 240', very quiet street, short walk to synagogue, motivated vendors!
Call **Jacob Florans,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

MILL ST.- BATHURST
Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms, 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!
SALLY ROSEN (905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

ARMOUR HEIGHTS - REDUCED
3 bdrm., 2 storey, liv. & din. comb., up-dated kit., fin. bsmnt., lge lot, great buy & location!

OVERBROOK/WILMINGTON
Just listed! 2 ey, 3 bdrm., 3 bths., rec SOLD ravine lot.

BATHURST VILLAGE
4 bdrm. bung., sep. liv. & din., 3 bths., modern kit., fin. w/out bsmnt., dble drive, gar., steps to all.

SHEPPARD/BATHURST
3 bdrm. bu SOLD & din. comb., fin. bsmnt gar.

WILMINGTON/SHEPPARD
3 bdrm., 2 bths., L-shaped liv. & din., fin. bsmnt., gar., move-in cond.

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED
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Broker
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- **HIGH PARK/RONCESVALLES** - 5 units. $265,000. Over 11% return. Excellent income.
- **BATHURST MANOR** - Triplex, $269,900. 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd., dbl gar., excellent income.

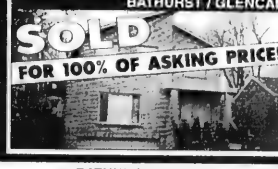
REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

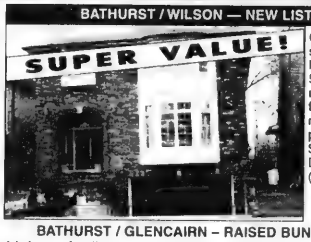
BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Custom executive home, 4 bdrms., 4 baths, fam. room, library, hardwood floors, asking $539,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

BATHURST / WILSON — NEW LISTING



Custom built spacious family home, 5 bdrms., 5 baths, family room, library, finished basement. Incredible price — only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – RAISED BUNGALOW
4 bdrms., family room, 2 kitchens, 3 baths, custom built. ACT NOW — only $429,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
60 ft. frontage, spacious ranch bungalow, ren., new roof, windows, floors, only $369,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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AVENUE RD. / GLENCAIRN – FAB. BLDG. LOT – REDUCED!
70 ft. frontage, OMB approved for 5,000+ sq. ft. new home. Fab. location! Only $389,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS
Brand new, 6 bedrooms, custom designed luxury home. Dream maple kitchen, oak panelled library, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. basement. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

DANBY – SPLENDID RANCH BUNGALOW
Spacious ranch-style bungalow with 65 ft. frontage, 3 + 1 bdrms., sep. entry to bsmt., near Earl Bales Park, lots of potential, only $269,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

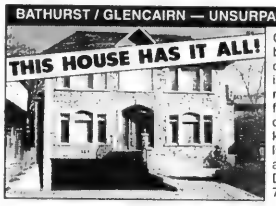
FOREST WOOD CLASSIC
Spacious exec. home, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, huge fam. rm., library, attention to detail, $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

GLEN PARK – REDUCED

Stunning 5 bdrm.! Custom designed and built, dream maple kitchen, luxurious upgrades throughout, sep. entry to finished basement. A MUST SEE! Only $649,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — REDUCED
Fabulous building lot in prestigious location. 50 ft. x 136 ft. Existing bungalow renovated. Only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — UNSURPASSED ELEGANCE!



Custom-designed & built (1990), quality craftsmanship & finishes, 10 ft. ceilings on main floor, 4,600 sq. ft. (approx.) + bsmt., dream designer kitchen, loaded with luxury. A MUST SEE at only $799,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – STORE FOR SALE!
Fabulous location, only $239,000. Ideal for user — priced to sell! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – APARTMENT FOR RENT
Spacious 3 bdrm., 2 baths, balcony, quiet 6-plex, only $1,030/month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

Jewish educator seeks to rent home in Thornhill or B'nai Torah area, beginning July. Call 860-523-4070, lve msg.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

St. Clair/Wychwood North, 2 bdrm apt, liv rm, din rm, lndr rm. in duplex, backyard, gar,$975. 783-8431 or evg.905-886-5515.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

Gideon Waichenberg
North York & Thornhill Specialist
Primrose & Townsgate Condominiums
RE\MAX Venture Realty Corp. Realtor
416-520-5700

– Bathurst/Finch - Huge 5 level backsplit, w/large addition, indoor pool, 50'x170'. $450,000.
– Primrose - 2 br., 2 wr., white kit., w/window. $179,900.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst St., 1 bdrm + den, 5 appls, cac, cable, pkg, 24 hr. secur, sabbath elev, avail July 1.$1100/mo. 905-780-0685

Large lux. condo., 2 bdrm, 2 bath, den, sunroom, Yonge & Finch, $1900/mo, avail. Sept./Dec. Prefer kosher or vegan. 222-2458.

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath/Shepp,spac. condo, furn, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc,pool,pkg, $1050./mo, avail. May 5th, 6 mo. min. 444-4813.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

100 Canyon, lux. 3 bdrm, 2 baths, updated.638-4041, evgs.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

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198 SPACE FOR LEASE

Duff./Lawr. plaza, 2000', pkg, 2 washrooms, reas .444-6137.

215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Property Management: Established professional company provides discreet, reasonable & comprehensive management of income producing properties within Southern Ontario. Please call or fax for further information: Bansley Property Management Inc., 3185 Bathurst St., Suite 103, North York, Ont., Canada, M6A 2B2, Tel: (416) 781-6606 or fax: (416) 781-3270.

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LOOKING FOR ABRAHAM RUBIN
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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the appropriate CJN Box #.**

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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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Planning another marriage?
Children: Yours, His?
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MARITAL COUNSELLING
Specializing in **Re-Marriage and Step-Families**
BY APPOINTMENT **484-4674**

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HERTZMAN/SAKER. Leonard & Jennifer are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, **Rebecca Jane**, on April 16, 1997 in Perth, Australia. Proud grandparents are Harold & Florence Hertzman & Dr. Barry & Beatty Saker of Perth. The baby is named after cousin Jacob Hertzman.

Rita and Larry & Susan and Morley proudly announce the engagement of their children, **Debra Beth Moskovitz** and **Richard Joseph Posner**. Proud grandparents are Anne Quarter & Harry Schilling and the late Aurelia Schilling.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Nordheimer Toronto piano, 650-1261 or 494-7280.

330 OBITUARIES

HERZENBERG, Winston - on April 10, 1997, late of 324 Dudley Ave.

OFFMAN, Jean - on April 10, 1997, late of 1 Benvenuto Pl., #221.

SHULMAN, Rose - on April 11, 1997, late of 240 Heath St. W., #903.

BLUMENFELD, Helen - on April 12, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.

PEARL, Benjamin - on April 12, 1997, late of 10 Kirkland Blvd.

ALLENTOFF, Fay - on April 13, 1997, late of 4981 Bathurst St., #502.

GERSTEIN, Ralph - on April 13, 1997, late of 11 Townsgate Dr.

WAXMAN, Sarah - on April 13, 1997, late of 6 Terrydale Dr.

DALE, Vera - on April 14, 1997, late of 6 Menin Rd.

KATZ, Abe - on April 14, 1997, late of 55 Skymark Dr., #2503.

LOSEV, Elaine - on April 14, 1997, late of P.O. Box 1000.

FINE, Jules - on April 16, 1997, late of 155 Kendal Ave., #401.

GOODMAN-ROBINSON, Freda - on April 17, 1997, late of 111 Wellington.

WINKLER, Edith - on April 17, 1997, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

With great sadness, we announce the passing of **Robert Slipacoff** of Sarnia on Wednesday, April 16, 1997. Beloved husband of Thelma Slipacoff, dear father of Danny and Julie Slipacoff, Shelley and Jerry Werger,Lawry & Tricia Slipacoff Lennie and Cindy Slipacoff and Jill Slipacoff. He will also be missed by all his grandchildren. If desired, memorial donations may be made to Hadassah Wizo Organization of Canada, 416-630-8373.

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
FREDA GRYFE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 11th, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Toronto Hebrew Benevolent Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SOPHIE DAVIS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 18th, 11:00 a.m.
Lambton Hills Cemetery
Grand Order of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HILDA SHIFMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 18th at 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "The Elegant Garage Sale"

KHAKHAMOVITCH, Shmil - on April 13, 1997, late of 35 Cedarcroft Blvd.

LAX, Goldie - on April 14, 1977.

TURCHIK, Ekaterina - on April 14, 1997, late of 1204 St. Jean Baptiste.

MALDOFSKY, Harold - on April 15, 1997.

FAINTUCH, Rose - on April 16, 1997, late of 78 Brookview Dr.

PERRIN, Doreen Ann - on April 17, 1997, late of 208 Cottonwood Crt.

SLESS, Philip Isaac - on April 18, 1997.

SPIGIEL, David - on April 18, 1997, late of 7 Townsgate Dr.

BARANY, Eva - on April 20, 1997, late of 166 Beechwood Ave.

SUISSA, Jacques - on April 20, 1997.

YOUNG, Gertrude - on April 21, 1997.

CLOTH, Bessie - on April 22, 1997, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.

LEWKOWITZ, Abraham - on April 23, 1997.

RABINOVITCH, Rakhil - on April 25, 1997.

CRYSTAL, Rose - on April 26, 1997.

RABKIN, Jules - on April 26, 1997.

SIDOFSKY, Allen - on April 26, 1997, late of 53 Hefhill Crt.

BENNETT, Gertrude - on April 27, 1997.

PUTTER, Esriel - on April 27, 1997.

FRIEDMAN, Goldie - on April 28, 1997, late of 9 Banton Rd.

GOODMAN, Samuel - on April 28, 1997.

LIPTON, Evalyn - on April 28, 1997, late of 321 Chaplin Cres.

TUCH, Tamara - on April 28, 1997.

ZAITLEN, Abe - on April 28, 1997.

NAIMAN, Morris - on April 29, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILING

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

338 SHIVA CATERING

Milk 'n Honey
THE DAIRY RESTAURANT
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DELIVERY AVAILABLE
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3457 BATHURST ST.

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For these ads, address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

Due to the Victoria Day Holiday, the classified advertising deadline for the May 22nd issue will be **Tuesday, May 13th by 2 pm**

The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on **Monday, May 19th.**

CLASSIFIED INDEX

Call 391-1836
for information on classified ad rates

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT-TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

Features

Canadian sun-seekers find pleasure in Cuban hospitality

By JOSEPH SERGE
Travel Editor

VARADERO — Cuba is fast becoming one of the most popular of holiday destinations. In fact, in 1996, one million visitors from around the world vacationed in Cuba, 150,000 of whom were from Canada.

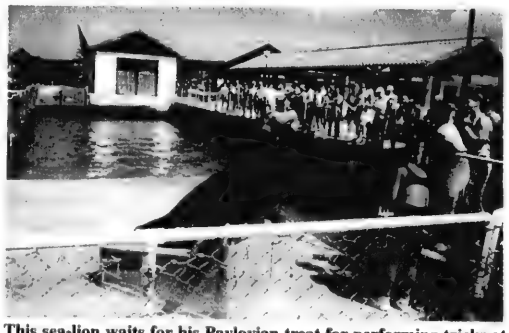
"Nowadays people are not only seeking palm trees, beaches and sun," Juan Jose Vega, president of Cubanacan, Cuba's largest tourism company, said in Havana recently.

"Cuba, the largest island in the Caribbean has a lot more to offer besides its many kilometres of beaches. There are geographic areas to be explored and Cuban culture and history are much more developed than in other Caribbean destinations. Unlike many of the other sun destinations, Cuba is less exploited and cares for the environment.

"Another advantage Cuba has is that we entered the tourism market relatively late and have benefitted from the experience and errors of other places."

Varadero is the most popular resort for most Canadians and there are many hotels along the 20-kilometre strip. Few of the hotels are taller than three storeys. Two of the newest and nicest hotels by far are the Brisas Del Caribe with 263 rooms and the Cubanacan Gran Hotel with 331 rooms, all offering views of the ocean.

Another hotel of note in Varadero is the German-managed Tuxpan. A lot of the hotels in Cuba are managed and/or part owned by foreign companies. By Cuban law, however, no foreign company may own more than 50 percent of any hotel. The Tuxpan is home to one of the most popular nightclubs in Varadero — La Bamba. Open till early in the morning, this is a wonderful place to meet people from all over the world. And for those who miss the taste of home, it even sells Labatts. The Tuxpan has recently introduced a nightly Tropicana show. Although less flamboyant than the popular one in Havana, it is just as entertaining and it's free for guests.



This sea-lion waits for his Pavlovian treat for performing tricks at a marine park near Guardalavaca. [Joseph Serge photo]

For someone looking for someplace more attractive and more peaceful, perhaps for a honeymoon, Santa Lucia in the Camiguey province east of Varadero is perfect. Less of a party town, I found Santa Lucia quite exotic, a perfect place to get away from it all. The sand is powdery white and shell collectors will have a field day.

There are fewer hotels on this 18-kilometre stretch of beach, the most attractive being the all-inclusive Golden Tulip Club Caracol, a Dutch-managed chain. Its 150 rooms are contained in a snail-shell-like design of split-level condos.

The compound is somewhat poorly lit, however, and finding your room at three in the morning after one too many rum punches could be an experience. Trust me, leave the light on in your room; it will be easier to find.

Off shore, Santa Lucia is home to the second largest coral reef in the world. A wonderful place for snorkeling or diving.

Another popular resort, famous for its white beaches is Guardalavaca in Holguin. Guardalavaca is home to the Canadian-co-managed five-star hotel Delta Las Brisas. This 230-room all-inclusive resort has everything — sun, sparkling beach, fun, sand, water-sports, horseback riding and night life. And like any Cuban hotel, a pleasant and helpful staff.

One of the highlights of my recent trip to Cuba was the dolphin aquarium, 15 minutes away from the hotel. Swim in a salt-water pool and feel the surreal experience of having up to six dolphins swim up to you.

Further south, east of Santiago de Cuba, lie the Sierra Maestras, a beautiful panoramic stretch of mountains and lush, green forest where Fidel Castro started the Revolution. A trip up to the top of the Gran Piedra (Great Rock), 1,000 metres above sea level is worth the 400-stair journey. Up at the top you can take in all the sights of the sea and forest and listen to the gush of a nearby waterfall and the sounds of chirping birds and other wildlife. A very spiritual experience.

La Gran Piedra is an excellent ecotour destination for hikers, climbers, nature lovers or travellers really looking to get away from it all. The Gran Piedra houses 22 separate cottage-like cabanas and restaurants. It's like Muskoka without all the bugs.

The Cubans, generally, are free-spirited, very hospitable, easy-going and love to talk. From the old, toothless woman in Havana who wanted to know where we were from; to the taxi driver in Santiago who told us all about his boxing days in New York in the late '40s; to Hernandes our bus driver who,standing atop the Gran Piedra told us his life story and how the Revolution affected his family; to the university student at an auto museum who called himself Picasso and drew caricatures of us all (for free); to Lilly our tour guide, who frankly explained to us sexuality in Cuba — "There are approximately seven women for every man in Cuba because of the war in Angola [Cuba's Vietnam]," she explained. "So it's not unusual for a married man to have mistresses in every province."

"We have gone through very difficult years, especially after 1989," Vega admitted. "Tourism is a substantial source of labor. Most importantly the tourism industry and its continued development have contributed to major economic activities such as agriculture, transportation, construction, airports, infrastructure."

Joseph Serge was in Cuba recently as a guest of Cubanacan.

See more Travel, Arts & Business on the Inside Back, page 51.

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ORLY

We miss you.
We will always love you.

Bubby and Zaidy
Aunt Pearl and Aunt Edyie

WATKIN-AGASI-FEIG

Orly left us three years ago.
Her sister Tali, mother Gail, grandparents Max & Rose
and aunts Pearl and Edyie send these messages to her.

TO MY DEAR SWEET ORLY,

Three years have passed
but not one day goes by,
That I don't think of you
and see your smile.

Your shining eyes I see
and your laughter I hear,
I can't get you out of my thoughts,
in my heart you are so dear.

I love you, dear Orly
You are with me day and night
Forever my sister,
Forever "my light"

Love, Tali

ORLY

Your smile lifted the spirit
of the meanest soul,
the hardest heart.
Your shining eyes
filled with life,
Your voice filled
with laughter and excitement
Affected even the saddest soul,
Your love of people,
Your insight, your charm
You left us,
But you are not gone.

Love, Mom

AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
RRSP/RRIF RULES HAVE CHANGED
Find Out How This Will Affect You!
Call (416) 787-4517
SB SHERR, BERGSTEIN & CRACKOWER

Sports

AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
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Find Out How This Will Affect You!
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Israel comes oh-so-close to hockey medal round

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel's national senior team came within one goal of advancing to the medal round of an International Ice Hockey Federation Pool D tournament recently in the tiny mountain nation of Andorra.

Playing in a rink set high in the Pyrenees Mountains between Spain and France, Israel opened the tournament with a heartbreaking 4-3 loss to Yugoslavia. That, followed by a loss to Spain in a penalty-filled second game, spelled doom for the Israelis, whose 2-3 record was good for fifth place in the eight-country event. The top four teams, Croatia, South Korea, Spain and Yugoslavia will advance to Pool C next year. Israel, Australia, Bulgaria and Belgium remain in Pool D.

Game one for the Israelis proved their undoing as they fell behind 3-0 to Yugoslavia after the first period. The boys in blue battled back to tie the game, but with only three minutes left to play, Yugoslavia got a "cheap goal" off a face-off and went ahead to stay.

Torontonian Larry Bloch, 36, was one of seven skaters who joined the team from Canada. Bloch painted a glowing picture of his experience representing Israel in an international event, but was also disappointed the Israelis didn't fare better. Camaraderie on the team was good — not always the case on the national team — and expectations for a shot at a medal were high, Bloch said.

In addition, there were no racist incidents to mar the tournament, unlike the experience of the Israeli juniors in two international events earlier in the winter. The under-20 team faced anti-Semitic insults from the Yugoslav team at a tourney in Sofia, Bulgaria in December, while anti-Israel emotions among spectators ran high at an under-18 event in Belgrade, Yugoslavia later in the season.

There was nothing to compare with that in Andorra and even the Yugoslavia-Croatia matchup, which might have been expected to be fractious, did not have any untoward incidents, Bloch said.

Unlike most previous tournaments, Israel enjoyed an eight-day training camp prior to the opening faceoff and was was relatively well prepared going in.

Nevertheless, the first game for Israel was the killer, with Yugoslavia scoring all three first period goals on the power play. The refereeing was "terrible," though typical. "If you looked like you were going to do anything, you'd get a penalty," Bloch said.

Paul Rosen, who served as the team's trainer, said Russian-born goalie Evgeny Gusin was outstanding throughout the tournament though two of the goals he let in against the Yugoslavs were stoppable. Gusin arrived in Andorra only hours before the game and was "dead tired," Rosen noted.

Like game one, game two was a loss for Israel aided and abetted by questionable refereeing, Rosen and Bloch said.

The German ref assessed Israel 62 minutes in penalties in the game, not including three misconducts.

Israel's national senior hockey team finished fifth at a tournament in Andorra recently.

Only one-third were warranted, Rosen said. "He was the most brutal ref in the tournament," he added.

Israel's best defenceman, sabra skater Ran Oz, spent 17 minutes in the sin bin and "great shoulder hits were called elbowing. I'm positive the refs were intimidated by the fans," Rosen said, pointing out that despite security in the rink, "the ref still has to walk to his hotel at night."

Bloch said the Spaniards were beatable, but the penalties "get you frustrated. We couldn't control our emotions. The ref took it all away from us.

"I feel we could have beaten Spain in five on five hockey," Bloch added. The record books, however, show Spain winning 7-3.

Game three against Bulgaria was fairly even, but Israel was powered by a two-goal, two-assist performance by Sergei Zak, a Russian-born skater who played Tier II junior hockey in Kindersley, Sask., this past season.

With four minutes left in the game and the score tied 2-2, Bulgaria scored a shorthanded goal to go ahead. Instead of panicking, Israel got the equalizer 15 seconds later on the same powerplay. A minute later, Genya Feldman, captain of the Shelbourne Wolves of the OHA, got the winner in a 4-3 squeaker.

That effort against Bulgaria was Israel's best of the tournament, Rosen said. "We played with discipline, no penalties and we moved the puck nicely. We played as a team. If we played like that throughout, we could have won the silver."

Game four was a cross-over matchup with Belgium for fifth place. Israel played a disciplined, intense game and only great goaltending by the Belgian netminder kept the score 5-3 for Israel.

Game five was meaningless in terms of the final standings and Israel gave their backups a lot of ice time. They lost to Australia, allowing them to finish sixth and avoid the need to requalify.

Zak was named the tournament's all-star forward and led all scorers with 10 points (five goals and five assists).

The line of Zak, Feldman and Dan Mizrahi finished first, third and fifth in scoring, making them arguably the best unit in the tournament.

The team's coach, Nicolai Epstein, is legendary in Russian hockey circles, having coached one of the Soviet Union's greatest players, Alexander Yakushev, as a junior. But at 78, he seemed a little slow to adapt to fast-changing events on the ice, Bloch and Rosen said.

In addition to Bloch, Zak, Feldman and Mizrahi, other Israelis who joined the team from Canada included: Sergei Gudzik, Ronnie Orgil and Miron Schacham. Nick Wolfson, an orthopedic surgeon at York Central Hospital, served as the team doctor.

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Women hoopsters going to Maccabiah

TORONTO — For the first time ever, Canada will send a women's basketball team to the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Organizers of the team are beating the bushes for talent and have scheduled a national tryout over two days in Toronto. Day one of tryouts will be Saturday, May 10, from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m while the second day of tryouts will take place on Sunday May 11 from noon to 3:00 p.m. Tryouts will be held at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, in Toronto (between Sheppard and Finch).

A $35 non-refundable registration fee that includes a four-year Maccabi membership will be charged.

Those interested in participating should contact one of the following Maccabi Canada officials: Sy Herling, chair of women's basketball, 905-731-0442 or 416-505-9962; Bernie Offstein, national executive secretary, 416-973-3606; or Gord Garshowitz, Ontario sports chair, 905-731-8337 or 905-479-2787.

The Maccabiah Games, held every four years and known as "the Jewish Olympics," will take place in Israel in July.

The Inside Back

Grandmother's paintings inspire author's 300-year family tree

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It was the childhood memory of a pair of oil paintings of her great-grandparents that prompted Elizabeth Strauss Plaut to begin the extended family-tree project that culminated, after nearly three decades of research, in the recent publication of her book-length study *The Guggenheim/Wormser Family: A Genealogical 300-Year Memoir* (Ktav Publishing, 1996).

Upon recollecting the 1860s-era paintings, which once hung in her grandmother's home, the Toronto rebbetzin began to ask questions about her mother's grandparents, Therese Pappenheimer Dreyfus and Samuel Dreyfus. That was about 1970.

"The more I investigated, the more intrigued I was by it," Plaut said. "As my mother used to say, 'You've got to be careful because one thing leads to another.' I think she meant it in a different way, but I found out that it was true."

One of many mysteries she had to solve concerned her grandmother's birthplace, a difficulty made more complex because her mother and various family members all gave differing place names. On this particular question, the final arbiter was her grandmother's tombstone in Cincinnati, Ohio, the Hebrew inscription of which identified the deceased's birthplace as Aldingen, a village in southwestern Germany.

As Plaut learned from an elderly relative, "If you passed through Aldingen in a carriage, by the time you turned around to look back, you were already out of town."

Given the town's small size, Plaut was thrilled and astonished to find that an Israeli library held a thin volume on Aldingen, printed about 1800. The book proved to be a goldmine, since it listed the inhabitants in family groupings and gave birthdates and other information. She also found a trove of historic material dating from the 18th century.

Over time, utilizing dozens of documentary and living sources, she carefully assembled a family chronology, determining that her earliest ancestor to live in Aldingen was Isaac Samuel Guggenheim, who came there from Worms in 1733 or 1734 when he was 30 years old.

"Because he was from Worms, he became known as *'der Wormser,'* and eventually Wormser replaced Guggenheim as the family surname," she explained.

Plaut has traced her ancestry back to 1551. Since the book also includes her grandchildren, it can be said to encompass 13 generations.

The public is invited to a book launch on May 7, 8 p.m. in the Max Enkin boardroom of Holy Blossom Temple, 1750 Bathurst St.

Feminist magazine debuts in Canada

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Jewish feminist magazine *Bridges* marked its official debut in Canada with readings and live music by some local contributors.

The U.S.-based literary magazine recently held its Canadian launch at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (Bloor JCC), where it was sponsored by the centre's Books and Bagels program.

Shauna Richler-Lancit, Reena Mitchell Katz, Natalie Stephens, and Lillian Nattel read from their work and there was an exhibit by Yaya Padawer, a Toronto ceramic artist featured in *Bridges*.

The launch was organized by Shlomit Segal, *Bridges*' only Canadian editor. The Toronto writer/editor and a York University student, joined *Bridges*' editorial board four years ago.

The magazine was founded seven years ago by a group of women associated with the New Jewish Agenda, a progressive group based in New York, Segal said.

She noted that *Bridges* counts Adrienne Rich and Irena Klepfisz, two prominent American poets, among its regular contributors, and it is also a forum for many emerging writers.

What distinguishes *Bridges* from other feminist Jewish publications is that it has not "shied away from controversial issues," Segal said.

"*Bridges* has been a place where Jewish feminists and their friends have had an opportunity to dialogue on different issues: politics, culture, identity."

In Toronto the book is available at the Women's Book Store, 73 Harbord St.

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About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I'm in my 50s and I've been unemployed for almost a year. I have over 20 years of good work experience but I just can't find a job! What should I do?

Dear Reader,

The world of work today is a very different place from what it was when you entered it. There are different expectations and pressures. Even what you do to earn a living can be different from what you thought you might ever do. Former office managers are now canoe makers, former secretaries are coordinating homemaking services for the elderly.

To help you understand today's workplace and how you can profit in it, read *Career Intelligence: Mastering the New Work of Personal Realities* by Dr. Barbara Moses. This book breathes with the voices of many people who once used to be in your shoes and are now working.

A consultant, Moses teaches us important lessons. One of the most basic lessons is that we are responsible for managing our own careers and those of our children. If we progress in our attitudes towards earning a living and managing our money, we can teach our kids the same skills, lessons that will prove useful because no one really knows what the world of work will be like for them.

"We need to frame our experience in terms of the skills that buyers of these skills are looking for," Moses stresses.

"People in their 20s are comfortable marketing themselves but can't find the jobs. People in their 30s and 40s find it distasteful to turn themselves into a commodity. People in their 50s believe if they do good work, others will know about them," and therefore self-marketing is unnecessary, she says.

"The first step for these people is to reappraise what it means to sell themselves – it's not obnoxious self-promoting. It means developing mutually helpful, potentially economically rewarding relationships."

Developing these relationships is known as networking. The people we contact for job opportunities are the same ones we called at other times of need. We might think we're using these people or they might think we're using them.

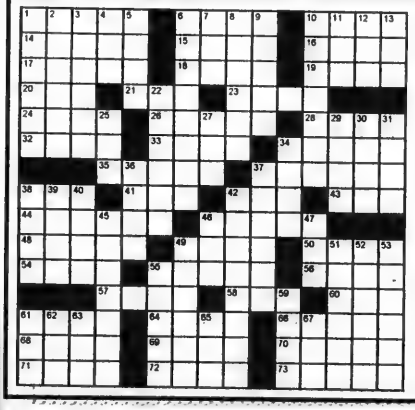
"The trick," Moses says, "is to know when networking ends and using people begins."

In her book, she suggests how to network and not make people feel like they're being used.

Moses' book teaches 12 basic rules that should be followed to almost guarantee success, including keeping yourself marketable. It is a very useful book to have.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

The Canadian Jewish news CROSSWORD PUZZLE The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Bris stars
6. "The __", Wiesel book
10. Political party
14. Emulate Abba Eban
15. David's instrument
16. Matriarchs
17. Lulav hand
18. Tishri to Elul
19. Seduce
20. Ashdod to Be'er Sheva (dir)
21. Son to Noah
23. Many colored
24. Michael's aura?
26. Mauri Rose specialty
28. Security experts
32. Table (Yid)
33. Mezuzah touch
34. Moses' bush
35. Havdalah box
37. Fiedler's Pops City
38. Ashdod to Jericho
41. Switch positions
42. Jody Scheckter's need
43. Hester Street time zone
44. Vantz (Eng.)
46. Like Shiva clothes
48. Lil __, Capp cartoon
49. Chazzer (Eng)
50. Accords city
54. Rothschild business?
55. Kol__
56. Hebrew letter
57. Prepare cholent
58. Corp.
60. Sort of? (ending)
61. Naphtali's mom
64. Hebrew letters
66. Leg joint
68. Holocaust voice
69. Son of Seth
70. Tightwad
71. Chanukah need
72. Four to a dreidel
73. Neil Simon specialty

Down

1. Beet soup
2. Haman's eighth
3. Jewish doughnuts
4. Number ending
5. Adam's son
6. Kerri Strug events
7. Affirmative
8. Imitate Wiesenthal
9. Second Temple enhancer
10. Holiday robes
11. El Al milieu
12. American Mossad?
13. Jacob's sorespot
22. Like the fourth son
25. Sighs
27. Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem (dir)
29. Gonifl's booty
30. Writer Oz
31. Acted the Usurer?
34. Amy Alcott warning
36. "__ out thy wrath"
37. Hannah's condition
38. Mountain
39. Jordanian Mount
40. Writer Ferber
42. Dancer Cyd
45. Prays after meals
46. Grass
47. Nickname for Salk
49. Gottex offering
51. She's no Jew
52. Singer Gore
53. "Do unto __"
55. Schnozes (Eng.)
59. Ramah
61. Rosten or Bacck
62. Wallach
63. Named in a Mishaberach
65. Cain's refuge
67. Bubkes (Eng)

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 42.)

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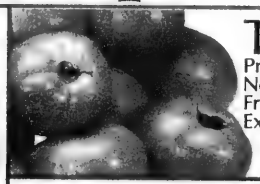

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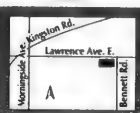

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Fanaticism the biggest issue facing Jews today, Elie Wiesel says. **Page 3**

Conversion bill should not deter investors, Israel Bonds head says. **Page 5**

Heritage Front's phone number no longer in service. **Page 14**

Health

Hydrophobia – fear of water – affects many children and adults. **Page 41**

Arts

Leah Garbe, 21, is the producer and founder of theatre company. **Page 42**

Sports

Ari Holtzer at the helm of Opti, a floating bathtub that will take him to Ireland. **Page 50**

Index

Greater Toronto Area 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
Election '97 11
Jewish Life 13
What's New 22
Yiddish Corner 24
On Campus 26
Yom Hashoah 27
Coast to Coast 31
International 35
Health 41
Travel, Arts & Business 42
Classified 46
Sports 50
Crossword 51
Ask Ella 51

Shabbat: Emor
Candlelighting: 8:17
Iyar 9, 5757
Havdalah: 9:22

Swiss Jews face ghosts of WWII

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

BASEL, Switzerland — The ghosts of World War II are haunting the 18,000 Jews of Switzerland.

A a result of the trans-Atlantic debate over Switzerland's ambivalent role as a neutral power during the war, the Swiss Jewish community is facing the most serious wave of open anti-Semitism in five decades.

"Jews feel exposed, definitely," said Daniel Rothschild, vice-president of the community in Basel, the locale of the first Zionist congress a century ago. "For years, we lived quietly and discreetly, and being Jewish was never an issue. But now it is."

Switzerland, a nation of breathtaking beauty, has been accused of immorally profiting from the war by trafficking in looted Nazi gold bullion, by selling Nazi Germany military equipment and by pocketing money deposited in Swiss bank accounts by Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

These charges, which were essentially reiterated in a U.S. government report released last week by Stuart Eizenstat, have tarnished Switzerland's reputation for integrity. And while these accusations have generated a great deal of soul-searching and efforts by banks and parliament to make amends, they have also unleashed xenophobia and latent anti-Semitism.

Continued on page 37

STICKS AND STONES BUILDING HOMES

Women carry their children and their building supplies past a partially rebuilt wooden home last week at Yitzhar on the West Bank, where other settlers are working to rebuild the structure demolished by Israeli police. Police had ordered the "homes" torn down because they had been built without permits.

[RNS/Reuters photo]

War crimes case opens

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Did Wasily (Wasil) Bogutin, a Nazi collaborator, participate in the shootings of Jews and other enemies of the German Reich, or was he the son of a Jewish father who tried to ride out a turbulent period of history by working for the Ukrainian police in obscure jobs?

Those were the competing versions of Bogutin's wartime past that were placed before federal court judge William McKeown on Monday, as Bogutin's denaturalization case got under way.

In opening statements, crown attorney Christopher Amerasinghe painted a picture of Bogutin as a volunteer who served as an investigator with the Selidovka police, which took

Continued on page 25

Jewish civil servants lose bid for paid holy days

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Sixteen Jewish federal civil servants have lost their bid for paid leave in order to observe Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

In a landmark decision made public recently, the Federal Court of Appeal ruled 2-1 that the national government's policy of paid time off does not discriminate against Jewish employees.

The civil servants, led by Toronto computer analyst Sheldon Richmond, had argued that receiving statutory (and Christian) holidays like Christmas and Good Friday as paid time off — but not the Jewish High Holy Days — was discriminatory.

The Jewish employees, who work for three different government departments, filed grievances with their public service union, based on a clause in their collective agreements prohibiting discrimination on the basis of religion.

The union offered several options, including use of annual leave and working extra hours to make up for observing the High Holy Days.

The workers refused the options, and an adjudicator later rejected the grievances, saying the employer had met its duty to accommodate the employees.

A subsequent application by the employees for a judicial review was rejected by a lower court, and the matter went to the Federal Court of Appeal.

The court rejected allegations of overt bias, saying that if anything, the case is one of "indirect discrimination."

Writing for the court, Justice Alice Desjardins pointed out that federal workers' collective agreements are flexible, and give employers discretion to grant leave with pay to employees of all faiths, for a variety of purposes.

The court said that if Jewish employees received the High Holy

Continued on page 25

In This Issue

Yom Ha'atzmaut greetings from Israel. Please see page 38.

Don't miss an issue. Call 416-391-1836 today to have The Canadian Jewish News delivered to your door every week.

A community's forced baptism 500 year **ge 9**

The News in Brief

CANADA

Donate Tax Cut: Rabbi

TORONTO — A Toronto rabbi has urged his congregants to donate their Ontario tax cuts to charity.

Saying he's appalled at child poverty levels, Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld of Temple Emanu-El has asked each of the 360 families in his synagogue to donate all or part of Ontario's planned 30 percent provincial tax reductions to local charities, such as the United Way.

Extradition Said Near

OTTAWA — Canada approved the extradition of a Saudi national allegedly involved in the June 25, 1996 terrorist bombing in Dharan, Saudi Arabia that killed 19 U.S. soldiers and wounded nearly 400 others.

Both the United States and Saudi Arabia are seeking the extradition of Abd Rahim al-Sayegh, who applied for refugee status upon arriving in Canada last August.

Kofflers to be Honored

TORONTO — The National Society of Fund Raising Executives, Greater Toronto chapter, will honor Marvelle and Murray Koffler at its annual Philanthropy Awards Luncheon on May 21 at the Sheraton Hotel.

The Kofflers will be honored for their philanthropic contributions and presented with the Outstanding Philanthropist Award.

ISRAEL

Death Penalty

JERUSALEM — The Palestinian Authority (PA) plans to try Palestinians who sell land to Israelis, including land inside the Green Line, using a Jordanian law which permits the death penalty, the PA's justice minister announced last week.

Anti-Semitism Report

JERUSALEM — Violent anti-Semitic incidents dropped around the world last year, but anti-Semitic propaganda continues to proliferate, especially on the Internet, a report released this week concluded.

Major anti-Semitic attacks — including shootings, firebombs and arson — declined from 41 in 1995 to 32 last year, according to the annual *Anti-Semitism Worldwide* report, prepared by Dina Porat of Tel Aviv University. In 1994, the study found 72 such incidents.

The report, published on the eve of Holocaust Remembrance Day in Israel, was co-sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League and the World Jewish Congress.

Along with the drop in major attacks, the report found a drop last year in anti-Semitic vandalism.

WORLD

Rothschild Honored

NEW YORK — Toronto philanthropist Kurt Rothschild will be honored by Yeshiva University (YU) at its 66th annual commencement exercises on May 22.

Rothschild, president of the Canadian Friends of YU, will be conferred with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters by university president Dr. Norman Lamm.

Deportation Order

NEW YORK — The U.S. Department of Justice has won a court order of deportation against a Michigan man who served as an armed Waffen SS guard at Auschwitz and Sachsenhausen concentration camps during World War II.

Chief U.S. Immigration Judge Michael Creppy found that Ferdinand Hammer, 75, participated in persecuting persons because of race, religion, national origin or political opinion.

Cemetery Vandalized

MOSCOW — Vandals destroyed 52 headstones at a Jewish cemetery in Smolensk, a city of 280,000 in western Russia.

The desecrated headstones were turned over and broken. Dozens of metal name-plates were ripped off the stones.

Report on Terrorism

WASHINGTON — Palestinian attacks against Israelis accounted for the second deadliest spate of international terrorism in 1996, the State Department reported in its annual report, *Patterns of Global Terrorism*.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday May 12, 1972

U.S.S.R. OFFICIALS 'RUNNING SCARED' ON NIXON VISIT

Soviet authorities, "running scared," are trying to get Jewish activists out of Moscow before President Nixon arrives for summit talks, says Richard Maass, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jews.

He said that's why 10 young Soviet Jews, "who represent the core of the most vocal young activists desiring to emigrate from the U.S.S.R., have been called for active military service. It is clear the Soviet officials are using this military service to make sure that these men, who have requested a meeting with Nixon, will be unavailable."

CHURCH SIDESTEPS *OBSERVER* CRITICISM

The draft report of a special committee appointed to deal with charges of anti-Semitism levelled at the United Church of Canada was watered down by the church's ruling body which deleted references to the *United Church Observer*, its editor, and a strongly anti-Zionist article printed in March.

The article, which repeated some of the worst anti-Semitic myths and charged that Zionists are engaged in a sinister conspiracy to control the press, was mentioned in the draft statement but then taken and some changes were made.

The Canadian Jewish news

Vol. XXXVIII, No.4 (2,850)

An independent community newspaper serving as a forum for diverse viewpoints

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International Media Placement
POB 7195, Jerusalem, Israel
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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue. 46,593 copies
Publisher's sworn statement April 30, 1996.

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Jewish fanaticism greatest danger: Wiesel

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The biggest issue facing Jews today is Jewish fanaticism, believes Elie Wiesel.

"We should do whatever we can to disarm it. It's wrong. We need the concept of klal Yisrael today," said the New York-based philosopher in an interview last week.

Speaking later that evening to a crowd of about 1,000 people at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation on Yom Hashoah, Wiesel stressed that fanaticism is a danger to which Jews should not yield. "We need heart, kindness, generosity. We had enough problems with the outside world."

Elie Wiesel

Wiesel was here for the dedication and dramatic unveiling of the synagogue's new stained glass window, Aron Kodesh and Ner Tamid. The window, which depicts the theme From Holocaust to Redemption, is by Toronto artist Ernest Raab, like Wiesel a shtetl-born Holocaust survivor.

The keynote speech was preceded by a candlelighting ceremony honoring those who perished and fought in the Holocaust. Young synagogue members participated in a flag and Torah procession; other speakers included Alex Eisen, who spearheaded the project, and Rabbi Philip Scheim. Participation by Cantor Yehudah Rottner and the synagogue choir included the singing of K'El Maleh Rachamim and Ani Ma'amin.

Despite Wiesel's worldwide renown for humanitarianism and extensive writings on the Holocaust, the 1986 Nobel Peace laureate is almost painfully self-effacing in person. "I have written 40 books [most recently *All Rivers Run to the Sea*, the first volume of his memoirs], and the feeling I have is I haven't even begun," he told *The CJN*. "I'm not playing 'false modesty.' I mean it," he insisted softly.

Sadly, he noted that although the world has made strides in science, it hasn't done so in the fields of morality or philosophy. "We try," he said.

It's the thought of young people — those living now (from whom he receives some 100 letters a month) and those who died in the Holocaust — that motivates him to continue his work, now that he is in his late 60s. Most painful of all, he said, is the knowledge of the children (like his young sister) who suffered and were killed in the Holocaust.

"I love Jewish children. I feel so responsible for them and to them," said Wiesel, his voice imbued with a quiet intensity.

Two years ago, in Birkenau, he provoked controversy by asking God not to forgive those who killed Jewish children, a plea which he reiterated unequivocally in last week's speech.

"What great things those children could have achieved. What joy could these killers have in killing children? And often they killed them in such a brutal way that I hesitate to tell you," he said. "Forgive me, but on Yom Hashoah you should know."

His description of Nazis using babies as target practice and tearing them apart, sometimes in the presence of their mothers, prompted one mother in the audience to cover her young daughter's ears.

A professor at Boston University, Wiesel wants to share his passion for learning with today's youth.

"For me the teachers I learn

[Cont'd. on page 6]

NO SAFE HAVEN

About 50 protesters carrying placards demonstrated outside the home of alleged Nazi war criminal Erichs Tobiass recently. They were protesting "the Canadian government's shameful record in bringing alleged Nazi war criminals to justice." Tobiass has been named as one of 12 suspects who federal authorities are seeking to deport. His case is before the courts. The protest was sponsored by the Canadian Zionist Federation, B'nai Brith Canada, Betar-Tagar Herut Likud, Hashomer Hatzair and Canadian Young Judea. [Dave Gordon photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Taking steps on a bridge of communal understanding

From the editor's desk

It is generally true to say that, apart from the generation of the survivors, we in the Diaspora have no experience of *direct collective* mourning. That is certainly true of my generation, the generation of the baby boomers.

Many of us have already been forced by bitter circumstance to recite Kaddish for the loss of one or both parents. Some of us, unfortunately, have even experienced the most sorrowful of all sorrows, namely, the loss of a child. And those of us who are the children of survivors, may even have a special insight into the inexpressible grief of our parents.

But certainly not as a society has our generation in the Diaspora experienced the terrible trauma of group suffering and collective mourning.

Herein of course, lies one of the key differences between the Jewish experience in the Diaspora and the Jewish experience in Israel.

The very ethos of Israel has been forged on the anvil of collective mourning. I do not refer here to the collective memory of Jewish history. Rather I refer to the collective mourning of a society which has never known a day of peace since its birth 49 years ago.

The IDF, comprised primarily of 18- to 21-year-olds, is the core institution of Israeli society. In a real sense, the soldiers are everyone's children. Israelis live each and every day with the possibility of attack against its young soldiers, or terror against its civilians.

Thus, collective mourning is one of the inescapably formative influences on Israel's national character.

Of course we in the Diaspora can and do empathize with and feel for our families, friends and fellow Jews in Israel But empathy, however sincere and deeply felt, is still one step removed from the actual burden of mourning the specific and direct loss of a child who died in uniform

Nowhere is the difference between the two Jewish households, namely of Israel and of the Diaspora, more eloquently manifest than in the observance of Yom Hazikaron.

We in the Diaspora try also to carry Israel's burden; we try to share their grief of group suffering and collective mourning. But, in truth, because the soldiers are not *directly* our children, because we generally travel our streets and ride our buses free of the worry of possible terrorist attack, there is an existential limit to how far our shoulders bow and our knees buckle.

Understanding this difference is akin to taking steps on a bridge that spans two distant households of one large and loving family.

It is a bridge we must all walk if we are truly to share the grief of collective mourning.

* * * * *

The Yom Hazikaron assembly in Toronto on the 4th of Iyar, was co-sponsored by the city's main Jewish organizations. But the service was, in essence, an Israeli design. As a result, in the way of most Israeli memorial services, it was a poignant, understated admixture of religious and secular, of prose and poetry, of song and silence. It was dedicated to the memory of the 18,538 men and women who have died since 1948 in defence of Israel and began with a moment of silence.

The silence gave way to the lyric of poetry and the stirring narrative of prose read or sung by youngsters, all of whom looked to be near the age of army induction in Israel

The emotional centerpiece of the assembly, however, was the address by Israeli consul-general Jehudi Kinar. Speaking first in Hebrew and then in English he encapsulated in five touching moments, the sanctity of the day.

The prose of his remarks was itself poetry. For example, he referred to the fallen as markers in the horizon of our memory. In Hebrew: *tziyunim b'nofei hazikaron.* To the discerning ear however, the use of *tziyunim,* markers was also a poignant double entendre for *tziyonim*, Lovers of Zion.

The heart of Kinar's remarks were devoted to the nature of conferring condolences. I shall briefly excerpt a small portion:

"Condolences cannot erase the tragedy. No one can restore to life, a son who has fallen, or a husband, or a brother or a grandson...No one can abate the sorrow or the longing

"But we can all extend a hand in warmth, in friendship, to help unburden the soul...not only during the days closest to the loss, but also in the days that follow. That is the essence of condolence."

* * * * *

Election airing

The "highlight" of the second week of the campaign was the Parizeau revelation.

Had the separatists won the October 1995 referendum, Parizeau revealed last week, he would have unilaterally proclaimed Quebec's independence "within days."

Most of the commentary on his admission dealt with its possible impact upon the Bloc Québécois' upcoming election prospects.

Largely overlooked by the political analysts was the damage the deception did to the integrity of the democratic process that the separatists have disingenuously claimed as being the very justification for the destruction of Canada in the first place.

For the process to have any validity whatsoever, it must be fair. To be fair it must be honest. To be honest, there must be absolutely no ruse, no trick, no duplicity perpetrated upon the voters.

And yet, as the former premier has made apparent, ruse, trick and duplicity were precisely his instruments during the referendum.

In part the separatist option appealed to the voters on the strength of Parizeau's pre-referendum agreement with Bouchard and Mario Dumont. Yet that agreement was predicated upon a period of bona fide "partnership" negotiation s with the federal government.

More damaging, however, was the fact that at the heart of the referendum question itself, was the promise of attempted negotiations with the federal government. Who knows how many people voted Yes, believing that bona fide negotiations with a view or a hope of finding some form of compromise was to be the next step?

But Parizeau had no intention of honoring the agreement with Bouchard and Dumont. He had no intention of honoring the conditions of the referendum question. Nor had he any intention of honoring his promise to the majority of the people of Quebec who would have rejected outright his indelicate approach to integrity in the democratic process.

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Greater Toronto Area

Conversion bill not tied to investment: Patt

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Concern over Israel's conversion bill should not affect decisions by investors about whether to purchase State of Israel Bonds, the CEO of Israel Bonds' international office said last week.

Projects supported by Bonds are apolitical in nature and go to support the country in its entirety, said Gideon Patt. "Bonds doesn't give money to any group in particular. It gives money to the people of Israel as a whole."

Patt was responding to suggestions being circulated in Reform and Conservative communities in Canada that they should use their influence to ensure that philanthropic contributions go to enhance pluralism in Israel. The suggestions came in the wake of first reading of a bill by Israel's Knesset that would deny legitimacy to Reform and Conservative conversions in Israel.

Patt said he explained to Conservative and Reform rabbis as well as lay leaders during his brief visit to Toronto that "we're not in the category of giving funds to various groups. We are in Israel in total."

Underscoring that view was placement of an ad in last week's *CJN* that argued support for Israel should not be contingent on issues of the day.

Patt said he believes "this particular issue won't affect the sale of bonds."

"It is uneasy and unacceptable to many of us that because of coalition reasons, the government has to give in to demands that are not in the best interests of the state of Israel and the unity of the Jewish people," Patt stated.

Gideon Patt

A former Likud MK who held a seat for 28 years, Patt said if the bill fails, "the status quo will return. The real solution is electoral reform to reduce the role of the smaller parties."

Israel Bonds go to develop the country's infrastructure through road development and improvements, laying of sewage pipes, providing telephone and telecommunications lines and the construction of schools, he said.

In the city of Eilat on the Gulf of Aqaba, for instance, Bonds was instrumental in creating a beachfront lagoon, installing a modern infrastructure and providing grants to entrepreneurs to help get the city's tourism business off the ground, he said. During his tenure as minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism in the late 1970s and early '80s, Bonds pumped $1 billion US into Eilat. The city's population grew from 7,000 in 1979 to 45,000 today. Tourist accommodation grew from 400 non-air conditioned rooms to 4,500 luxury rooms, with thousands more under construction. The city adds an estimated $600 million to Israel's economy each year.

Bonds was also a key player in developing the bedroom community of Ma'ale Adumim outside Jerusalem, helping it grow from a bare mountaintop site in 1978 to a city of 28,000 in 1996.

Bonds also played a crucial role in helping develop Israel's power grid, which generates 7,500 megawatts annually, far greater than Jordan's 450 megawatts and not far off Egypt's 9,000 megawatts, which services a population 10 times greater than Israel's.

Last year, Bonds sales totalled close to $90 million US in Canada while worldwide, Bonds' 1997 goal is $250 million US.

Patt pointed out that Bonds should not be considered a charitable gift to Israel but rather a sound financial investment. Five-year bonds, for example, currently pay 7.5 percent based on a figure 780 basis points above five-year U.S. Treasury notes. (A minimum $25,000 investment is required.)

Extolling Bonds' record, Patt noted that since they were introduced in 1952 by then Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, they have never missed a redemption, making them a safe and reliable investment.

Despite the economic boom being experienced by Israel, Bonds remain a vital part of the country's economy, Patt continued. They continue to play a key role in civilian infrastructure development and with the relative decline in military spending, civilian portfolios like education, health, housing and absorption now receive a bigger slice of the government's budget pie.

Bonds is important in maintaining Israel's high standard of living, which is now comparable to that in Western European countries, and in serving as a launching pad for regional economic development. If Israel can help in the economic development of its Arab neighbors and help raise their standards of living, people in these countries will see a tangible benefit from peace, he added.

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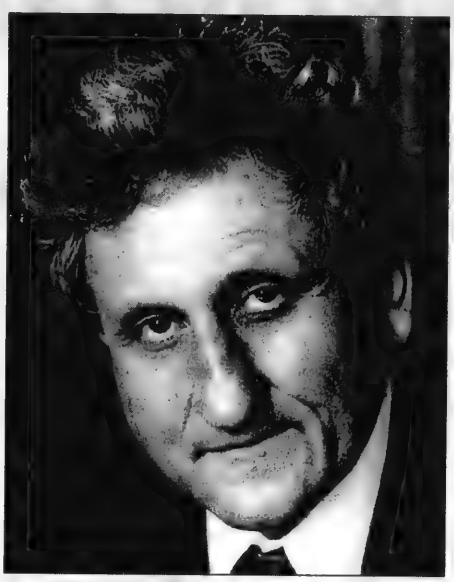

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Greater Toronto Area

Branson's viability before targetted closing in question

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Grave doubts have surfaced about whether Branson Hospital can keep operating until its targeted closure in June 1999, in the face of its losing medical and other staff.

"This will leave a terrible gap in health services for this community," said Jack Gallop, the hospital's CEO and president.

The serious possibility that Branson may not be able to hang on is raised in appeals to the Hospital Restructuring Services Commission by both Branson and the North York General Hospital (NYGH) expected to get most of Branson's patients in the future.

"Our chairman has asked the commission for an early meeting, before its final report, to explore ways of keeping the hospital open," Gallop said.

Both hospital briefs say there is danger that doctors and staff at Branson will leave if they are offered other jobs. Branson has 1,050 employees and 280 physicians.

One silver lining in the dark cloud over Branson is the strong support it has received from NYGH, which in its brief to the commission, supports an ambulatory care centre at Branson instead of shutting the hospital down completely.

However, Branson favors the option of ambulatory care, with the building also being used to care for long-term patients who have no other place to go.

High rate of patient discharge

In its brief, Branson reiterates its belief that it is being penalized for its early discharge of inpatients, in that its total flow of patients through outpatient and other services is higher than that of two other hospitals, one in Scarborough and one in Etobicoke, that are not being closed.

Branson has a high rate of patient discharges because so many are being referred to home care and other services, the brief says.

It is encouraging that both NYGH and the Metro District Health Council are supporting Branson's bid to be an ambulatory care centre, Gallop said.

It would include day care surgery and be equivalent to a walk-in clinic, he said.

Emergency heart and other cases could be resuscitated and stabilized in this centre before being transferred by ambulance to another hospital.

A shuttle bus between Branson and North York General for ambulatory patients is favored by Murray Mackenzie, NYGH president. "We pick up patients now," he said.

The plight of frail, elderly patients if Branson is shut is stressed in the Branson brief.

Branson serves more Jewish patients than any other hospital in Metro, with 30,000 seniors in its area depending on its services. A "large majority" of its physicians are Jewish, the brief says.

If it closes, the area around it will be the largest in Metro Toronto without access to acute care beds.

Branson has the heaviest concentration of elderly of any community hospital in Metro.

It will cost more than the stated $43.6 million to shut Branson, and even at that figure, it will take 63 years to offset the cost with savings.

Branson serves a Metro population in which those 65 plus represent almost 20 percent of the population. Patients over 75 and over 65 account for 26 percent and 42 percent, respectively, of the discharges from Branson in 1995-96.

For those living west of Yonge Street, travel by public transit to NYGH will mean three bus rides or two bus rides and a subway ride.

"At Branson we have developed, in collaboration with Queen Elizabeth Hospital, a geriatric module, activating those patients to the point where we now return many patients to their homes who would otherwise be transferred to a long-term care facility.

"The large majority of our physicians are Jewish. In the absence of an equitable human resources plan these professionals will share a disproportionate share of the hospital restructuring burden."

Branson is the second busiest of the seven hospitals across the top of Metro, the brief states.

"We can handle the extra patients we'll get from Branson if we get the funding," said Mackenzie.

In their own appeal to the commission, NYGH said it needs $49 million in new capital funds, not the $14 million figure suggested by the commission. If an ambulatory care centre is set up at Branson, that capital figure would be cut by $6 or $7 million.

About $13 million a year more than the commission's figure would be needed for its operating budget, the NYGH brief said.

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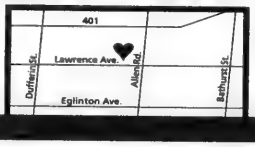

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Wiesel's warning

[Cont'd. from page 3]

from are still alive," he said during the interview in Rabbi Scheim's study. "I see Rabbi Akiva, literally... I open the book and I hear [his] voice; it carries me."

In his speech, Wiesel, who grew up in a chassidic environment in Sighet, Romania, bemoaned the loss of pre-war European Jewry. "There was something about Jewish life then that was so special and so unique, and woe unto us, that life, that social framework were wiped out."

The Holocaust could have been prevented, he asserted, stating several instances when other countries could have stepped in.

"What hurts so much," said Wiesel, was the inaction of "people that we admired, cherished, glorified... Little did we know that [then United States president] Franklin Delano Roosevelt knew so much and refused to do anything."

Wiesel credited the Zionist movement and the creation of Israel in 1948 for saving "so many people from giving up on Jewishness, humanity and everything else."

He implored survivors to record their experiences. "Every person who was there has a unique story. Write, write, write. We need to know. Maybe there is one sentence that will shed some kind of sombre light."

Nazi War Criminals In Canada

ONE IS TOO MANY

Thursday, May 22, 1997, 7:30 p.m.

North York City Hall Council Chambers

5100 Yonge Street

a special address by

Efraim Zuroff

Director, Simon Wiesenthal Centre, Jerusalem

JOIN THE CHORUS OF CONDEMNATION AND DEMAND ACTION IMMEDIATELY!

More than 50 years after the Holocaust, dozens of those believed to be responsible for tormenting and murdering countless thousands are living comfortably in Canada. Their presence is a blemish on our highly respected international reputation.

Find out **WHEN** they got here, **HOW** they have managed to escape prosecution, **WHAT** Ottawa can do and **WHY** they must go.

Today, there is a growing groundswell of support for swift government action against these alleged Nazi war criminals in our midst.

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Head Office:
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont. M3B 3K4

Jolting Juxtaposition

Two small Israel-related news items appeared alongside each other in the international news roundup in the *Globe and Mail* of May 10.

The headline on the first item was "Palestinian found dead." This, in part, was the story: "A Palestinian accused of selling Arab homes and land to Jews was found dead yesterday in Ramallah with his hands tied behind his back. An Islamic leader declared him an infidel who could not be buried in a Muslim cemetery...Palestinian justice minister Feih Abu Medein...said the incident was proof that nobody will accept a traitor."

The headline on the second story was "Israel urged to stop torture." It read, in part: "The UN Committee against Torture called on Israel yesterday to stop interrogating Palestinian detainees with methods including sleep deprivation and violent shaking, saying this constituted torture and broke international law."

The placement of these two news briefs, side by side, was a fortuitous entry point, like the dark slippery slide in Alice's wonderland, into the surrealistic world of Middle East geopolitics.

Israel is, like all countries, imperfect. Its leaders are imperfect. Their decisions are imperfect. Their behavior is imperfect. But in the main, they at least hold true to the rule of law, democracy's chief hallmark.

It is within the context of the rule of law in the first place that the Supreme Court of Israel has struggled, if imperfectly, to balance the legitimate collective needs of protecting the state and its citizens against the legitimate individual rights of Palestinian detainees suspected of terrorist actions or connections. That there even is a requirement for the state's security apparatus to seek permission to use "pressure" in interrogation is a tribute to the evolving maturity of the country's loyalty to due process.

The decision by the UN Committee against Torture to censure Israel was a throwback to the post-1967 days when the UN was marked by the tyranny of the so-called non-aligned majority. Every Arab-inspired anti-Israel resolution was backed by Soviet sponsors and was always assured of a majority by the states who were their clients, or wanted to be. The substance of those resolutions reflected very little, if any, of the truth of life in the Middle East. And yet, like bitter waters from a contaminated faucet, the resolutions flowed unabated for more than two decades, drowning all credibility in the institution, until the peace process appeared to staunch the sour stream in the early '90s. Now it appears the UN is once again being used as a canvass of the surreal. The Palestinian Authority (PA) selects the subject and Yasser Arafat holds the brush.

The juxtaposition of the news items makes this obvious.

The first item, though merely a "brief," was a trove of the anti-rule of law cultural deposits that course through the soil of Palestinian society: that the sale of property to a Jew should be punishable by death; that a seller of such property was found dead with his hands tied behind his back, obviously murdered; that a religious leader, said in effect, that the murdered person deserved the punishment as an "infidel;" and that the justice minister of the PA should fail to condemn either the vicious murder or the gleeful declaration of the Islamic leader.

The second item was also a trove, but of the irrefutable proofs that an anti-Israel voting majority can still be whipped up in the UN by the colleagues and friends of the PA that finds no fault in murdering someone who sells property to a Jew.

It was a jolting juxtaposition.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"On this solemn occasion, when Jews have come together from so many lands at the age-long summons of nationality, let our profession of faith be solemnly repeated."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones

JONATHAN POLLARD HAS BEEN IN PRISON FOR 13 YEARS BECAUSE HE SPIED FOR ISRAEL.
...AND NOW, IN A DARING BID TO WIN HIS FREEDOM, HE'S SUING TO FORCE THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT
TO SAY THAT HE SPIED FOR ISRAEL.
IS THERE SOMETHING THAT I'M NOT UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THIS?

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

May 13, 1877 The Ladies Hebrew Benevolent Society was organized in Montreal.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Canada's anti-terrorism actions

I am writing in regard to your recent story on Hezbollah (*CJN*, April 17).

The government of Canada, through its departments and agencies, is committed to combating international terrorism and to ensuring that Canada does not become a base or safe haven for terrorists operating abroad. As I noted in my statement on national security last year, we are aware that Canada, by its peaceful and democratic nature, can be attractive to terrorist organizations seeking sanctuary or funds to continue terrorism in other lands. I can assure you that we will continue to use every method allowed by law to ensure that this does not occur.

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) works closely with the Department of Citizenship and Immigration (CIC) to provide security advice on persons seeking status in Canada. Recent actions by the government of Canada ordering the deportation of persons engaged in terrorism through the process under the Immigration Act send strong messages that terrorists should not consider Canada as a safe venue, and demonstrate the effectiveness of the Immigration Act in this area.

In order to provide timely and meaningful security advice to CIC, CSIS maintains reciprocal vetting arrangements with a broad number of police and security agencies throughout the world. This helps to ensure that persons who have been engaged in terrorism abroad should not expect that they can conceal their past activities from Canadian authorities.

Canada has made strong commitments through the G7 group to combating terrorism and has reaffirmed its belief that a multilateral approach to the problem of international terrorism is the only solution. These commitments are ongoing and will no doubt be the subject of further discussion at this year's G7 leaders meeting in Denver, Colo.

In its investigation of terrorists and terrorist activities in Canada, CSIS is aware that some groups or individuals might be directed or supported by foreign powers or instruments. CSIS is mandated to investigate such activity and to report to government.

CSIS and other agencies of the government consider public safety to be their greatest priority. The government's objectives are to ensure the safety of Canadians at home and abroad from acts of terrorism and to ensure that Canada does not become a safe haven for individuals or activities supporting international terrorism.

As the questions you submitted my office also deal with matters outside of my role as solicitor general, I have forwarded them to the minister of Foreign Affairs and to the minister of Citizenship and Immigration for their consideration.

Herb Gray
Solicitor General of Canada
Ottawa

Compares Star's coverage of Holocaust and Israel

In Ron Csillag's March 27 article regarding the coverage of Israel in the *Toronto Star*, he indicated that the disproportionate amount of attention Israel receives in the *Star* is partly due to the fact that "journalists are naturally drawn to stories involving Jews ...and conflict." These points are valid today, but do not apply to the *Toronto Star*'s coverage of the Holocaust during the war years.

I recently discovered while conducting research for a York University Holocaust course that when Jews were involved in a conflict in which they were the principal victims, the *Star* reported their struggles infrequently and placed Holocaust-related stories in obscure parts of the paper.

It is rather peculiar that the *Star* currently recognizes the magnitude of Palestinian suffering, but 50 years ago, equated the Jewish catastrophe with the difficulties faced by Poles, Russians and many other ethnic groups.

Perhaps, the *Star* finds the "Jewish story" much more interesting when the Jews are seen as the "empowered victimizers," not the stateless victims.

Adam Segal
Toronto

Miracle of Israel must live on

This is not the first time in history that there has been dissension among our people. However, I would like to stress that this current religious debate in Israel and the statement of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis does not and should not affect the aims and objectives of organizations that support the State of Israel. It disturbs me that any religious or political debate would turn people away from supporting the daily struggle of a Jewish homeland and its people.

As a member of the executive board of State of Israel Bonds, I wish to state that this organization has but one mission — to build and develop the State of Israel through the purchase of Israel Bonds. Like any democratic country, Israel will always have its share of controversies. Nonetheless, the independence of modern Israel and its economic strength in our lifetime is a miracle that must be sustained. We have waited too long and worked too hard for a Jewish homeland to make our support for Israel contingent on the issues of the day.

Michael M. Rosenberg
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

"A horrid and wretched spectacle"

Five hundred years ago, on pain of death, the Jews of Portugal were forced to undergo baptism. To avoid that fate, many tried to leave the country; many chose death. The CJN asked Sarah Taieb-Carlen, of York University to write about that period of Jewish history.

Part I

By SARAH TAIEB-CARLEN

Until the mid-14th century, Jews in Portugal had enjoyed the trust and protection of their rulers since the establishment of the Portuguese monarchy in 1179.

For example, in 1190, King Sancho I granted the Jew, Don Solomon Jachia, the title of field marshal general and the command of the army. King Sancho II preferred to appoint Jews rather than Christians to public offices. A chief rabbi, *Arrabimor* Judah, was King Dinis' high treasurer and minister of finance in 1289. On Saturday and other holidays, Jews were exempted from attending court. So, until the reign of Joao II, the history of Portugal was not sullied with the cruel and inhuman episodes which so often disgraced the history of Spain and other parts of Europe.

As the Portuguese historian Alejandro Herculano wrote: "In no other part of Europe in the Middle Ages did the ruler, by his laws or administrative decisions favor and protect the Jewish race as much as in Portugal".

However, from the mid-14th century on, the Jews became socially and legally inferior to Christian citizens. They were forced to live in the *judiaria* (Jewish quarter), had to wear a distinguishing patch of cloth in order to be easily identified, and were forbidden to hire Christian servants or to socialize with Christians of the opposite sex. They could not practise usury, hold any function in public administration or justice, or bear witness in a lawsuit involving Christians. The testimony of Christians against Jews was always valid, even in cases involving Jews only. The Jews had to pay heavy taxes as well as huge contributions and "gifts" to the king whenever he found himself in dire financial straits.

Until 1497, there were very few cities or villages in Portugal that did not have a Jewish *comuna* (community) with its own legal and administrative organization, often copied from the Christian *concelho* (council). The *comunas* were entirely governed by Jewish councilors, *arrabis* (rabbis) and *arrabimors* (chief rabbis), although in certain places and at certain periods, they had to accept as final the decision of a Christian judge. If one was unhappy with the decision of the Jewish judges, one could always appeal the king's council, which was bound to the Jewish legal system. In cases of civil suits between Christians and Jews, the court was compelled to follow the jurisdiction of the defendant.

Portuguese Jews were intellectually, religiously and culturally very similar to Spanish Jews. As early as 1485, Rabbi Eliezer and Rabbi Tzorba introduced Hebrew printing in Portugal. And from 1485 to 1494, of the first 21 books printed in Portugal, 16 were printed by Jews and 14 of those were printed in Hebrew.

Historian dos Santos wrote: "We are chiefly indebted to [the Jews] for the first knowledge of philosophy, botany, medicine, astronomy and cosmography, as well as for the rudiments of the grammar of the holy language, and nearly all the studies of biblical literature. [This] puts us in a state to enter into competition with the more advanced nations of Italy and Germany."

Furthermore, King Joao II asked Rabbi Rodrigues, Rabbi Jose and the geographer Belem "to form rules for taking the altitude of the sun, and tables of its declination, for his vassals who were making voyages on the coast of Africa."

Since medieval Portuguese society was composed mostly of soldiers, priests and farmers, the Jews played a crucial role in the economy. They excelled in external and internal trade and in tax-farming; they were superb tailors, shoemakers, goldsmiths and silversmiths; and they almost totally monopolized medicine. Moreover, members of the royal family, the nobility and the clergy entrusted them with the management of their estates and were always ready to protect them from the hostile masses who hated them for religious and economic reasons.

Despite all this goodwill and apparently efficient measures, however, the Jews did suffer. For example, in 1385, a mad crowd massacred Jews in Lisbon, Evora and Coimbra. Horrified, King Joao I demanded from his subjects "that the rights and privileges of the Israelites should be respected." But again in 1449 and in the 1480s and 1490s, Christians attacked the *judiaria* of Lisbon, chanting: "Let's kill them and rob them."

Fleeing the Spanish Inquisition, many *conversos* (crypto-Jews of Spain) found refuge in Portugal. But on April 3, 1487, Pope Innocent VIII enjoined all Christian rulers to expel the *conversos* from their kingdoms and to facilitate the work of the Inquisition. It took King Joao II a few years to bow to the Pope's wishes, but in March 1494, he had many *convertidos* (crypto-Jews of Portugal) arrested and burnt alive and he ordered all of them out of his country before the end of 1494.

However, when the Jews of Spain, expelled in 1492, asked him to let them settle in his country, he accepted with the following conditions: The 600 richest Jewish families had to pay 60,000 gold *cruzados* (an enormous sum); the others had to go to port cities after paying an entry tax and promising that they would not stay more than eight months (contravening one or both of these conditions would cost them their freedom as they would then be sold as slaves); artisans could pay only half the amount of the entry tax if they agreed to settle permanently in Portugal.

According to Damiao de Goas, a 16th-century Portuguese chronicler, more than 20,000 families, each counting 10, 12 or more people, settled in Portugal, thus doubling the size of the Jewish population of the country and making up to one-tenth of the total population in 1495, which, for an occidental Christian country, was an extraordinarily high proportion.

Many Jews unable to leave within eight months were given as slaves to whoever wanted them and the king had their children under 14 years of age baptized and sent to populate his new colony of Sao Tome in Africa.

Holding a Hebrew book and wearing a "Jewish hat" and a six-pointed badge, a rabbi is seen attending the patron saint of Portugal in *The Veneration of Saint Vincent*, by the 15th century painter Nuno Goncalves. [From *Heritage, Civilization and the Jews*, A. Eban, Summit Books, 1984]

In December 1495, Manoel became king of Portugal and freed the Jews who had been reduced to slavery by his predecessor. But his political ambitions soon made him very intolerant toward the Jews. He wished to marry Isabella, the eldest daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, but Isabella and her parents put a *sine-qua-non* condition on this alliance: that King Manoel forcibly convert or expel from his kingdom all the Jews and Muslims. Manoel, wary of the consequences that might result from forcing the Muslims to convert, because there were many Christians living in Muslim countries, decided instead to provide them with whatever means they needed to help them leave Portugal. But he had no such fear for the Jews, and on Dec. 5, 1496, he ordered them out of his country by April 1497. Otherwise they would be put to death. He promised that they could take all their property with them, that all the money owed them by Christians would be paid before their departure and that he would provide them with adequate means of transportation.

On Dec. 31, 1496, telling the Jews he wanted to make sure they would be well treated by the captains of the ships and their sailors, the king ordered them to individually ask his permission to leave Portugal. Expecting only a very few to comply, he was surprised and disappointed when practically all the Jews asked for permission to leave. Furious, he resolved to stop at nothing to achieve his double aim: to suppress Judaism forever in Portugal but to keep the majority of his Jews, with their skills and their wealth.

In April 1497, he ordered all children up to the age of 20 to be baptized and sent to Catholic convents. Bishop Osorio, a historian of the time wrote: "It was a horrid and wretched spectacle to see tender children torn from the arms and breasts of their distressed mothers…Some were so distracted that they destroyed their children by casting them into wells. Others, in fits of despair, made away with themselves…Many became Christians. Some, perhaps were sincere…but far more were only so in outward appearance. By this means they recovered their children and were restored to their freedom."

The king then promised to return the children to their parents if they also converted and when they refused, they were thrown into jail without food or drink. Later, reneging on an earlier promise to give the Jews the choice of three ports from which to depart — Lisbon, Oporto and Setubal — he ordered them all to gather in Lisbon. Once there, they were forcibly dragged to churches to be publically baptized in front of a delirious and frenzied populace. Only a few hundred managed somehow to take advantage of the confusion and flee to Morocco.

Jews all over Portugal heard what had happened to their brothers and sisters who had trusted the king and many externally adopted the religion being forced upon them. Some preferred to kill themselves rather than submit to the will of a cruel and deceitful king. Thus ended the once peaceful and prosperous Jewish community of Portugal and thus started the painful but common story of the *convertidos* who would also be subjected to the horrible machinery of the Inquisition.

(Part II next week)

Opinions

An age-old pattern

The arrogance of nations is unbelievable. First, they push Israel into a corner through "repeated and biased criticism. Then, when they helped isolate Israel internationally, they blame Israel for being alone in the world."

By Emil Fackenheim in Jerusalem

Thus wrote Jan Willem van der Hoeven, the head of the Christian Embassy in Jerusalem, on April 2 in the *Jerusalem Post*. In Jewish history, it is an old syndrome: first they would stop Jews from anything but money-lending, they they would blame them for lusting after gold. That was medieval. In modernity Moses Mendelssohn complained that they tie our hands and then blame us for not using them.

I am glad to get this from van der Hoeven just prior to departing for Germany, for a semester as Franz Rosenzweig professor at Kassel University. True, I do not expect in West Germany what I got four years ago in my one time home town of Halle, in the former Communist East: "You are doing to the Palestinians what we did to you." That was clever stuff straight from Moscow, at once attacking Israel and trivializing the Holocaust. Still, in its pros and cons about the peace process, the Federal Republic of Germany has joined that herd of independent politicians, the Europeans, in its pro-PLO bias.

In fairness, "the nations" are probably unaware of the pattern van der Hoeven has pointed out. That is why I am glad he spoke up. Sometimes a forthright statement, made by a courageous person, breaks a pattern. Maybe next he will speak up about Arafat's charge of our "Judaizing" Jerusalem — A word loaded with prejudice for many centuries.

EMBRACE OF THE LIVING

Two individuals embrace last week at the death camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau. They were part of a group of 2,500 people, mostly high school and university students from around the world, among whom were 150 Canadians, who participated in the March of the Living. After the commemorative ceremony at the death camp, the group flew to Israel to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut. [RNS/Reuters photo]

About color-blindness

The word "race" is used loosely these days if it is used at all. As for me, I would be happy to dispense with it altogether, for it calls attention to differences that do not exist. Still, an unhappy reality needs to be dealt with. Examples of racism mar the human landscape, and I am a living witness to its potential ferocity. I was present when our Allied troops opened the first concentration camp they came across in 1945, and what I saw then cured me for the rest of my life, if curing I ever needed.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

My religious tradition fortifies my view of "race" as a recent lamentable invention. It has always struck me that the Torah — the spiritual constitution of Judaism and Christianity and a motive power in the nascence of Islam — does not have a word for "race." It has a word for poor which occurs many times throughout the text, and in a memorable passage the Torah says that the poor will never disappear, they will always be with us.

But no such text is found about race. For someone living today, that may be hard to believe. While prejudice and discrimination did of course exist in biblical days, the Torah does not relate them to race. In the catalogue of nations in the 10th chapter of Genesis, people of the world are divided according to two characteristics: their geographic location and their language. Nothing is said about being red, black, yellow, white or whatever.

In our day, "race" denotes persons different from us; in the Bible, such people are called "strangers." Over 30 times, the text reminds us to befriend them. They deserve this treatment because they lack a support system they had back home, and not because they are different in nature or color. When strangers become residents, they are fully accepted into society.

Our language still reflects this close connection between persons who once were strangers and perhaps potential enemies, and the friends and members of society that they will hopefully become. Take the Latin word for "enemy" which is *hostes*. (The English word "hostility" comes from it.) But when instead of fighting the *hostes* you take him in and become his *host*, the stranger who yesterday posed a threat has become a partner and friend. The potential enemy, the *hostes*, is taken in by the *host* as into a *hostel*, and therefore through the practice of *hospitality* the tensions are dissolved.

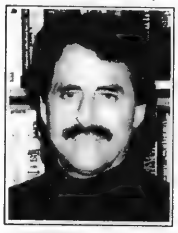
What this all amounts to can be stated very simply: my tradition has nothing to say about race, and while it is asserts that poverty will always be with us, it does not say that racism will also be. Therefore, the challenge of this day, which is to eliminate racism all over the world, appears to me something that is achievable.

I understand the Torah to say to me: "You were born color-blind," metaphorically speaking. Dr. Oliver Sacks, in his latest book, speaks about the disability of color-blindness, taking it in the physiological sense. In the metaphoric sense, color-blindness is an ideal that society must achieve if it is to be healthy at the core.

Based on a talk given at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, B.C.

Wishing better life for next generation

I must admit that even for a cynical journalist like me, this year's Holocaust Day was especially difficult to witness and experience. The reason lies mostly in the fact that I am a parent and not just a journalist.



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

This year's Holocaust day was dedicated to the 1.5 million Jewish children murdered by the Nazis, and to the 350,000 other youths who survived but have yet to escape their terrifying past. We have all seen the heart-wrenching celluloid black and white images of dead and dying children in the Warsaw Ghetto.

But it was actually watching my 11-year-old daughter Sasha standing among her Grade 5 class at Brandeis Public School, each wearing the yellow star on their clothes with "Jude" imprinted on it that struck home.

For a few moments, I could imagine how I would feel if my daughter was transported back in time and place to Nazi-occupied Europe. For a few seconds I could sense the terror, the hopelessness, the frustration of not being able to protect her from harm. For several precious minutes I could feel the horror of her loving family shelter burned away in the ovens of Auschwitz and Treblinka.

In one instant protected, in another destroyed, or maybe even worse, suddenly left alone to survive in a hostile world where a Jewish child is denied the right to live. No wonder, I thought, that a nation built out of the Holocaust would be so mistrusting of other countries, so obsessed with protection and survival, and would view Arab regimes as the next reincarnation of the Nazi threat.

I can understand the fear, I can understand the threat, I can understand the need to be able to defend yourself and your family. But while I can empathize, I cannot accept the often accepted conclusion that it is better to live by the gun, surrounded by enmity, and not risk compromise with Arab neighbors lest there be another Holocaust.

Such a conclusion only condemns us to living in a self-imposed Warsaw Ghetto with self-fulfilling prophecies of pan-Arab hostility for Jews being realized.

We have to remember the Holocaust, we must never forget, but we must also not be chained by our difficult past.

I am not saying there is no need to be vigilant or not to be strong. Israel is a nuclear power and it is a good thing the Jewish state has such deterrence in such a rough environment as the Middle East.

But it is precisely that strength that can give Israel the luxury of being able to compromise over territory and still be secure. Such compromise will not magically create love between Arab and Jew. Deep down inside, Arabs definitely want to throw "Jews into the sea," and to be quite honest, most Israelis — even those on the left — want the Palestinians to evaporate like water in the Negev.

But their wanting to throw us into the sea does not mean it can be done. Our Holocaust legacy should not convince us that genocidal desire and capability are one and the same. Rather, the six million should teach us to be vigilant, yet searching for a change based on more positive human values.

While Palestinians and Israelis are bonded by mutual hate, there is also a common bond in the wish for a better life for the next generation of Jewish and Arab children, a life that would be so much better than the terrible fate met by the children of the Holocaust. That desire should be cultivated in a renewed and vigorous peace process.

Election '97

National unity the key issue for Quebec Jews

By HAROLD M. WALLER

Opinion

As this election campaign unfolds, the Jews of Montreal, like many of their fellow citizens in other parts of Canada, know what their political objectives are, but they are not necessarily sure how to pursue them.

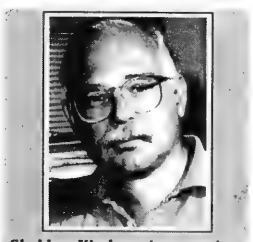
The campaign, which is already nearly a third of the way to completion at this writing, has so far failed to shed light on the vital issues, much less provide voters with a clear indication of what difference their choice will make.

In a sense, this is a surreal election: the country faces one overriding issue, yet there is little talk about how to deal with it. It is almost a case of prospective governing parties hoping that if they form a government, the problem will somehow or other go away, allowing them to devote themselves to the more mundane but less challenging tasks of governing.

Of course, one can ask whether in fact there is more than one prospective governing party. If not, do the Liberals not have a special obligation to make their plans eminently clear to an electorate that is so fragmented that it is difficult for a coherent opposition to present itself?

The key issue, of course, is national unity, a euphemism for the more complex issue of what the federal government plans to do to maintain the integrity of the federation in the face of a governing movement in Quebec that persists in threatening secession and by the admission of its former leader that he came close to carrying out insurrectionary moves in 1995. This is the central and fundamental issue for Montreal's Jews and for most Quebec federalists of any background.

Is national unity more important for Jews than for other federalists? That is an interesting question. Montreal's Jews have been especially sensitive to the possible excesses of Quebec nationalism over the years. It is no secret that many Jews have been particularly outspoken on the issues over the years. (One recalls Charles Bronfman's remarks in 1976.) More recently, Jews have been very prominent in a number of grassroots unity organizations, some of which stress the partition of Quebec into federalist and separatist areas should the province attempt to secede from Canada. Needless to say, Mordecai Richler's no-holds-barred writing style has become a prominent feature of anti-separatist sentiment in Montreal.



Sheldon Kirshner is on assignment in Switzerland. The Kirshner File will be re-opened upon his return.

It is difficult to know with certainty, but the sensitivity of the Jews probably reflects the historical experience of the Jewish people, which has not been comfortable in extreme nationalist environments where Jews were among those perceived as outsiders.

For all of the efforts of the Jewish community to integrate into Quebec life, both individually and as a community, the vast majority of Jews here simply do not share those feelings and emotions that fuel the separatist impulse among so many Québécois.

The combination of widespread Jewish opposition to the independence project and the prominence of Jews in various anti-separatist or pro-Canada organizations has created an atmosphere where Jews can easily become the targets of nationalist anger and resentment.

Thus, even though Jews are not oppposed to secession simply because they are Jews, they often feel singled out by the various outbursts of the more radical separatists. And then-premier Jacques Parizeau's denunciation of "money and the ethnic vote" was perceived as a thinly veiled threat by many Jews.

If Jews in Montreal were asked what they wanted, most would probably prefer an end to the separatist threat that has been a source of constant anguish for over 20 years. The next best thing would be assurance that the federal government would deal decisively with that danger when the crunch came. There is a widespread perception that the federal government was not prepared adequately for a possible Yes majority in the 1995 referendum. Can the parties now tell us how they will handle such an eventuality in the future?

For the Jews, these issues will be played out most vividly in the campaign in Mount Royal riding, which covers the Town of Mount Royal, Cote St-Luc, Hampstead, and parts of Montreal. It is a heavily Jewish riding that traditionally votes Liberal and can be counted upon to provide a nearly unanimous No vote in any referendum on independence. Currently the riding is represented by former cabinet member Sheila Finestone. Her two main challengers are Carolyn Steinman for the Progressive Conservatives and Howard Galganov, an independent. All three of these candidates are well known within the community. Finestone has had a high profile during her many years as an MP, Steinman runs the busy Montreal office of Canadian Friends of Hebrew University and is the only one of the three who lives in the riding, and Galganov has made headlines since 1995 with his various populist campaigns for English-language rights.

For the residents of Mount Royal, the question will be whether the Liberals' record on national unity during the Chrétien era inspires confidence that they will be able to handle a future crisis. If so, then the voters will do their usual thing and vote for Finestone. If they prefer to protest what they consider to have been weak leadership in Ottawa and a willingness to contemplate sacrificing their rights and interests in order to placate Quebec nationalists, then they might choose Galganov, thereby providing him with a platform in the House of Commons to articulate a more confrontationist and less accommodating position on their behalf. A more conventional way to express discontent with the Liberals would be to send Steinman to Ottawa, especially if her leader appears to be doing well in other parts of Quebec.

There are other issues in this campaign too, notably the economy, which has yet to produce the job growth that the country needs so badly; the high levels of taxation; the effects of sharp cuts in government spending.

For Jews, the question of Nazi war criminals in Canada continues to rankle. It is over a half century since the end of the Holocaust. During most of that time the Liberals have held power. Yet Canada's record of dealing with accused war criminals is an embarrassment. Will a new Liberal government do better than its predecessors? Would any of the other parties do any better?

These are trying times in Montreal. Minority communities, including Jews and others, experience unrelenting pressure from the threat posed by the PQ's control of the provincial government. The combination of antagonistic policies on a day to day basis with the prospect of another referendum makes those voters weary and frustrated. They are looking to the federal parties to point to a way out of this conundrum but finding little that would reassure them. This is not a time for politics as usual, certainly not in the city in which Canada has to prove that the country works.

Great leaders become great because they respond in creative ways to the demands imposed by crises. The voters are justified in asking where they can find Canada's great leader.

***

Harold M. Waller is professor of political science at McGill University and director of the Canadian Centre for Jewish Community Studies.

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Montreal riding ethnically diverse

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Outremont Liberal incumbent Martin Cauchon eased to an easy, 4,400-vote victory over the Bloc Québécois (BC) in the ethnically-diverse, usually safe Liberal seat in 1993.

But BQ candidate Michel Sarra-Bournet feels Cauchon will have his work cut out for him this year.

The riding, whose western boundary is Victoria Street in Snowdon, has been redrawn and now stretches eastward into Montreal's "Plateau" region all the way to St. Hubert Street.

That means while the riding still includes a significant number of Jews — by rough estimate about 3,500, including most of Montreal's ultra-Orthodox population and Jewish pockets in Snowdon and Cote des Neiges — it will also for the first time include potentially stronger nationalist support.

The other contenders for the seat include Progressive Conservative (PC) candidate Margritte Sicard and Tooker Gomberg for the New Democratic Party (NDP).

Cauchon, in an interview, saw the election's main issue as job creation and was prepared to campaign on the Liberal record.

In Cauchon's view, providing Quebecers with jobs, a social safety net and general good government are the the best weapons against Quebec separating.

Cauchon says he has also maintained strong contacts with his riding's Jewish community and general constituents, and has passed on its concerns over war criminals to Justice Minister Allan Rock.

While Sarra-Bournet is well aware of the Jewish community's overwhelmingly federalist sympathies, he said he has also maintained close contacts with the community at an official level and "I have been following the Jewish community closely.

"I will be talking to its members," he said. "I'm not sure it's my duty to persuade them to vote Yes [in the next referendum], but the Jewish community has found a very good spokesman if they elect me."

In a general sense Sarra-Bournet said he would campaign on what he said was Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's dismal record of economic and cultural support for Montreal, including Bill C-71, the tobacco legislation that threatens the future viability of several Montreal festivals.

But he also indicated he had Jewish issues at heart, including "war crimes against humanity," he said.

For Sicard, a playwright, city councillor in St. Hippolyte and active community volunteer, national unity is a major issue, and a problem best solved under PC leader Jean Charest.

"If Meech Lake had passed there would be no problem," she said. "He is the man best able to keep the country united."

Outremont

Sicard also feels she will find a sympathetic ear within the riding's Jewish community, which she said, like herself, shares a total commitment to family values and children.

While Sicard admitted to not being all that informed on the war crimes issue, she expressed a commitment to "study it" since there "has to be justice."

Gomberg , an "environmental educator" and journalist, is the riding's only Jewish candidate.

Gomberg frankly acknowledged that despite Outremont garnering the highest level of NDP support in Montreal, it would take "something of a miracle" to take the riding, yet he felt it his duty to bring forward a federalist voice that would maintain social policies he considers to be eviscerated under Liberal or PC regimes.

His is a message, he said, that should resonate within the Jewish community, with its traditions of tikkun olam (repairing the world) and social consciousness.

Gomberg was also outraged by the revelations by Nazi-hunter Steven Rambam about the high number of possible war criminals in Canada.

"He dug up information that the government and police force couldn't," he said.

Flood waters dampen voters' political spirits

By MYRON LOVE
Special to The CJN

WINNIPEG — While the rest of Canada focuses attention on political leaders crisscrossing the country in search of votes, residents of Winnipeg and southern Manitoba this month only had eyes for the rising waters of the Red River.

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's election call was greeted by most southern Manitobans with indifference, as they piled up sandbags to keep flood waters from overwhelming their communities.

This will be an election like no other across Manitoba, where many voters were upset by this month's decision not to delay the June 2 vote until the flood danger had passed completely.

In parts of southern Manitoba, there may be no campaigning at all. Many observers feel the election will favor the incumbent or candidates with instant name recognition.

As things now stand, the Liberals hold 12 of Manitoba's 14 seats and six of seven in Winnipeg, a situation that's expected to change.

The riding of North Winnipeg, for example, where about 40 percent of the city's Jewish population lives, has been represented for the past two Parliaments by Liberal MP Rey Pagtakhan, who took the seat in 1988 from longtime NDP MP David Orlikow.

Pagtakhan is a popular MP, but he will not be defending the area this time. Under redistribution of ridings announced last fall, part of his riding was combined with a rural seat to the north. He has chosen to fight for the rural seat, leaving the north Winnipeg area up for grabs.

The early favorite to take the seat is the NDP candidate, Judy Wasylycia-Leis, a popular former MLA for the area who lost to Pagtakhan last round.

The Liberal candidate is school trustee Judy Opitz Silver, while the Conservative hopeful is Marni Larkin, who ran third in 1993.

The majority of Winnipeg's Jewish population live in the southern ridings represented by Lloyd Axworthy, minister of Foreign Affairs, and Reg Alcock.

Axworthy has held his seat since 1979. The most popular politician in Winnipeg, he is seen as a shoo-in for re-election.

Alcock won his traditionally Conservative riding in 1993, defeating provincial Tory cabinet minister Dorothy Dobbie. He is one of those incumbents who may benefit from the name recognition that goes with a shortened campaign.

Duceppe backs war crimes deportations

MONTREAL — Bloc Québécois (BQ) leader Gilles Duceppe threw his support behind efforts to have Ottawa speed up the deportation process against Nazi war criminal in Canada.

In a statement issued by the BQ press office on May 5 — Yom Hashoah and the day of a mass Jewish community rally on Nazi war criminals — Duceppe sent a written message to Canadian Jewish Congress expressing his solidarity.

"The attitude of the federal government on this issue concerns me greatly," Duceppe wrote.

"Despite the evidence and the brimming files that have been prepared on the subject, the Canadian government remains deaf to the claims of your community which demand justice.

Argentine justice falling short

By MORRIS ZBAR

For any country to be considered as a member of the family of civilized nations, it must adhere to the biblical injunction found in the Book of Deuteronomy... "Justice, justice, alone shall you pursue so that you may dwell and thrive in the house that the Lord your God has built."

Sadly for the world in general and the Jewish community in particular, Argentina has not met the standard.

After an all-night flight, my colleagues and I arrived in Buenos Aries. We were invited, as Mandel Fellows, to spend a week or so in Argentina and Uruguay, learning about the Jewish communities in the two nations, where we were hosted by the staff of the American Joint Distribution Committee.

Instead of the few hours of rest we were anticipating, we were immediately taken to the Plaza Lavelle, which faces the Courts of Justice building, to participate in the weekly demonstration staged by Memoria Activa. Week after week, Memory and Action reminds the Argentinian government and the world that the souls of those killed in the combined bombings of the Israeli Embassy (March 11, 1992) and AMIA, the Central Jewish Community building, (July 19, 1994) cannot be at peace until justice is done.

Memory and Action, a grassroots organization formed by the families of victims and others concerned about justice, has arisen as a spontaneous manifestation of the Jewish community's anguish. The weekly vigils include remembrance of the individuals killed and also legitimate demands for the government to complete the legal process.

To date, the government has not responded in a way that is consistent with the precepts of a civil and democratic society. The Argentinian government has refused to investigate the possible linkages between the two bombings. Two different judicial bodies are formally investigating the attacks and there is no direct coordination allowed.

Both investigations are limited in their scope. A review of police surveillance of the sites is not being undertaken. There are serious questions about the performance of the police function prior to both bombings.

Other shortcomings in the investigations should be addressed by the appropriate Argentine authorities.

It is clear that the Jews of Canada must show solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Argentina. We must remember those who died, and demonstrate our collective grief to the Jews of Argentina with both public and private memorials on July 18. We should petition the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs to remind their Argentinian colleagues that justice must be done. MPs should be contacted and the situation explained to further increase pressure on the Argentinian government. We must meet with Argentinian diplomatic officials in Canada and remind them that the world will not permit this tragedy to be forgotten.

The Jews of Argentina and the blessed memory of those lost in the two bombings demand this of us. We must not shirk this obligation. The notion of klal Israel is one that we should take seriously especially in these circumstances.

Morris Zbar is director of community planning and allocations and the associate director of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

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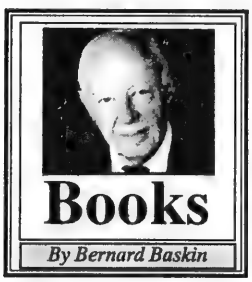

Books

By Bernard Baskin

The 'vanishing' Jew

***The Vanishing American Jew*, by Alan M. Dershowitz (Little Brown Press, $33.95)**

Will there be a viable North American Jewish community in 75 years? Not likely, concludes Alan Dershowitz, when we consider the state of intermarriage, widespread assimilation and the low birth rate. In addition, there is the marked decline in Jewish literacy. "No group in America is less knowledgeable about its traditions, less literate in its language, less familiar with its own library, than the Jews." Thus, the outlook appears bleak for North American Jewry — and indeed for all of Diaspora Jewry.

The author, a professor at Harvard Law School, former appellate lawyer on the O.J. Simpson defence team, and best-selling author, seems tireless. He is a frequent TV and radio commentator and a popular newspaper columnist. Since his book, *Chutzpah* (1991), he has addressed more than 100,000 Jews in cities across North America.

Dershowitz is a passionate Jew and an unvarnished political liberal. He is independent and outspoken: "I don't have an agenda. I'm not a rabbi. I'm not concerned about stepping on Jewish toes. I take on this project as if I were a lawyer asked to defend the Jewish future."

Anti-Semitism, in one form or another used to unify the Jewish community, but is no longer a serious threat. "The skinheads, militias, Holocaust deniers, and Farrakhan followers have become marginalized." Institutional anti-Semitism is on the wane. Bigots and hate groups have to be carefully watched, but they have no significant day-by-day impact on the lives of most Jews.

Canadian readers will be interested in his impressions that the Ernst Zundel trials were mishandled by the Toronto community. "A trial is simply the wrong vehicle for educating the public about the truth of the Holocaust, because 'truth' is never the issue in such a trial. The issue is always freedom of speech. The defendant becomes the free-speech martyr, and his free speech gets free and often sympathetic press coverage from a media that is sensitive to any threats to its own freedom of expression."

Intermarriage is for him not just an abstract or a statistical subject. It has deep emotional overtones. His son married a Roman Catholic and he is troubled that his grandchildren — even if raised as Jews — will not be considered Jews by at least some segments of the community.

He believes, however, that threats, guilt, and other conventional mechanisms for discouraging intermarriage do not work. "We must learn how to deal with that reality in the most constructive manner possible. A half-Jewish grandchild who is proud of his or her Jewish heritage is preferable, from a Jewish perspective, to a grandchild who completely rejects it. A non-Jewish son-in-law or daughter-in-law who loves Judaism and Jewish life is better than one who resents it. If we cannot fight our children's mixed marriage, we must try to get these children to join us."

If the author's many-sided analysis of the problems of Jewish drift and indifference are absorbing and cogent, his solutions to the problem are disappearing. What are they? He underscores the importance of education. Why shouldn't community resources be shifted from the defence organizations to this vital need? This emphasis must include both children and adults. "If learning is indeed the secret of Jewish survival, then unless we can reverse the trend toward Jewish ignorance we are doomed."

In addition, he calls for a program of enlightened outreach toward the intermarried that will bring into the orbit of the synagogue and Jewish life, an increased appreciation of the contribution of secular Judaism and the need for inspiring new leadership. Acknowledging that these necessary changes will be difficult, he remains cautiously optimistic that the coming era can be a time of fruitful renewal.

The author's frequent digressions include a variety of controversial issues: patrilineal descent, the necessity for pluralism in Jewish life, and how to confront Israel's theological dilemmas.

In keeping with his reputation as a renowned teacher and advocate, Dershowitz presents his arguments, candidly, provocatively and with refreshing humor. This outspoken and sobering account raises critical and vital questions. Every concerned Jew should be interested.

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Greater Toronto Area

Democracy Israel's greatest strength: Campbell

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel's critics often forget that it's a democracy, said Kim Campbell at a recent Toronto Hadassah-WIZO luncheon.

Tempering her words with realism, the former Canadian prime minister (the first woman to attain that position) who is now Canada's consul general in Los Angeles, noted that Israel, like Canada and other democracies, "may sometimes disappoint.

"A democracy is not a precision tool," she said. "It's a blunt instrument. But [Israel] *is* a democracy...This is what gives Israel its moral authority, and that's what gives it its strength and resilience."

Democracy is "so much better than any of the alternatives that it behooves us to fight for it," she said.

Reflecting on her own political career which spanned all three levels of government, Campbell, 50, linked it with the volunteerism being celebrated at the annual Youth Aliyah luncheon, which supports projects helping disadvantaged youth in Israel. Both volunteerism and politics are ways of being involved in one's community, suggested Campbell.

Other speakers at the luncheon included Dora Kichler, Youth Aliyah/youth services campaign chair, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO; Vivien Sharon, president Toronto Hadassah-WIZO; Sharon Kroft, vice-president, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO; Ruti Kinar representing the consul general of Israel; and Isabel Bassett, MPP, representing the province of Ontario. The Bialik Hebrew Day School children's choir gave a special presentation.

In Campbell's current position, one of her roles is to communicate the differences between Canada and the United States.

For Canadians, "one of the problems we have with American domination of our media is that we think we know much more about the United States than we really do."

Kim Campbell

In California, for example, the white population will be outnumbered by Hispanics and other visible minorities by the turn of the century, she said.

"We really think we're the only country in the world that deals with language divisions or regional divisions...Americans are facing these same challenges, but from a different perspective," she said. "I think in some ways it's a more troubling perspective because there's no institutional framework to look at these issues."

A trailblazer for women leaders, Campbell believes she helped "redefine people's expectations...We're all subliminally conditioned to expect certain kinds of people to do certain kinds of jobs."

While it's important not to overstate gender differences, said Campbell, studies show that women and men have had different leadership styles and different communication styles. The latter, which includes women being more likely than men to downplay their certainty, can lead capable women to appear lacking in confidence, she noted.

Campbell, who said she has been described as arrogant, doesn't think her own style of speech is typically female.

In addressing the mostly female audience of 170 people, she didn't shy away from addressing the brevity of her tenure as prime minister.

"I can hardly complain about having lost an election in 1993," she said. "If one can put a small tile in the mosaic of human progress, I think you're very privileged indeed."

Heritage Front closes phone line

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Heritage Front hotline, the telephone message machine that landed the white supremacist group into hot water on more than one occasion, is shutting down.

A message on the hotline last week announced that in the wake of legal "persecution" and given the commitment needed to maintain the hotline, it had become a liability and would be terminated. Instead, the Heritage Front would continue to disseminate its message through the Internet and other new technologies.

The announcement was treated as a partial victory by one of the Jewish community's leading anti-racist spokespersons.

Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, said "the Heritage Front is nowhere right now. It's a mere shadow of what it once was."

Leaders who took the Heritage Front to the forefront of the Canadian racist movement in the early '90s have left the group. Its main organizer, Grant Bristow, was shown to be a CSIS mole, George Burdi is serving a one-year jail sentence for assault and Wolfgang Droege is facing charges for car theft, Farber said.

Continued confrontations by anti-racists have also worn down the white supremacist group. Complaints to the Canadian Human Rights Commission have led to orders limiting content of the hotline and several members of the white supremacist organization were jailed for violating those orders.

Farber said broad-based public education efforts have diluted the Heritage Front's appeal to potential young recruits. That, coupled with the fact that its leaders have gotten in trouble with the law, has weakened the Heritage Front and reduced its credibility when it attempts to recruit new members, he added.

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Greater Toronto Area

Sexism in Conservative movement explored

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Preliminary cautions by the moderator of a recent panel discussion underscored the delicate nature and underlying controversy of the evening's topic: Conservative Sexism??? Does It Exist?

"This evening should not be perceived as a threat. No theology is on trial," said human rights consultant Toni Silberman at the recent town hall forum held at Beth Tikvah Synagogue by its sisterhood.

Because of "the nature of the subject," the audience of about 175 people, at least half of whom were shul members, was given the option of writing questions rather than using the microphones provided.

Rabbi Adina Lewittes, assistant dean of the rabbinical school of the Conservative Movement's Jewish Theological Seminary, led off the discussion. Also speaking were Judy Feld Carr, first woman president of Beth Tzedec Congregation; Deborah Spiegel, assistant director of the Conservative movement's Camp Ramah in Canada and member of the Orthodox Shaarei Shomayim Congregation; and Melva Novak, former principal of a Conservative day school in the United States.

Feld Carr, best known for her dramatic role in the rescue of the Syrian Jewish community, pulled no punches about women's roles in Canadian Conservative synagogues. Women here "face a veritable desert...Apart from a few synagogues across the country [including an egalitarian one in Richmond Hill, noted an audience member], the role of women is primarily to participate communally as part of the congregation and to act as a bystander to men."

Women entitled to open the ark

At Beth Tzedec, unlike most of its local Conservative counterparts, women are entitled to open the ark and receive aliyot without restrictions.

But the changes at Beth Tzedec came about only three years ago, after a group of members began to sensitize others to the issues. Eventually 1,200 people signed a petition demanding the expansion of women's roles in the services, said Feld Carr.

The hiring of Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, the study sessions he gave on the role of women from a halachic perspective and his writing of a detailed responsum all led up to the granting of aliyot to women, said Feld Carr.

Prior to adopting its new policy, the shul was losing young members, she indicated. "We were wondering, 'Where are all the young people?'

"You know where they are. At the Narayever [an egalitarian congregation]. Young women left our shul because there was no place for them."

Because the changes came about through "evolution, not revolution, this kept the congregation intact," said Feld Carr. Only six of the 2,700 member families left the congrgation because they objected to the changes, she noted.

Likewise in the greater Conservative movement, changes have evolved over time, said Rabbi Lewittes.

The 1983 decision to ordain women as Conservative rabbis was part of a 60-year process, she said. The issue of women's aliyot arose in 1955, "well before feminism. Rabbis said, 'How could we give our young daughters the same educational opportunities [as boys] and not allow them to employ those skills?' "

The issues have "great emotional import," said Rabbi Lewittes, who was raised in a "modern Orthodox community" in Montreal, and underwent "a transforming experience" at age 20, reading from the Torah for the first time at Camp Ramah. "The world of traditional Jewish learning and full participation for women came together for me."

At Beth Tikvah, a proportionately small group of women (and some men) is still struggling to integrate those aspects. At a lecture last month on Women's Spirituality, an audience member said she feels "like furniture" at Beth Tikvah. "We are making small strides, but the reality is, if there are not 10 men, I cannot say Kaddish."

Young members leaving congregation

A founding member of Beth Tikvah noted that young members are leaving the congregation. "We built it for our spiritual needs and for a long time it sufficed, but ...times have changed."

When it comes to official sanction for making changes, Rabbi Lewittes explained that while Conservative Judaism uses a halachic framework, the movement accepts the notion of "halachic pluralism," accepting that there can be more than one valid opinion on a given halachic issue.

Complicating matters further is that every rabbi is considered the halachic authority for his or her own community, she noted.

On the issue of women's aliyot, for example, talmudic contraindications include a prohibition against reading in public "because of the honor of the congregation." That is now subject to rabbinic reinterpretation, said Rabbi Lewittes, because society has changed. Nonetheless, the Conservative movement encompasses positions both for and against women's aliyot.

Novak discussed developments within the Orthodox feminist movement "in the hope that we as women will be able to bridge the growing chasm."

Spiegel, a product of the Ramah camp system who became observant as an adult, is involved with Reform, Conservative and Orthodox segments of the population. When she teaches at Holy Blossom Temple, she said, she's "certainly not there to convert but to educate."

And the support she received "from all facets of the community" when her young daughter was seriously ill "allowed me to believe G-d really exists."

Camp Ramah's egalitarian policy, permitting girls to read from the Torah, "presents a unique opportunity for many Toronto-area girls," Spiegel said.

"If we want to assist in shaping the nature of our synagogue," said Feld Carr, "we cannot merely express ourselves through women's organizations such as sisterhoods, no matter how wonderful they are. We have so much more to do."

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Comic actresses Chaya Smukler (left) and Sheri Wise performed at a recent spring fashion show, "Jewish Women Leading the Way," held at B'nai Brith's Hove Street headquarters. Over 50 volunteers, chaired by Irina Petrini, organized the fundraiser, which included a women's and children's fashion show, music, skits and a d'var Torah. Nearly 300 women attended the event, proceeds from which went to the Rabbi Hirsch Rabisky Congregation, located at 15 Torresdale Ave., and serving Toronto's growing Russian-Jewish community.

Irvin Strub founded pickle company

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Obituary

TORONTO — Irvin Strub, founder of the well-known Strub Brothers Ltd. pickle business, died recently in Toronto. He was 86.

Strub was born in Russia in 1910 and came to Canada in 1926. When the family's first business ventures fell on hard times, they began to sell pickles, made according to an old family recipe, to a local deli.

The new venture proved popular, and Irvin, his brother Dan, and their father expanded pickle production, first into their backyard, then to a facility in Dundas.

Members of the family did everything, says daughter Doris Strub Epstein, from buying the cucumbers, to producing the pickles, to marketing and delivering.

The plant expanded several times, until the Strubs opened their most recent plant in Brantford, in 1991.

Although Irvin stepped down from the company in 1986, he remained involved and interested, even having an office in the new facility.

While her father was "not an organization man," Strub Epstein said, he was involved with his synagogue, Adas Israel, and Shalom Village, a nursing home in Hamilton.

He began a series of visits to the former Soviet Union, and "helped countless people, bringing them money, medicines and other hard to get items."

The family never knew exactly what he accomplished there, she said, because he didn't talk about it.

Strub's first wife, Annie, died in 1963. He is survived by his wife Evelyn, his other children Leo, Harry, Danny and Esther Erez, 16 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

(with files from James Denby)

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GRANTS COVER FAR CORNERS OF COMMUNITY

Over $100,000 recently changed hands in round three of UJA Federation's continuity grant series. The Action Committee for Jewish Continuity (ACJC) allocated $120,000 to 19 projects representing a cross-section of the community, from Orthodox groups to interfaith families.

The diversity of the grant recipients is "fundamental to the success of this effort," said ACJC chairman Les Klein. "No single program answers the needs of all Jews."

Many proposals stemmed from young people, including one put forward by several members of UJA Federation's Young Leadership Development Program to strengthen Jewish identity in mixed marriages. Yeshiva Tomar Devorah will be conducting Torah study classes for young men attending university or working in the community.

Grants were awarded to groups involved in outreach to Jewish immigrants or Toronto residents from non-Canadian backgrounds. Volunteers from Beth Jacob girls school received money for a Shabbaton they will be holding for Russian families.

Another grant recipient is the Maccabi Toronto Soccer Club, which is currently fielding four Jewish amateur teams at the upcoming Maccabi Games in Israel.

Two groups focusing on the needs of Israelis living in Canada, the Israeli Association of Greater Toronto and Tzabar Toronto, which is affiliated with the Boy and Girl Scouts Federation in Israel, received ACJC grants. Both groups run their programs in Hebrew.

HaMachon, a leadership training program for high school students, run by Canadian Young Judea, is also an ACJC beneficiary.

Tzabar scout leader Revital Ben-Knaz (middle with glasses) brought some of her scouts along to the Continuity Grant reception. Tzabar, the only active Israeli scout club in Canada, will use the funds for outreach and programming. *(Paul Appleby photo)*

Children's production portrays tragedy and hope

Recently, 38 children gathered at B'nai Brith Canada headquarters for their first rehearsal of *Brundibar*, a children's opera written in 1938 by Czech-Jewish composer Hans Krasa, a concentration camp inmate.

Brundibar, first staged by Krasa in 1943 at Theresienstadt (Terezin), the camp displayed by the Nazis to the world as a "model" facility, was performed 55 times by a cast of 50 children. Most of these children, along with the composer, perished in Auschwitz.

The current cast of kids, the second in Toronto to perform the opera, will be giving workshop performances at the Lipa Green Building Holocaust Memorial Centre and other venues. Development money has been provided by a grant from UJA Federation's Action Committee for Jewish Continuity.

This project is headed by children's entertainer and educator Helena Fine, who was the driving force behind last year's staging of *Brundibar*.

"One of the reasons we wanted to stage *Brundibar* in Toronto is because we believe it has tremendous potential for education," Fine said in a recent interview. "Culture is a powerful tool for strengthening Jewish identity."

She noted that the *Brundibar* experience spurred many of the young performers to examine their roots and ask questions of their parents and grandparents.

Pnina Zilberman, director of UJA Federation's Holocaust Remembrance Committee, said *Brundibar* is an excellent tool for teaching the Holocaust to children in grades 4 and 5.

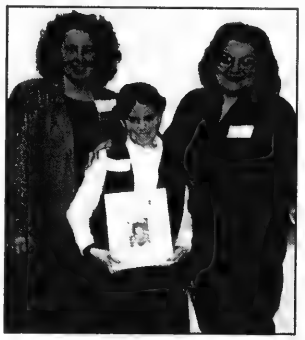
Fine said she first became interested in staging *Brundibar* after her friend, Torontonian John Freund, a former inmate of Terezin, who had seen a performance by the original *Brundibar* cast, told her about the opera and its tragic history.

After listening to a tape of a contemporary Czech production, Fine "was hooked," she said. "The music was delightful. It was a story of hope.... It was something new. Here I had a story that hadn't been told and needed to be told."

Members of the current Toronto cast of Brundibar. *(Judy Nisenholt photo)*

Funding in their hands

Parents of children with special needs have a new forum - a Toronto-based magazine called *b'yadeinu*, (In our hands), the recipient of a UJA Federation continuity grant.



B'yadeinu *magazine founder Susie Mittelman-Sokol, daughter Shira Sokol, and Jean Rodak.* *(Paul Appleby photo)*

Published quarterly, *b'yadeinu*, which debuted in December 1996, is the brainchild of Susie Mittelman-Sokol, the magazine's editor.

The parent of a 12-year old child with special needs, Mittelman-Sokol recognized that she and other Jewish parents in her situation could benefit from their own publication. *B'yadeinu* is produced on a shoe-string budget by Mittelman-Sokol and her cousin Jean Rodak, a designer and illustrator.

"It's an inexpensive and easy way to reach out to other families with special needs children," said Mittelman-Sokol. "It's a vehicle for venting, sharing, learning, *chizuk* (strength) and connecting with the rest of the community."

The money was "sorely needed to firmly develop the magazine as a viable entity," Mittelman-Sokol noted. "Costs are minimal and energy, intentions and dedication remain high."

She stressed that *b'yadeinu* also seeks to educate professionals and rabbis about special needs children so they can try harder to integrate them into the community.

With Mittelman-Sokol's busy schedule -- a mother of five, she drives in four car pools -- it's difficult for the two cousins to find time to meet, so they often hold editorial meetings during car pool. "I drive with Susie to do the car pool and that's when we work things out," Rodak said.

The glossy magazine which started with 23 pages, expanded to 34 pages by the March issue. The features include news from across Canada with contributions from New York and Israel.

JEWISH LIFE IN UNLIKELY LOCATIONS

Three Jewish grassroots groups which began sprouting in inner city neighbourhoods — the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, the Danforth Jewish Circle and the High Park area Jewish Community Association — have been awarded continuity grants by UJA Federation.

The Riverdale Jewish Community Centre made headlines three years ago when it held High Holiday services in a Greek restaurant.

Documentary filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici, a Riverdale founder, and his wife Nicole, were initially torn between moving out of Riverdale to live close to a shul and staying in the area to start one. "I consulted with a rabbi and he told me 'you're supposed to light a match where there is darkness. Stay where you are and start a shul.' "

A local public health office served as a make-shift shul for Saturday morning services for a year and a half until last Shavuot when the group moved into its permanent home, a converted karate studio on the Danforth.

(from right) Downtowners Simcha Jacobovici, Felix Goluboy and Aaron Skitri at the opening of the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre

This fall, the Community Centre will embark on a new project to encourage and strengthen Jewish identity among Riverdale residents.

"We want to involve community members in hands-on programming like drama, visual art and film to explore themes of Jewish identity," said Sara Jacobovici.

The Danforth Jewish Circle is comprised of residents seeking a liberal outlook.

The fledgling group held High Holiday services, at Eastminster United Church, attracting more than 300 local residents, many of whom are in interfaith marriages.

Since then, the year-old Danforth Jewish Circle has held Chanukah and Purim parties, a third Seder and regular Shabbat programs.

A monthly newsletter goes out to more than 200 households on the mailing list, which has grown dramatically since the High Holidays. According to Board member Tanya Luder, people have been drawn to the Danforth Jewish Circle because of its emphasis on inclusiveness. "With the high rate of interfaith marriages we want non-Jewish spouses to feel welcome."

Across town, some 50 Jewish families from Parkdale, Swansea, Bloor West Village and Etobicoke make up the West End Jewish Community Association. "We really liked living in the west end and we wanted to create a Jewish presence here," said Francine Dick, one of the Association's founding members.

The seven-year-old group has revitalized the Knesseth Israel Synagogue (Junction shul), which, until recently, was only open on the High Holidays. "A few years ago they began to have a megillah reading for the first time in a generation in response to our request," Dick noted.

Taking tradition to the core

On Erev Shabbat, some half dozen young adults in their 20s and 30s gather in the tiny vintage kitchen of the Minsker Shul to prepare Shabbat dinner, a weekly communal meal sponsored by the congregation.

The Shabbat supper, open to anyone in the community, is the cornerstone of the shul's outreach program, which also includes bi-weekly study classes, Shabbat lunches, week-end Shabbatons and special events. The Minsker was recently awarded a UJA Federation continuity grant for its outreach work in the downtown area.

The shul, a tall domed structure built in 1930, is sandwiched between Chinatown and Kensington Market, a neighborhood that was once the centre of Jewish life in Toronto.

Rabbi Schmuel Spero, the spiritual leader since 1988, said an aging Jewish population with businesses in the downtown core had been supporting the shul, but as their numbers dwindled, it was necessary to attract younger members.

Maya and Mel Litman with Les Klein (right) , Chairman of UJA Federation's Action Committee for Jewish Continuity. (Paul Appleby photo)

The Minsker has become "a social and spiritual hub" characterized by the "openness and informality of the downtown experience," Rabbi Spero said.

According to president Mel Litman, the shul's informal atmosphere attracts visitors to the Shabbat dinners who are unfamiliar with the songs, candle lighting, kiddush and other Shabbat traditions.

"Experiencing Shabbat in this hands-on manner is a non-threatening way of teaching the traditions and strengthening Jewish identity," Litman emphasized. "People come because they feel comfortable and want to learn more."

SINGLES SUPPORT

For the last three years, *Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning* has been holding educational programs with a social component for singles during the winter holidays.

Kolel executive director, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, says these sessions were so successful, some participants began approaching her about holding more events.

UJA Federation's continuity grant will fund six evenings where singles will study and schmooze together. "Jews who want more commitment and knowledge and more spirituality will be able to meet like-minded people," Rabbi Goldstein explains.

The evenings, which will be held in three different locations: downtown, mid-town and Thornhill, will target specific age groups.

Although a lot of dating goes on through Kolel -- there have already been two marriages -- Rabbi Goldstein stresses the program is not a dating service, but, she says, it's a "great feeling" when people meet each other through the study of Torah.

Penny Edwards, who, for the last six years, has been working with single Jewish parents, received a grant to hold monthly programs for them and their children.

The programs will be infused with "*Yiddishkeit*," promised Edwards, a recreational therapist. "There's a real need for it," she says. "There are all kinds of things out there, but few are family oriented."

In the past, Edwards has organized successful Chanukah and Purim parties. Now she's planning to add Oneg Shabbat evenings.

"I want to provide many opportunities," she says, "for Jewish single parents and their children to meet each other through positive recreational events."

Jewish Soccer Tournament

The Toronto Maccabi soccer club (pictured left are some of the team members) will be a part of the first International Jewish soccer tournament in North America, to be held in Toronto in the summer of 1998.

Tournament organizer Martin Scott is using the funding he received from UJA Federation to help promote what he hopes will become a quadrennial event.

Advocacy: A S A P Social and Political
The Social and Political Action Newsletter of Jewish Women's Federation
JEWISH WOMEN'S FEDERATION TOGETHER JWF

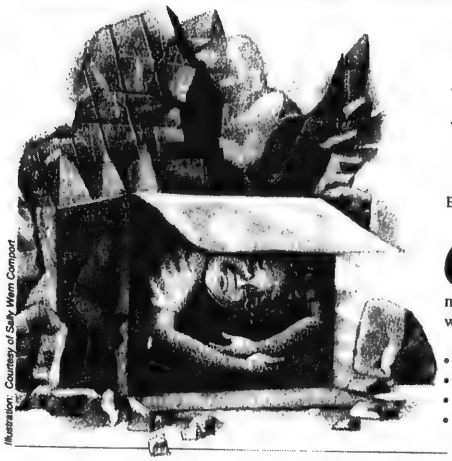


Illustration: Courtesy of Sally Wern Comport

FORGOTTEN VICTIMS:
When Children Witness Woman Abuse

BY SUSAN BROTMAN

Children are affected by what they see and hear, and by their home environment. Children who grow up in homes where their father is abusive towards their mother learn this strategy as a way to solve problems, deal with frustration and meet their needs.

In families with woman abuse:

- abuse is used to control the behaviour of others
- communication skills are often poor
- families may be isolated from their communities
- others are blamed for one's own thoughts, actions and feelings
- expressing feelings is seen as a weakness
- marriage is often characterized by rigid gender stereotypes.

(from *A Handbook for the Prevention of Family Violence*. "The Effects on Children Who Witness Wife Assault," 1990.)

Children in such families are at an increased risk of becoming involved in an abusive relationship, either as perpetrator or as victim, thus continuing the cycle of abuse across the generations (*Ontario Women's Directorate*, 1993).

Children who witness wife abuse can be left with many legacies as they grow and develop. Preschoolers (birth to 5 years) may have physical complaints, such as stomach aches or headaches and sleep disturbances or they may fail to thrive or develop properly. School aged children (6-12 years) may hang around their home believing their presence could protect their mother, or they may avoid home, believing their absence will improve the relationship. They may fear being abandoned or killed, or fear anger — their own or others'.

Girls tend to keep their emotions inside, displaying somatic complaints and withdrawn behaviour. Boys often demonstrate temper tantrums, fighting and bullying. Adolescents may use drugs or alcohol, run away from home, become involved in criminal activities, have suicidal thoughts, or escape into pregnancy and/or early marriage (*Unity House Child Care Program Manual.* " Effect of Witnessing Wife Assault on Children".)

The average length of time in which Jewish women stay with their abusive partners is approximately double that of non-Jewish women (Blumenstein, 1990). We are dealing with children, in whom patterns of negative behaviour may become more entrenched because they have witnessed abuse for many more years than their non-Jewish counterparts.

"Many families may find it difficult to approach JF&CS for service because of the deep shame they feel as Jewish women, wives and mothers."

Many children, who have never spoken about the abuse they have seen at home consider it helpful to talk about it with people in similar situations. Group therapy is the preferred treatment approach for child witnesses; however, some may require alternate treatment. Unfortunately, due to government cutbacks, some programs for children who have witnessed woman abuse are being jeopardized.

At JF&CS, The Children Witnessing Violence Program, serves children both individually and in groups. This program, beginning in February 1995, was made possible through the generous financial support of a donor.

Many women calling JF&CS who are experiencing abuse do not initially identify themselves as abused women. After a period of involvement, it's found that woman abuse is the primary issue. We believe many families may find it difficult to approach JF&CS for service because of the "*shonda*" (deep shame) they feel as Jewish women, wives and mothers. As community awareness increases, we hope that more men and women will reach out for service. For additional information, call JF&CS at (416) 638-7800.

Susan Brotman, M.S.W., is coordinator of the JF&CS Children Witnessing Violence Program.

ELDER ABUSE: *Breaking the Silence*

BY SHEILA ZANE AND BLANCHE WISEMAN

If you were an older person being mistreated or cheated by someone close to you, would you tell anyone about it? Probably not. Many older people are embarrassed or afraid to admit they are being abused by someone they trust.

Abuse, an issue of power and control, can be executed in a variety of ways.

It can be FINANCIAL through loss of control over bank accounts and pension cheques, theft of personal possessions or forgery.

Abuse can be EMOTIONAL with insults, humiliation, intimidation and isolation from other family and friends.

It can be SEXUAL or PHYSICAL by pushing, pinching, slapping and other forms of assault.

Abuse can also mean basic NEGLECT demonstrated by, among other things, withholding food or clothing; providing insufficient or too much medication; or refusing to allow home support services.

Studies show that elder abuse occurs just as much in our own Jewish community as it does in every other community and women in families with a history of violence are particularly vulnerable. How much more difficult it is for these women to admit abuse when they may depend upon their abusers for care! Fear, shame and ignorance about alternatives may prevent them from seeking help. Commonly, older victims are isolated in their homes with no one knowing what's going on. Cutbacks to community services such as transportation, health care and low cost housing increase the risk of abuse.

How do you know if someone is being abused? Here's what to look for (these indicators on their own may not be the result of abuse):

- depression, fear, anxiety or passivity
- unexplained physical injuries
- dehydration or lack of food
- over-sedation
- unexplained shortage of funds or missing possessions
- lack of personal hygiene

If you suspect an older person is being abused, be there to listen, with reassurances that he or she is not to blame, and offer to contact an outside agency, or the police in serious cases.

Seniors at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, are pioneers in educating the community through their Awareness Project on Abuse of the Elderly. Not only is the Centre a resource for elder abuse information, it sponsors a group of volunteer actors who present and discuss three original vignettes on the subject. The Awareness Project Players have performed for other seniors, families, professionals and students throughout southern Ontario. The Bernard Betel Centre and JF&CS were the first to initiate a support group for older abused women at the Centre.

The issue of elder abuse is only gradually being recognized as a serious social problem. There are no easy answers. Abuse is particularly horrifying when it happens to older people with more complex problems and fewer choices than those who are younger. We should be striving to provide accessible transportation, counselling, emergency accommodation and affordable housing so that older people can live out their lives with self-respect and dignity. Isolation goes hand in hand with elder abuse.

If you are looking for a meaningful volunteer job that could help to prevent abuse, consider becoming a driver, a friendly visitor, or a "buddy" to an abused woman. Contact the Bernard Betel Centre, Senior Care or Jewish Family and Child Service for information.

Sheila Zane, B.A., Dip.Ger., Co-Ordinator of the Awareness Project on Abuse of the Elderly, The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living.

Blanche Wiseman, Hon. B.A., B.S.W., C.S.W., Social Worker on Woman Abuse Team, Jewish Family & Child Service, Leader of a group for older abused women at The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living.

Awareness Project Players of the Bernard Betel Centre, Margaret Philips (left) and Fay Levy , presenting their play "Our Pride and Joy" to a conference on Elder Abuse.

The above articles are excerpts from the current issue of *ASAP*, a newsletter of Jewish Women's Federation of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. For a complete copy call JWF at (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.

Greater Toronto Area

Le Royal Casablanca offers taste of Morocco

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If you want to take a trip to Morocco and can't do it right now, a meal at the recently opened Le Royal Casablanca restaurant will transport you for an hour or two to a little piece of Morocco right in the heart of Toronto.

Located at 3428 Bathurst St., between Lawrence and Wilson avenues, the Middle Eastern restaurant looks like the finest dining rooms in Morocco.

The menu includes chicken or beef kabobs, lamb shish kabob, merguez, shawarma, lamb onion tagine served with couscous and Moroccan salads and pastries such as chabakia, baklava and ghoriba. And there are Ashkenazi and vegetarian dishes for those who prefer them.

Owner Maurice (Moshe) Amar has spared no effort to make the venue, the food and the music reflect a genuine Moroccan mood.

Born in Casablanca, Amar and his wife Ruth came to Canada in 1992.

He worked in the catering business in Paris and Casablanca and studied patisserie in France under patissière Gaston Lenotre.

In Canada, he worked in catering and opened a patisserie on Sheppard Avenue. Last November, he realized his dream and opened Le Royal Casablanca. He was involved in designing and decorating the restaurant, which has a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

Along with painted scenes of his native homeland, there is a draped ceiling and cabinets with samovars, Moroccan china and glasses, a tea service and other objects that he brought from Morocco. These are not only on display, but used in serving his customers.

Pictures of international celebrities who have visited the restaurant are displayed at the entrance, including a photo of Prince Mouley Rashid, son of King Hassan II of Morocco, and Moroccan government representatives.

Recently, when the prince was in Toronto, Amar catered a banquet for some 1,000 people from the Moroccan Sephardi community. He is the official caterer for the national tourist office of Morocco and Royal Air Maroc (Morocco's national airline).

In his spotless kitchen, which is supervised by the Kashruth Council of Toronto, Amar explained that everything is made fresh to order, there are no preservatives or artificial flavorings and he uses original Moroccan spices.

As well as operating Le Royal Casablanca and a busy catering business, Amar is working on two Sephardi cookbooks, one containing Moroccan recipes and the other a book of pastries. He says that the cookbooks will be available this summer.

Maurice Amar, owner of Le Royal Casablanca restauraunt.

Holocaust Awards

TORONTO — Yad b'Yad is a non-profit organization recently created and financed by a diverse group of Jewish Canadians whose hope is to inspire, encourage and, most importantly, recognize and listen to the personal responses of students as they learn about the Holocaust from their studies, friends and families and the media.

The Yad b'Yad Expressions Of The Holocaust Awards program is a pilot project conceived to elicit those responses in creative and artistic works.

Here are the names of this years winners:

Poetry and Short Stories Category — Poetry: First Prize, $1,000, *The Waters of Life*, Aviva Leber, 17, Nepean, Ont., Sir Robert Borden High School. Poetry: Second Prize, $500, *Holocaust*, Sheron Ghermezian, 15, Edmonton, Alta., Menorah Academy. Short Story: Third Prize, $200, *Memories of Fear, a Survivor's Story*, Yanna Baizer, 16, Winnipeg, Man., Joseph Wollinsky Collegiate. Poetry: Honorable Mention, *Still Human*, Miriam Richter, 15, Winnipeg, Man., Joseph Wollinsky Collegiate.

Historical and Literary Essays. Historical Essay: First Prize, $1,000, *Where is God?*, Steven Zeidenberg, 18, Toronto, Ont., Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. Historical Essay: Second Prize, $500, *David Irving's Hitler*, David Goldstein, 17, Toronto, Ont., Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. Historical Essay: Third Prize, $200, *Resistance*, Daniel Abramson, 19, Regina Sask., University of Regina. Literary Essay: Honorable Mention, *Satan's Remote*, Aaron Glasser, 13, Richmond, B.C., Richmond Jewish Day School.

Art Works. First Prize,$1,000, *Zachor*, Zena Pearl, 15, Nepean, Ont., Canterbury High School/ Akiva High School. Second Prize , $500, *The Star*, Kara, Mintzberg, 13, Richmond, B.C., Richmond Jewish Day School. Third Prize Award: $200. *Zachor*, Miry Zeldis, 12, Richmond, B.C., Richmond Jewish Day School. Honorable Mention, *Life*, Avital C. Ludwig, 16, Winnipeg, Man., Joseph Wollinsky Collegiate.

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Rabbi Paysach Krohn

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Each year, children from all across Toronto "graduate" as first graders, receiving a siddur to mark their passage. Here students, Lauren Maister (left) and Joella Sacks of Associated Hebrew Schools, are presented with the Shabbat candles as part of the siddur celebration. [Randy Spiegel photo]

JF&CS launches Friends Campaign

TORONTO — Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) has launched its 14th annual Friends Campaign in an effort to raise funds directly from the community.

Last year's Friends' drive raised $225,000, and at least that much is hoped for this year, the agency says.

In a letter mailed out to 7,000 Metro households, 1997 Friends Campaign chair Garry Foster notes that one in six Jews lives in poverty and that the number of children requiring foster care has risen sharply.

Money raised above and beyond the funds JF&CS receives from the government and United Jewish Appeal goes toward sending kids to summer camp, help at Passover, and Hebrew and Russian outreach.

Years of cutbacks from the province have meant that the number of Jews in crisis the agency helps yearly — about 10,000 — continues to grow.

For information, call 416-638-7800.

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UPDATE '97

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Due to Victoria Day holiday, Tuesday, May 20, is deadline for May 29 issue. Monday, May 26, is deadline for June 3 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, May 15

THE MIND IS A TRAP

Ted Borovoy, motivational speaker, stress management lecturer and school vice-principal, presents an interactive workshop, The Mind is a Trap, on the major causes of stress in the '90s, 8 p.m., Beit Rayim Synagogue, 9711 Bayview Ave. Admission free. RSVP 905-770-7639.

Saturday, May 17

MINYAN SERVICES

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, traditional Conservative minyan service conducted by **Rabbi Irving Biegel**, 10 a.m. to noon, Jewish Chapel at Sunnybrook Chapel. 480-4421.

CHASSIDIC SHABBAT

Join in the joyous, freilich, singalong service at Beth Tzedec Congregation, 8:45 a.m.

CENTRE SPOTLIGHT

Morris Winchevsky School and Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS) coffee-house showcasing Jewish and Yiddish performance hosted by **Gloria Valentine,** emceed by **Eddie Rice,** featuring **Naomi Bell, Murray Kash, Vanessa Avruskin, Stephen Targett, Norm Gilbert, Allen Farkas, Michael Lebovic, Denise Williams, Susan Cuthbert**, 8:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.

Sunday, May 18

THREE FACES OF LOVE

Shaarei Tefillah Sisterhood closing breakfast meeting, guest speaker poet **Donia Blumenfeld Clenman**, topic Three Faces of Love: Poland, Canada, Israel, 10 a.m. Members $3, guests $4. 787-1631 or 447-1303.

JEWISH ATTITUDES

The Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood present **Prof. David Novak**, director, Jewish Studies Program, University of Toronto, speaking on Jewish Attitudes Towards Christianity Throughout the Centuries, 8 p.m. Guests $2. Coordinators **Jerry and Sandra Genesove**.

AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

Felicia (Steigman) Carmelly speaks on her work *Shattered! 50 Years of Silence: History and Voice of the Tragedy in Romania and Transnistria*, 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community, 179 Danforth Ave. $5. **Sara** 966-1935.

LECTURE IN YIDDISH

Yiddish Kultur Geselschaft Manya Lipshitz Memorial Lecture, with **Prof. Itche Goldberg**. Topic: Visiting with Zaidie on the 80th Yahrzeit of Mendele Moicher Sforim , 8 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

Monday, May 19

THE BOOK OF RUTH

Matan-Women's Institute for Torah Study in Jerusalem invites you to hear author/lecturer **Aviva Zornberg** talk on Law and Narrative in the Book of Ruth, 8 p.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Rabbanit Malke Bina**, executive director, will deliver greetings.

PROF. ITCHE GOLDBERG

At New Fraternal Jewish Association meeting, **Prof. Itche Goldberg**, director of Yiddish Education Bureau of Zhitlovsky Foundation and editor of literary journal *Yiddishe Kultur*, speaks on Jewish Contributions to American Literature and Culture, 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St.

CRAFT AND GIFT SALE

Na'amat Craft and Gift Sale has music boxes, whimsicals, jewelry, woodcarvings, pottery, needlepoint, painted shoes, millinery, hourly draws, clowns, balloons, all-day silent auction and much more, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Bayview Village Mall, Sheppard and Bayview.

Tuesday, May 20

SOUNDS OF SILENCE

Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue panel discussion, Sounds of Silence: Issues of Woman Abuse in the Jewish Family, with **Gail Gould**, Jewish Family & Child Service; **Rabbi Mark Dratch,** Shaarei Shomayim; **Marsha Sfeir**, Education Wife Assault. Moderator **Jane Hawton,** host-producer of *Jane Hawton Live*, 7:30 p.m. **Karen Green** 487-5686.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

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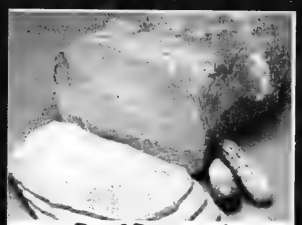

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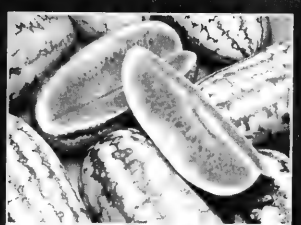

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

EITZ CHAIM PUBLIC LECTURE

Sam and Sarah Kerzner Memorial lecture by **Rabbi Paysach Krohn**, Unity in an Age of Division, 8 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation, 613 Clark Ave., Thornhill.

FOREVER YOUNG

Renana chapter, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO presents Forever Young, plastic surgeon **Dr. Kris Conrad;** otolaryngologist **Dr. Jerry Chapnik**; professional makeup artist **Susan Kirsh**, 7:30 refreshments, 8 p.m. presentation, Pride of Israel Synagogue. $15. Proceeds to Youth Aliyah.

BONDING WITH ROOTS

State of Israel Bonds New Leadership division cocktail reception to celebrate inaugural of State of Israel Bonds New Leadership Achievement Award. The 1997 recipients are **Michael Budman** and **Don Green**, co-founders of Roots Canada. Event includes Roots fall collection, dancing, celebrity silent auction. 6:30 p.m., Roots Factory Store, 1168 Caledonia Rd. 789-3351.

PNAI MEETING

Parents of North American Israelis (PNAI) guest speaker **Miri Gur**, Israel Aliyah Centre shlichah, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. **Charles King** 783-7872.

JUSTICES' SERIES

Beth Tzedec Congregation Ethics of the Fathers Justices' Series continues with **Justice Edwin Minden**, Ontario Court of Justice (General Division), 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 21

ESTATE, TAX PLANNING

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue educational program, Estate and Tax Planning: Mintz and Partners, 8 p.m.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement, The Galapagos Islands with **Stan Witkin**, at noon. Bring lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies served. $1.

Thursday, May 22

ISRAELI IDENTITY

Holy Blossom Temple, the Israeli Consulate and the Israel-Canada Cultural Foundation present Israeli author **A.B. Yehoshua** speaking on Israeli Identity Today: How to Fill the Holes with New Content, 8 p.m.

TEMPLE SINAI SINGLES

Nellie Jacobs, author of Canadian best-seller *Grading the Teacher*, speaks to single parents and teachers about her book and the challenge facing custodial and non-custodial parents, 8 p.m.

And What Else Is New

CISEPO LECTURES

Canada-International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO), Mount Sinai Hospital and University of Toronto present CISEPO Visiting Professors for Peace Program inaugural lectures with **Dr. Samuel S. Kottek** of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and visiting professor McGill University, Tuesday, May 20, The Hippocratic Oath–The Odyssey of Medical Ethics in Christian, Jewish and Muslim Traditions, 8 p.m., Mount Sinai Hospital, and Wednesday, May 21, Maimonides–A Jewish Physician in Medieval Egypt, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Co-sponsors Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, Israel Medical Association – Canadian chapter, Bathurst Jewish Centre, Palestine House Canada. **Dr. Arnold Noyek** 586-8560.

MEDICINE & JEWISH ETHICS

Beth Tzedec's Moshe J. Weisfeld Annual Memorial Lectures: Modern Medicine and Jewish Ethics, **Rabbi Eliezer Diamond**, Jewish Theological Seminary, Thursday, May 22, 7:30 p.m., Letting Go: Jewish Views on the End of Life Issues; Saturday, May 24, 8:45 a.m., pulpit lecture Who is the Healer? Jewish Perspectives on Medicine and Morality; Shabbat study luncheon, noon, Whose Body Is It? Organ Transplantation, Experimental Therapy and Definition of Death from a Jewish Perspective. Luncheon reservations by Wednesday, May 21. 781-3511, ext. 12.

DURHAM EVENTS

Jewish Families of Durham region, a Jewish social group in Ajax, Pickering, Whitby and vicinity, celebrates Yom Ha'atzmaut with Israeli food and dancing Sunday, May 25, 6-8 p.m. No charge, thanks to UJA Federation continuity grant. RSVP 905-831-6508.

KINDERTRANSPORT

Kindertransport gemütlich get-together, Tea and Travel, for anyone who left Germany or Austria in children's transport to England after Kristallnacht and before World War II, Sunday, May 25, 3 p.m. **Max** or **Lisa** 733-3828 or 497-7086.

ISRAEL DAY VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers needed to assist in planning Canadian Zionist Federation's annual Israel Day festival, this year celebrating the centennial of the first World Zionist Congress held in Basel, Switzerland in 1897. Festival is Sunday, June 8, at Mel Lastman Square. **Barbara Peters** 633-3988.

A CONCERT

Concert honoring the 30th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem featuring Israel boys' choir Pirchei Netanya Choir and **Cantor Yehuda Rottner** with Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Choir, Monday, May 26, 7:30 p.m., at the synagogue. Tickets $10, $18, $25, $50 at shul office 633-5500.

'MEGA CITY' LUNCHEON

Adath Sholom Synagogue invites you to hear **Mayor Mel Lastman** at a "Mega City" luncheon, Monday, May 26, at noon, at 864 Sheppard Ave. W. $35. RSVP 635-0131 or fax 635-0953.

A TASTE OF JUDAISM

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning offers A Taste of Judaism, a three-session journey beginning the week of May 25, designed for those looking to reconnect to their Jewish roots, examine the "whys" of Jewish belief, or explore the paths toward a Jewish life. 905-764-1329.

UJA TEA PARTY

Congregation Habonim tea party featuring singer **Rachel Kastoryyano** and pianist **Michael Khinkis,** Sunday, May 25, 2:30 p.m., 5 Glen Park Ave. $10. All proceeds go to United Jewish Appeal. 633-7611.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah classes: Back to Basics-Judaism, Monday, May 19, and Love, Dating and Marriage Seminar for the 20/30-something crowd, Wednesday, May 21. Classes 8 p.m., 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

COUPLES LODGE

Thornhill-Maven Lodge, a couples group of B'nai Brith, is currently looking for new members. Exciting events and a great way to get involved and make new friends. Membership night is May 25, 7 p.m. at B'nai Brith House, 15 Hove St. **Lori** 905-770-8850.

TRIP TO CASINO RAMA

Sterling Manor chapter, Jewish Women International, trip to Casino Rama, Wednesday, June 4, travelling by bus. Trip and buffet lunch, $12. **Pauline**, coordinator, 638-1493.

KING DAVID ALUMNI

Alumni of South Africa's King David Schools gather in the Toronto area for a historic reunion May 23-26. Guest of honor, former headmaster of King David, **Norman Sandler,** known as "The Boss," is flying in from Perth, Australia. Reunion includes Shabbat experience at Chabad of Markham, Sunday brunch and gala dinner dance at Le Parc Markham, plus tour of Toronto. **Heather Super** 905-764-1934, fax 905-764-8405.

RIVERDALE COMMUNITY

On Tuesdays, May 20, 27 and June 4, Riverdale Jewish Community presents a course on S.Y. Agnon: Leap Into Literature with **Reena Zeidman**, chair of Jewish Studies, Queen's University, 8 p.m., 179 Danforth Ave. $5 per lecture. **Sara** 966-1935.

FOR SENIORS

LZA Seniors Club trips to Stage West to see *Shirley Valentine* June 25. Tickets at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May 18, dance with live band; May 21, Casino Rama; May 22, discussion, Taking Charge, **Leonard Rubenstein**, 10 a.m.; May 28, Markville Mall; June 4, *Forever Plaid*; June 16, Casino Niagara; June 25, day trip to Oscardo factory. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 22 dinner at a restaurant for Lag b'Omer. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: June 1, *Dames at Sea*; July 15, Kingston cruise. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden book donations go to Lamiado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Brenda Zalken Healthy Pleasures Lectures presents Getting the Most Out of Life with **Laurel Kidder** of Funstuff, Thursday, May 15, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. May 21 is a movie. **Anna.**

Movie *Dybbuk* in Yiddish, Sunday, May 18, 2:15 p.m.

Sing along with **Esther**, Wednesday, May 21, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Special summer rates from May to Sept. 1.

Bloor JCC Seniors: Successful Aging, social worker **Lynn Gallagher**, Thursday, May 22, 2 p.m.; trip to Village of St. Jacobs, Farmer's Market and Outlet Mall, Thursday, May 29, 9 a.m. departure, reserve by May 22.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Centre Camp '97 spaces available for ages 2½ to 14. Programs include sports, dance, drama, arts and crafts, Judaica, music, nature, instructional and recreational swimming. Also specialty programs in arts, sports and computers for ages 8-12. ext. 378.

ABOUT PEOPLE

Sarah Pachter

PACHTER HONORED

State of Israel Bonds is honoring travel agent and community activist Sara Pachter, Wednesday, May 21, at Holy Blossom Temple, for her long service to Israel.

In her career as travel guide, Pachter has led 132 trips to Israel and has been honored by El Al and the Israel government. She was the only Canadian sent to Israel after the Six Day War, and led three groups during the Gulf War.

The tribute evening will feature The Three Cantors, an exhibit of photographs from trips to Israel and celebrity guests.

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פון רחל בוימוראָל

מיר איז אָמאָל אויסגעקומען צו הערן פון אַ ייִדענע אַ מאָנא-לאָג, וועלכער האָט זיך מיד גוט פארגעדענקט. איך בין אַריינגע-פאָלן צו איר אויף דער הייסער מינוט: זי האָט זיך געהאָלטן מיט ביידע בריסט צעשטעלטע הענט פארן ניט אויפגעראָמטן טיש און געקלאָגט הויך אויף אַ קול אָן מיט אַ מין ניגון:

„ווי איז מיר, פּיצטער איז מיר, ביטער איז מיר, אַז אָך אָן ווי צו מיינע יאָרן, צו מיין לייב אָן לעבן! זעץ זיך!" — דאָס האָט זי אין אַטעם אַ זאָג געטאָן צו מיר, באָמערקנדיק, אַז איך קלייב זיך אַריינצורוקן. אָן גלייך פארגעזעצט: „אַ וויטיק איז מיד, אַ דונער האָט מיך געטראָפן! אָן אים איז דאָס אַלץ ווי צום טאָנץ . . . אַ בראָך צו מיינע יאָרן . . . ער האָט געמיינט, אַז איך וועל אים נאָכטאָנצן, אָט דער פּוסטער טעצער! אוי ווי, אַ לאָך איז מיר אין האַרצן, אַ ריס אין די זעדערים, אַז אָך אָן ווי איז שוין צו מיר, צו מיין לעבן, צו מיינע יאָרן! נאָר זאָל ער ניט מיינען — האָט זי אויס-געדרייט דעם קאָפּ צו מיר, — עס וועלן ערשט זיין טענץ! איך וועל אים מאָכן יענעם טאָנץ.

„אוי, דער פּיצטערער מזל מיינער! אַ שלאָק האָט מיך גע-טראָפן, אַ בראָך צו מיין קאָפּ, צו מיינע הענט אָן פיס! איך וועל עס ניט אויסהאַלטן, איך וועל זיך אַ מעשה אָנטאָן. איך וועל אַ סוף צו זיך מאַכן! ער מעג אַפילו טאָנצן בי אונטער דער סטעליע . . . אוי, איך וועל קריגן די פאָפלעקציע, איך וועל אויסגין ווי אַ ליכט, איך וועל, כוויס אַליין ניט וואָס, אָפטאָן! אַלץ איינס האַלט שוין מיט מיר שמאַל... אייביק, זאָגט ער, קלאָגסטו. אייביק ניכעווסטו. וואָדען, איך זאָל גיין טאָנצן? — איך, מיט מיין פּיצטער לעבן, אַז געמעגט האָב איך מיט אַזאָ מזל אויף דער וועלט גאָר ניט געבוירן ווערן. . . וואָרעם סיי ווי גיידט מיר ניט איז דאָס לעבן. טאָמער האָב איך אַ גוטע מינוט, גיידט זי מיר אַרויס באָקאָם. צוליב אים, זע איך ניט די ליכטיקע וועלט, איך קען דעם קאָפּ ניט אויפהויבן, איך קען מענטשן אין די אויגן נישט קוקן, איך בין גרייט צו לויפן וואוהין די אויגן טראָגן. נאָר גיי לויף, אַז דו ליגסט נין איילן אין דער ערד. . . און ער?

„ער ריסט פון מיר שטיקער, ער מאַכט פון מיר אַ חֶל, ער האָט זיך אין מאָל פאָר אַלע מאָל אַנגעוועט אויף מיר, אויף מיין לייב און לעבן, און צאָפּט מיר דאָס בלוט. און אַלץ מיט אַ שמיי-כעלע. ביי אים קומט עס אויס טאָנצנדיק. ער נעמט זיך ניט צום הארצן. . . אַן אַ הארץ בין איך צוויב אים געבליבן. . . וואָס, דו גייסט שוין? וואָס איז אויף דיר די איילעניש? די קינדער זיינען בי דיר נישט געווינען? אויסגעזוינען האָט ער מיך, די סוכאָטע זאָל שוין אויף מיר קומען, גאָטעניו ליבער! . . . ווינציק וואָס איך ליג אין געמאַקטע וואונדן, דאַרף איך נאָך קניפּן די באַקן און שטעלן די פּאָרצ. אַלץ — ווייל ער האָט פּאַרשטאָכענע אויגן. מיינע אויגן זיי-נען מיר געשוואָלן פון טערען און ער וועט געשוואָלן פון וואול-טאָג, ווי איז מיר אין פּיצטער איז מיר. . ."

נאָר דאָ, האָט מיין יידענע געמומען איבערחזרן אַלץ פון אַנהויב. און איך, געפּיענדיק אַ פּאָסיקע מינוט, האָב זיך שטיל אַריינגעשאָרט פון איר שטוב, פארגעסנדיק נאָך וואָס איך בין גע-קומען. עס קען אַפילו געמאַלט זיין, אַז איך בין בייַ איר בכלל קיינמאָל ניט געווען. . .

נ ב י א י ש . . .

פון י. ל. פרץ

„עס איז מעגלעך, אַז אין אַ געוויסער צאָל פון יאָרן אַרום וועט גושבאָוסקא נומער 6 און 28* זיין אַ חורבה, עס וועט נישט בליבן אַ שטיין אויף אַ שטיין, קליינע שדימלעך וועלן זיך דאָרט שפּילן אין זאמד, און צעבלאָזן עס אויף שבעה ימים, אויף אַלע „עק-וועלטן". און תשעה-באָב וועט זיצן דאָרט אַ יידענע אין שוואַרצן געקליידט, אויף אַ בערגל זאמד, מיט אַ צאנה-וראיה אין דער האָנט וועט זי זיצן, און וועט ברומען, וויינענדיק ברומען.

„און אויף אַן אַנדער אָרט וועט שטיין אַ פאָלאָק. . . אַ הויכן קומען וועט ער האָבן, ווי די גרעסטע פאבריק. דורך די פענצטער וועלן זיך אַריסריסן פייערדיקע פלאַמען, ווי פון אַ קאָלך אויוון, איבערן קומען וועט זיך רינגלען אַ געדיכט-פּעטער רויך פון מענטשן-פלייש, בייַנער, מאָרך און בלוט, ווי איבער אַ מזבה — אַ קרעמאַטאָריום וואו מיוועט די מתים פאַרברענען. . ."

(געשריבן אין 1908)

*) בושבאָוסקא באָס, וואו די ראַשטשוטער ייִדישע שטאָטשע אַדמיניסטראַציע האָט זיך געמוטעט.

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No paid holy days

[Cont'd from page 1]

Days as paid days off, they would have three more days of mandatory leave with pay for religious purposes than non-Jews.

"Nothing would then prevent Christians from claiming they are also entitled to more days of religious observance as leave with pay days," the judgment states.

As well, allowing Jewish employees to work Christmas and Good Friday in exchange for paid leave on the High Holy Days, would violate collective agreements and the federal Labor Code, the court said.

But in a strongly worded dissenting opinion, Justice Joseph Robertson pointed out that collective agreements allow paid absences for a variety of secular needs, including inclement weather, voting and even defective plumbing.

"Surely the spiritual needs of an employee are as compelling as those of the secular kind," Robertson wrote. "I fail to see why Jewish employees should be denied leave with pay when employees generally are being accommodated in less compelling circumstances."

Robertson relied extensively on a 1994 decision from the Supreme Court of Canada, which ruled 9-0 that three Jewish teachers in Quebec had been wrongly docked a day's pay for observing Yom Kippur.

The academic calendar had the effect of discriminating against Jewish teachers and the school board had failed to accommodate them, the Supreme Court had found.

In this case, Robertson said, Jewish employees, in contrast to their Christian colleagues, must take at least one, if not three days off, without pay, to celebrate the High Holy Days.

He added that he's not prepared to say the employer had satisfied its duty to accommodate.

"Why would one begrudge a Jewish employee paid leave to observe his or her holy days?" he asked.

Richmond, who works for the Public Service Commission, told *The CJN* he began questioning the policy of paid leave around 1992. Until then, he was allowed to take time off to observe Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, but was required to use vacation time or hours he had accumulated working overtime to make up for his absence.

Richmond, a member of the Reconstructionist Darchei Noam synagogue, said his union plans to seek leave to appeal the ruling to the Supreme Court of Canada.

"Given the federal government's policy on multiculturalism, the issue comes down to whether it really means it," he said.

War crimes case

[Cont'd. from page 1]

part in the shootings of Jews and the brutal interrogation of prisoners.

But Bogutin's lawyer, Orest Rudzik, painted a very different picture of Bogutin, saying he was the son of a Jewish mining engineer and a Ukrainian mother who, with the help of his mother, got a job as a warehouseman and later as a postman for the Ukrainian police. They were jobs, Rudzik said, that Bogutin and his mother hoped would render him inconspicuous to the German authorities.

Bogutin, 88, was not in court on Monday. Rudzik said his client's health did not permit it.

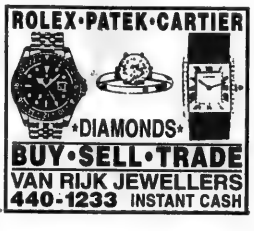
Four days of court time have been set aside for the case this week. Court will then adjourn and the commission will convene in Donetsk, Ukraine, from May 26 to June 13 to hear the evidence of nine crown and three or four defence witnesses. The case will resume in Toronto after Labor Day.

Documents filed in court last July alleged that from 1941 to 1943, Bogutin was a member of the Selidovka District (Raion) Police, an auxiliary unit under the command of the German Order Police. The documents allege that in the fall of 1941, Bogutin participated in the execution of a Jewish man, his wife, a small child and a former militiaman.

The documents also allege that Bogutin was at the site of an execution of 10 people, including a woman and child, in December 1941. As an investigator with the police unit, the documents state, Bogutin interrogated prisoners, which included beatings, and in spring of 1943, ordered the arrests of young girls for deportation to Germany for forced labor, the documents claim.

Throughout the war, the Selidovka police "participated in the arrests and executions of civilians, including Jews, and members of the Red Army who were prisoners of war. The Selidovka District Police participated in the identification, arrest and interrogation of suspected partisans and communist functionaries, the forcible confinement of civilians as hostages, the confiscation of property for the use of German authorities, as well as the rounding-up of youths for deportation to forced labor to Germany," the allegations state.

Federal authorities are seeking to deport Bogutin for lying about his wartime activities.



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On Campus

Anti-Semitism still part of Russian academia

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Prof. Oleg Budnitskii, head of the Russian History department at Russia's Rostov Pedagogical University, brought Jewish studies to his institution some five years ago. For the past year, his university has been involved in an academic exchange program with the Jewish Studies department of York University. Unquestionably, things have changed in Russia since the break-up of the Soviet Union.

But does Budnitskii still experience anti-Semitism in his home academic environment? "Of course," he answered matter-of-factly during a recent visit to Toronto.

Now that Russia is "really not democratic but a free country, this freedom includes the freedom to express anti-Semitism. The university is the same as Russian society," said the 42-year-old Jewish academic, whose lectures to York students were cancelled because of the school's professors' strike. While here as part of a North American trip, Budnitskii met with local colleagues.

A recent rise in Russian nationalism and promotion of "Russian national values" has an accompanying flip side, which is anti-Semitism, he said.

Inaugurating Jewish studies at his university in Rostov-on-Don in southern Russia was "rather difficult," Budnitskii said, although in the early days of his career it was virtually impossible for someone like him — Jewish, and not a member of the Communist party — to attain a full-time academic position.

Rostov, Budnitskii's home town, has a Jewish population of about 10,000. At its height, there were triple or quadruple that number, he noted.

Budnitskii's great-grandfather was among the Rostov Jews who were rounded up and shot by the Nazis in 1942 in nearby Zmyovskaya. Ironically, the well-travelled merchant never believed the stories of mass killings. "I know Germans. They are civilized people. They're not like the Bolsheviks," he would say.

Budnitskii's mother, then 12, and her mother, escaped just hours before the Nazis arrived.

Butdnitskii has been a faculty member in Rostov since 1988. Although he has Jewish colleagues at the university, his position as department head is not typical for a Jewish professor.

Most of his students are non-Jews. The courses, taught by both Jews and non-Jews, are not Jewish studies courses per se, but include Russian Jewish history as part of a broader curriculum.

Prof. Oleg Budnitskii

Research possibilities

Budnitskii was, of necessity, largely self-educated about Jewish history. Sharing his knowledge with non-Jews, many of whom are ignorant or misinformed about Judaism, "will be very important from the point of view of relationships between Jews and non-Jews," he believes. "Our program is not propaganda. It's an academic program. We try to give people correct information about Jews, Jewish history, Jewish mentality and the Jewish approach to some things."

Equally important is the year-old exchange program with York, as part of which York professors have already lectured in Rostov. "It's important for us to receive new knowledge and new methods of teaching," said Budnitskii. The link with a recognized western university "gives some legitimacy to our program."

With the recent opening of Russian archives that were closed during the Soviet regime, the future holds new research possibilities, Budnitskii noted. Holocaust-related material and KGB records of "Zionist underground societies" dating back to the 1920s and 1930s are two examples.

Although Rostov looked "not so great" when Budnitskii returned from an eight-month stint at California's Stanford University, he said he has no plans to leave. "The majority of Russian Jews are people of Jewish consciousness, but Russian culture."

Despite his talk of anti-Semitism, Budnitskii wants to make one thing clear. "If we compare Jewish life in Russia with years ago, there's been great progress. In comparison, we can say Jewish life and Jewish education are flourishing. It's really unbelievable."

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Yom Hashoah

Survivors urged to send testimonies to Israel

By CELINE MIGDAL
Special to The CJN

MONTREAL — A solemn commemoration of Yom Hashoah, on the theme Unto Every Person There's a Name, took place recently at Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem.

As the silent crowd of 2,000 filled the sanctuary to honor the memory of the six million who perished in the Holocaust, memorial candles were lit and flickered in the hall as names of the martyrs were read out loud.

Israeli Consul General Daniel Gal urged the survivors to send their testimonies to the Yad Vashem Hall in Jerusalem, to ensure their inclusion in the names enshrined in the record there.

"Fifty years after World War II, there still remains an enormous gap in our knowledge of the exact circumstances of the Shoah that resulted in the physical and economic devastation of the Jewish people in the countries involved in that war," Gal said. "It took half a century for France, Switzerland, Austria, Norway, Sweden and others to acknowledge their nations' responsibility, to confront their national memory and accept their culpability in the persecution and destruction of the Jews."

Rabbi Ronald Aigen of Congregation Dorshei Emet said: "We are gathered here today to mourn the loss and pay tribute to six million of our people, a number that staggers the imagination. It is only by reflecting on the lives of specific individuals, that we can begin to comprehend our loss."

A recitation of names of some of the victims by Mira Giberovitch and Barry Rishikof was accompanied by the Shaar Hashomayim Choral Society and Youth Choir, under the direction of Stephen Glass. The choir also performed a rousing version of the *Partisans' Song* and other selections in English, Hebrew and Yiddish, finishing with Hatikvah.

Three generations — survivors, and children and grandchildren of survivors — lit the six memorial candles, symbolizing the transmission of the Holocaust legacy from one generation to the next.

"The long night of Nazism descended over all of Europe with a darkness of evil that was so dense no light could penetrate it," said Sara Weinberg, chair of the remembrance committee. "Torture and humiliation compounded the suffering of European Jewry.

"The savage extermination of children and the ferocity with which the children were treated prior to their extermination is unmatched in the total history of humanity."

Nevertheless, Jews rebelled, not only in the Warsaw Ghetto, but also in dozens of lesser-known places and their spirit and culture survived, she said.

Continuing in Yiddish and addressing her remarks to the survivors present, she said, "You are the witnesses and survivors from ghettos, concentration camps, forests and other hiding places too incredible and horrible to describe. We admire your fortitude, your determination and your courage to survive and we, your children and grandchildren are your legacy; the proof of your courage and strength."

Survivor Sara Schichter, speaking in French, described how the Germans overran Belgium, her country of origin, in 1940. The persecution of Jews began immediately, she said, and deportations began in July 1942.

"My brother and I received notice to report for work camps in Germany," Schichter said. Having heard rumors about German "goodwill," her family decided to hide.

"My father said, 'I will never send my children of my own free will into the jaws of wolves.'

"We changed hiding places several times and thus delayed our capture. On Nov. 20, 1943, the Gestapo arrived at our door. All that I can remember," she said, her voice breaking, "is, I jumped out the window into the garden, following my brother; and turning for an instant, I saw my mother, in her nightgown on the balcony, with a German soldier pointing his gun at her. That was the last time I saw my mother,

"She and my three brothers perished in the horror of Auschwitz, the place where civilization stopped. I don't know the exact time of their death. I don't have anything tangible of my mother's — all I have is in my heart. The nightmares diminish with time but never stop, yet I have survived to tell my story. Six million others have not."

Survivor Luba Schlaum (centre) lights memorial candles at Yom Hashoah commemoration with city councillor Marvin Rotrand, a child of survivors, and Melissa Frankel, a grandchild of survivors. [Howard Kay photo]

The commemoration was organized by the remembrance committee of the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre, under the auspices of the Consulate General of Israel and in cooperation with many other organizations.

Federal Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Stephane Dion was among a large number of federal, provincial and municipal politicians who attended. Also present was the president of the St. Jean Baptiste Society, Guy Bouthillier.

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Yom Hashoah

War veterans, resistance groups honored at memorial service

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It is not enough to memorialize the victims of the Holocaust; we must honor the heroic role played by Jewish war veterans, partisans and resistance groups.

"We pay tribute to the Six Million, as we should; we pay tribute to Israel, as we should — but are the sacrifices of the Jews who fought with the Allied forces not worthy of the same respect?" demanded Sam Pasternack of the Royal Canadian Legion, at this year's Yom Hashoah service, sponsored by the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association and held at Shaarei Shomayim synagogue.

Non-Jews say "that Jews went to the camps like sheep and that Jews didn't fight, and that makes me livid. But if I stop the next 10 Jews I see on Bathurst Street and ask them about the Jewish contribution to the war effort, I will get a blank stare."

Pasternack gave an account of participation of Jews during World War II: Over 1.5 million served in the Allied Armed Forces (with another 75,000 giving another race for fear at being captured) — half a million fought for the United States and the same number for the Soviet Union, 42,000 for the French and the Free French, 75,000 for Great Britain, 150,000 to 180,000 for the Polish army and then for the Polish army in exile; 20 Jewish fighter pilots of the Polish Air Force were killed in the Battle of Britain.

Jews, Pasternack said, served with Montgomery's Eighth Army, in the Battle of Britain, in the Battle of the Atlantic, in the Middle East and behind German lines. Myer Levin sank the first Japanese battleship destroyed after Pearl Harbor.

In Canada, of a total Jewish population of 160,000 Jews, he said, 17,456 enlisted — a higher percentage than the national average, and they suffered a higher percentage of deaths and earned more awards for bravery than the national average.

Pasternack also praised the partisans, the resistance fighters of the Warsaw Ghetto and the survivors of the concentration camps, who, he said, should be praised just for being able to survive.

Arnold Friedman, president of the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association, slammed all those who did not help Jews during the war, including occupied countries, the Allied nations, including Canada, and supposedly neutral countries like Portugal and Switzerland, "which preached neutrality and collaborated with robber barons to steal from us."

Memorial candles were lit by survivors and their families, many escorted by members of the General Wingate Branch of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada.

O Canada, Hatikvah and K'El Maleh Rachamim were recited by Shaarei Shomayim chazzan sheni Shlomo Sufrin, and Friedman recited Kaddish.

Second generation thanks parents for exemplary upbringing

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Hamilton's Holocaust Remembrance Committee honored the community's approximately 100 survivors at its annual Yom Hashoah commemoration held recently at Adas Israel Synagogue.

During introductory remarks by second generation committee members, the survivors were thanked for "the manner in which you have survived and the exemplary manner in which you have lived...for having raised us with feelings of respect for humankind, decency and kindness."

As their names were called, the honorees, seated among the 500 people in attendance, rose and stepped out into the aisles. A slowly moving line of second and third generation children and grandchildren of survivors formed on either side of the sanctuary, as each survivor was partnered with a child and presented with a yahrtzeit candle.

The evening also featured the Hamilton Children's Choir which performed a musical rendition of the poetry of child Holocaust survivor Inge Auerbacher.

In 1996 the choir's director, David Davis, came across Auerbacher's book, *I am a Star* in the local library, while searching for age-appropriate material that would enable his students to connect to the horrors of the Holocaust. He commissioned local composer Robert Rivers to set a selection of her poems to music as part of the choir's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of World War II.

Rivers plunged into the project with enthusiasm, attending Holocaust education workshops, renting videos and reading books on the subject and meeting with local survivor Nadia Rosa.

The premiere performance of Rivers' compositions took place at a local Anglican church last year. Auerbacher, accompanied by Rosa, flew from the United States for the occasion and Davis recalls preparing the children by saying, "Remember: The lady whose life you're singing about will be sitting in the audience." The two women, he recalls, were moved to tears, as was everybody in attendance that evening.

This was only the second public occasion at which the pieces were performed, and Jewish community members were visibly moved by the reverence and depth of feeling expressed by both the children and the accompanying musicians. An unexpected dramatic moment occurred when Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz rose from the audience before the beginning of the final movement to blow the shofar.

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Yom Hashoah

Winnipeg Jews add voice to call for justice

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The underlying theme of this year's Holocaust Awareness Week (May 4 to 9) activities in Winnipeg was the need to keep pressure on the federal government to bring suspected Nazi war criminals living in Canada to justice before they die of old age.

In a presentation at Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, Steve Shulman of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) cited the case of Antonis Kenstavicius, a member of a Lithuanian killing squad, as an example of what is transpiring.

Kenstavicius settled in British Columbia after the war and worked for the railroad. CJC first alerted the government about him in 1949, but it wasn't until last year that proceedings were brought against him. He died in January, at the age of 92, just as evidence was beginning to be entered against him.

The urgent need for Ottawa to prosecute war criminals in our midst was also emphasized by University of Manitoba law professor, Jack London, the day before at a Jewish community rally accompanying the traditional Holocaust Remembrance service at the Bnay Abraham Synagogue.

Both London and Shulman blame the lack of action not on anti-Semitism, but on legal delays, bureaucratic inertia and indifference.

"There is no fire in the belly," Shulman said. "There is no drive on this issue. How typically Canadian that it was on an American television show (*60 Minutes*) that a Canadian bureaucrat admitted for the first time that the government has done nothing about the issue for decades."

Canada's record in welcoming Nazi war criminals after the war while putting barriers in the way of Holocaust survivors was no different than that of stereotypical Nazi havens such as Argentina and Brazil, Shulman noted.

Anti-Semitism at the time was one factor in Canada's record, he pointed out, but of equal if not greater weight was the new post-war battle against communism. These Nazi-tainted newcomers were viewed as anti-communists rather than war criminals.

Week of activities

As well, Canada needed immigrants, Shulman pointed out. The economy was booming and there were large immigrant communities to welcome them.

Shulman praised the good intentions of Justice Minister Allan Rock, but urged Canadian Jewish organizations to keep up the pressure.

"As time goes by, there are fewer and fewer survivors to tell the story. Canada's history of inaction can only lead people who look back years from now to question how serious the Holocaust really was and lead to increasing support for Holocaust deniers."

Holocaust denial was the topic of Prof. Barney Sneiderman, also of the University of Manitoba Faculty of Law, who spoke last Tuesday at the Bnay Abraham Synagogue.

Holocaust Awareness Week concluded with B'nai Brith Canada's second annual Unto Every Person There is a Name program at the Manitoba Legislature, followed by the yearly service at the Holocaust memorial on the legislative grounds.

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

Yom Hashoah

Sher wants prosecution of Nazi 'small fry'

By JOEL JACOBSON
Maritimes Correspondent

HALIFAX — Neal Sher wants the "small fry" prosecuted and deported.

The former head of the Office of Special Investigation (OSI) in the United States insists it took hundreds of thousands of "small frys" of Nazi Germany to make the Holocaust what it was. He is adamant that, "knowing they're in your midst, it is imperative to do something. There will never be perfect justice. But if we don't seek them out and have them deported, we are just giving Hitler a posthumous victory. That must never happen."

Sher spoke to more than 200 people at a Halifax Yom Hashoah gathering at Shaar Shalom Synagogue. Organized by the Atlantic Jewish Council, the event brought together federal and provincial politicians, local government officials including Halifax mayor Walter Fitzgerald, provincial judges and members of the Jewish and non-Jewish communities.

Retired as director of OSI since 1994, and now in private law practice in Washington, D.C., Sher listened to survivor Helena Jockel of Halifax tell her story of facing the trauma of the death camps.

"Every survivor has a story that boggles the mind," said Sher. "And they continue to tell those stories. What will happen 50 years from now when the survivors are gone? Will there be debates about whether six million died or was it gross exaggeration? As long as we face the possibility of Holocaust deniers, our work in hunting down Nazi war criminals is important — both in my country and in Canada."

He said cases are now being investigated in Canada. Positive statements are being made of an intent to move forward. "These cases educate and demonstrate the importance of calling to account the individuals who minimize the scope of the Holocaust, who challenge the credibility of survivors."

Sher reminded the audience there are horrible crimes and genocide occurring today but emphasized people can't lose sight of the fact that Hitler's war against the Jews was waged against a "defenceless people with no army, no state. How different world Jewry today might have been if Israel had existed in 1935 or if the British had allowed open immigration to Palestine," he said.

Jockel named several members of the Halifax community — Holocaust survivors who needed power and moral strength to last through interminable months and years in concentration camps. Then she described how one million fellow countrymen from Hungary were either moved to concentration camps or killed.

During the program, members of six community groups each lit candles and read 10 names of Holocaust victims. In conjunction with the theme of the evening, that 20 percent of the six million victims were under 15 years of age, those named were all between the ages of two and 15.

Similar commemorative ceremonies were held in Saint John, N.B. and in St. John's, Nfld. with a program also planned for Fredericton, N.B.

Moving tribute

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — The Jewish community here commemorated Holocaust Remembrance Day on May 4 with a moving tribute to the six million Jews who lost their lives.

The two-hour ceremony sponsored by the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre at Beth Israel Synagogue included a candlelighting ceremony, songs, poetry, prayers and speeches by survivors, children of survivors and participants in the March of the Living.

Among the highlights were a children's choir rendition of the Perry Ehrlich song *Remember*, author Bernard Pinsky's reading of excerpts from a book about his father's experiences in the Holocaust entitled *My Father's Story*, and Holocaust survivor Bronia Sonnenschein's account of her participation in the Canadian Jewish Congress' award-winning anti-racism outreach program in Idaho.

Cantor Steve Levin of Beth Israel chanted the K'El Maleh Rachamin and Rabbi Wilfred Solomon led the interdenominational congregation in the Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead.

The ceremony concluded with locally based Yiddish vocalist Claire Osipov's rendition of the *Partisan's Song* and an impromptu version of Hatikvah.

The following day, the Yom Hashoah memorial service was held at Schara Tzedek Cemetery in New Westminster.

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From coast to coast

Rabbi speaks about 'heart of Jerusalem'

By BAILA LAZARUS
Jewish Bulletin of Vancouver

VANCOUVER — Security guards flanked the entrance to the Norman Rothstein Theatre of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver keeping a close watch as the audience filed in to hear Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, Israel's Ashkenazi chief rabbi.

In an emotional speech to a full house on April 30, Rabbi Lau used anecdotes and quotes from the Bible to bring home the topic of the evening — Jerusalem: Centre of the Universe.

Rabbi Yisrael Lau

"Chapter 40 of Isaiah talks about the redemption of the Jewish people," said Rabbi Lau, "and what are the first four words? *Dabru al lev Yerushalayim* – Speak on the heart of Jerusalem."

Rabbi Lau said the words should be interpreted to mean Jerusalem as the heart of the people of Israel. "This is the command of the Almighty," he added.

He also suggested that Jerusalem holds a special place in Judaism because of the presence of the Western Wall, considered one of the holiest places in the Jewish world.

"The tears of the mothers and fathers from all generations, and the blood of the sons 30 years ago [during the Six-Day War] come from the same well," he said, his voice rising, "and they were [collected] on the stones of the Kotel [Western Wall] all together. You cannot separate the sacrifices of our sons from the tears and the prayers of our fathers and mothers from 2,000 years ago."

Rabbi Lau, 60, is the 37th generation of a family of rabbis. A Holocaust survivor, he was ordained in 1971 and led the congregation Ohr Torah in Tel Aviv. He then acted as rabbi of Northern Tel Aviv, chief rabbi of Netanya, chief rabbi of Tel Aviv-Jaffa and in 1993, was elected to the position of Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Israel.

The rabbi's visit was sponsored by the Lohn Foundation and Lubavitch B.C., to come to British Columbia to speak at week-long Passover activities at Whistler. He spoke at the Jewish Community Centre as part of Lubavitch's Ethics and Torah series.

In his closing remarks, he talked about Jerusalem as a spiritual centre, not only for Jews but for other religions as well. He told of a discussion he had with a Muslim leader: "I said, 'Great leader do you know how many times the word Yerushalayim appears in the Old Testament?' He said, 'How many?' I said, 'Five hundred and eighty-seven times. And do you know how many times the word Zion is mentioned? One hundred and fifty-one times. In your holy book, the Koran, the fundamental book of Islam, how many times does it say Yerushalayim? I will tell you because it's much easier to remember. Zero! Not even once.'"

Rabbi Lau dismissed the notion that Jerusalem should be considered a holy city for Islam because "when a Muslim prays, he falls on earth to pray. Where does he face? If he is in Jerusalem, he shows his back to the holy mountain, to the mosque, because he has to face Saudi Arabia, Mecca," he said.

"We don't ask [Muslims] to give up Mecca or Medina. We don't ask the Christian world to give up the Vatican," Rabbi Lau concluded. "Don't ask us to give up Yerushalayim."

The chief rabbi's remarks struck a resonant chord with many in the audience, who rose afterward for a standing ovation.

"It's the right speech at the right time," said Harry Nortman, "because now Jerusalem is the topic of the Jewish people. It's touching to every Jew."

But not everyone was as impressed. Rabbi David Mivasair of Vancouver's Or Shalom Synagogue found many things missing from the address.

Not everyone was impressed

"I'm very impressed with his depth and his eloquence as a speaker," said Rabbi Mivasair. "I'm really disappointed that he didn't address more explicitly the many critically pressing issues surrounding the relationship between Jews living in Jerusalem today and between the Jews and the Palestinians for whom that city is home. I'm very disappointed that he didn't deal with current reality."

Naomi Ehren-Lis was also disappointed that no time was allowed for audience questions. "He speaks about Jerusalem as a heart," she said, "but a heart is open and welcoming and the audience wasn't given a chance to participate at all."

Rabbi Lau left the building immediately after his speech to catch a plane to New York.

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From coast to coast

Memoir tells story of early Cape Breton Jews

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In the early part of the century, our parents sailed to this country from many parts of Europe, and their history is interwoven with Canada. Now, along comes a book about Whitney Pier, Cape Breton Island, one of the most fascinating settlements of early Jewish life.

The thriving Jewish community of Cape Breton, once as large as 2,500, is down to 200 (about the same as in 1901) and Commercial Street in Glace Bay, once the home of many Jewish merchants, looks like an abandoned Hollywood movie set.

That Glace Bay community once consisted of 800 Jews (110 families) and 79 of its young men enlisted in World War II , a participation rate of 20 percent

Now, its oldest clothing store, opened in the early 1900s by his grandfather, is just closing, and this is sad news for Dr. Lawrence I.

Lawrence Gaum

Gaum, 59, a Toronto oral surgeon who has written and printed, at his own expense, *From Belarus to Cape Breton and Beyond.*

It is a memoir not only of the Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe who were attracted to the coal mines and steel plants of Cape Breton (some Jews worked in the coal mines), but also of a personal odyssey by the Gaum family in 1994 to the villages of Kozharnhorodok, Lininets, Lachiva, Krasna Volya and Timkovitz in Belarus, where their ancestors lived. The indexing, history, maps and 300 family photos make it a genealogical treasure.

In unvarnished prose, (the story of an alcoholic cousin is included) Gaum tells about his great grandfather, Isaac Jacob, "the tall Zeida" who could not speak English but one day stopped the driver of a hearse in Sydney and, in Yiddish, asked to be taken to his daughter's home. The driver recognized the familiar figure and took him there. It was the same "Zeida" who, by himself, lifted 300-pound barrels of empty bottles, which he collected, onto a wagon for delivery.

A blacksmith by trade , he made such good food choppers in Belarus that Gaum's wife, Hope, is still using one in Toronto at least 100 years later.

Gaum discovered that his grandfather, Shaiya (Sam) Latucha, because of his lack of English, had led the immigration officer to put his name down as Gaum because he had a brother-in-law named Gam in Cape Breton, where he was heading.

Successful grocery merchant

As a boy, Gaum wrote his family's history on slips of paper carried around in old issue of the *Reader's Digest*. His handsome 277-page computer-produced volume includes a photograph of relatives with the late Menachem Begin when he was prime minister of Israel.

The book, a five-year project by Gaum, a Jewish Genealogical Society member, is in the reference section of the North York Central Library.

Though he landed without his own name, grandfather Shaiya did find many relatives in Cape Breton. His descendants include retired Senator Jack Marshall, and Elliot Marshall of Glace Bay, one of 11 children, operator of the about-to-be closed S.E Marshall Clothing store, who is moving to Ottawa to be near his daughter.

Elliot Marshall was one of eight Jewish boys on the 13-member Glace Bay English Ruby Football team and practices were always cancelled for the High Holy Days.

Gaum recalls being told that his grandfather, a short but heavily muscled man, beat up a drunk who, when asked to pay 10 cents for it, squashed a bag of tomatoes instead. He thought the price was too high. Only by carrying the drunk away from Shaiya's wrath did his father, Maurice, and his uncle, Benny, save the man from further injury.

It was Gaum's father who helped set up his office as a 22-year-old dentist in Corner Brook, Nfld. When, 30 years later, Gaum went back to Corner Brook at the invitation of the Newfoundland Dental Society, he found, like Geraldine Page in the movie *A Trip to Bountiful,* that you can't go home again.

Gaum's uncle, Benny, a professional boxer in his early days, became a successful grocery merchant, and wrote political speeches for both the Conservative and Liberal candidates in Sydney on the side.

Benny caught a teenager stealing canned goods but listened to the boy's plea and did not report him to police. The boy grew up to become a famous psychiatrist in the United States and dropped into Benny's store on visits.

Gaum's grandmother, Fratka, an observant woman, had her own style of computer. When she sold on credit to a Mrs. Black, she put a slip under a box of chocolates (for black) with pencil marks crossed off to indicate she still owed $2.

She was up at 6 a.m. every day, baking bread and bagels, before working in the store, now boarded up. When Fratka died at 92, she couldn't be buried beside her husband, father and son, because the ground was too frozen. Another plot had to be found in the Jewish cemetery.

When Fratka traveled to Canada in steerage with her sons, Benny, 5 and Maruice, 3, she had a total of $1.20.

Gaum's grandfather, Shaiya, didn't drive a car after running a Model-T Ford into a wall. In his later years, despite a heart condition, he took his wife's freshly-baked bread by street car to his daughter Sarah (Gaum's mother) in Sydney, walking the last mile and one-half.

Besides running their store, Maurice and Sarah Gaum raised a family of four sons: the author and three brothers, Errol, a dental surgeon in Halifax; Sanford, of California, a former dental surgeon, now in real estate; and Jack, a lawyer and director of terminals at Pearson Airport.

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From coast to coast

Halifax mayor 'enlightened' by visit to Israel

By JOEL JACOBSON
Maritimes Correspondent

HALIFAX — Halifax mayor Walter Fitzgerald couldn't find enough adjectives to describe a recent trip to Israel.

"Intensive. Overwhelming. Emotional. Informative. Educational. Enlightening. Unbelievable. It was all of those and more," said the mayor, who attended the 17th Jerusalem Conference for Mayors, the only Canadian of 60 mayors from 42 countries at the six-day combination of meetings and tours.

The conference was sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the American Jewish Congress and was held with the cooperation and support of the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"I was so impressed with the people, with their determination to make Israel a peaceful country and to make it work," said Fitzgerald. "It was the best trip I've ever attended. We saw history, stayed at a kibbutz, visited the tomb of Christ. At times I just couldn't believe I was there."

With his wife, Linda, the mayor had a pre-conference tour set up by Jon Goldberg, executive director of the Atlantic Jewish Council. The Fitzgeralds visited Metulla where they met Mayor Yossi Goldberg and toured Canada Centre. A former hockey player at Dalhousie University in Halifax, the 60-year-old mayor was offered skates to test the ice but declined.

Prior to the conference, the couple also met officials of ZIM Lines, one of the major shipping companies using the port of Halifax. "We had lunch with them and the mayor of Haifa, and discussed the importance of ZIM to Halifax.

"They complained of high prices but we talked more of Halifax as an international port."

Fitzgerald and the other mayors met Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"I presented him with a pewter business card holder with an engraving of Halifax City Hall. It was a quick 30-second opportunity to say hello and bring greetings," said Fitzgerald. "He was supposed to stay with our group for about 10 minutes but he spent 45 minutes chatting with various people."

Linda Fitzgerald went on the trip "with some apprehension because of news reports but I felt very safe at all times. Even while we were there, we'd see reports on CNN and wonder if we were in the same place."

A Grade 1 teacher in Halifax, Linda Fitzgerald was impressed with the passion of the people, "the joy they seem to have and their resourcefulness. I was fascinated by life on the kibbutz, by the lifestyle and the quality of life the people maintain.

"I was amazed that there is a fund, and I don't know if this is the same on all kibbutzim, that fully pays for the children to attend university after their army service. It was like an extended family as they work toward the common good."

The Fitzgeralds were entertained one evening by former Halifax resident Linda Epstein who has been working in Israel for more than 20 years. Her brother, Howard, an NDP candidate in the federal election, is a member of Fitzgerald's Halifax City Council.

"It was a wonderful experience," said the mayor. "We saw so much of the country, the Golan Heights, Masada, Jerusalem, the place where Christ was supposedly crucified, the Western Wall, the Dead Sea, and the Holocaust Museum. I think Masada and the Holocaust Museum were the most emotional for me. The museum will never leave me."

"I think of Halifax at 250 years old (in 1999) and then realize I was in a place that is 3,000 years old."

A dream come true

By JOEL JACOBSON
Maritimes Correspondent

HALIFAX — Ben Lipkus' dying wish has come true.

The Glace Bay, N.S., furniture store operator passed away last Rosh Hashanah, at 79 years of age. In his last few months, he decided to donate an ambulance to Israel through Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel, which provides health care supplies and emergency equipment.

"His wish has been granted," said Sidney Lipkus, Ben's son, who is still running the family business. "My mother was all for it. And we have dedicated the ambulance to my father and to his and my mother's late parents."

The ambulance, bought in Pennsylvania by the Montreal-based Magen David organization, will arrive in Glace Bay May 18 for dedication and then be shipped to Montreal for transfer to Israel.

"We probably donate about eight ambulances a year from Canada," said Shirley Moscovitch of the Magen David office. "But this is the first ever from Atlantic Canada."

She said dedication plaques will be placed on the driver and passenger doors. The driver's door will be dedicated to Ben Lipkus and his parents, Beinus and Fanny Lipkus. The other door will display a plaque naming Ben Lipkus and Shalom and Elka Cohen, parents of Rachel Lipkus.

Sidney Lipkus said his father, born in Sydney Mines, followed his father into the furniture business. "My grandfather came from Russia and was a pedlar originally. He opened the furniture store and had his four sons involved with him. Now I'm carrying on the family tradition."

He said his parents (his mother Rachel was born in Glace Bay) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 11, about a month before Ben passed away.

They had two sons. Barry lives in Toronto.

"One other wish my father had was that Barry would say Kaddish as often as possible. He knew I couldn't, because it is difficult to get daily minyanim [at Glace Bay's Orthodox Sons of Israel Synagogue]. I go to Sydney each weekend when they have services. But Barry is living in Toronto and has been able to attend a daily minyan there. We're trying to grant my father's every wish."

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Illustration: Courtesy of Ontario Association of Social Workers' Handbook on Women Abuse

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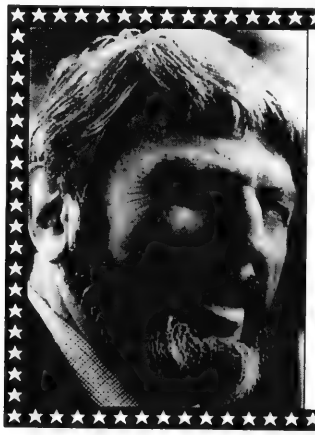

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From coast to coast

JCT DINNER DRAW

For the fifth consecutive year, Canadian Friends of the Jerusalem College of Technology hosted another successful dinner draw on behalf of the college. The annul dinner draws have raised sufficient funds for the completion of a new dormitory on campus and proceeds will now be directed to t he new unit in advanced medical technology. Seen above (from left) David Anisman, project chair; Jerry Klasner, Canadian Friends JCT co-chair; Joseph Klasner, project co-chair, Noreen Azoulay, executive director.

Winnipeggers relax as river crests

By MATT BELLAN
Jewish Post & News

WINNIPEG — The Red River has crested and most people are now breathing a sigh of relief.

What local media called the "flood of the century" claimed a few houses just to the southeast of the city but the rest of us are high and dry.

Red River Flood

The crisis isn't over quite yet though. The water levels will remain high for another two to four weeks and the dikes have to be patrolled frequently to check for leaks. Recently, a busload of Grade 9, 10 and 11 students from Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate were bussed to nearby Scotia Street in answer to an emergency call to join volunteers, other students and army personnel in plugging a serious leak in the dikes.

While the city's Jewish neighborhoods in the North and South Ends never really faced the prospects of serious flooding, Jewish organizations did draw up emergency plans.

Evelyn Hecht, the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council's (WJCC) community relations director, confirmed that the community was ready to open up the (YMHA Jewish Community Centre) building to help give emergency shelter to Winnipeggers evacuated from homes during the flood. "It depends on what the need will be." WJCC staff also made calls earlier this month to "people we know in Grand Forks."

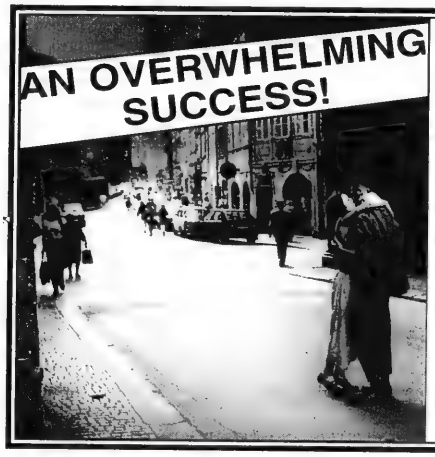
The Winnipeggers wanted to know how the Jewish community here could help Jewish residents of that Red River-flooded city.

"We received a tremendous amount of support and interest from national Jewish organizations," she added. "The Council of Jewish Federations in New York, for example, called and asked what they could do. They agreed to post information on their Web site updating our situation."

Canadian Jewish Congress has thrown its support behind an initiative to aid victims in the flood-ravaged regions.

CJC national president Goldie Hershon has issued a communique to regional offices urging Canadian Jewry to show compassion for fellow citizens stricken by the flood.

Flood relief cheques can be made out to the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council General Flood Relief Effort), 370 Hargrave St., Winnipeg, R3B 2K1.



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Peace talks prospects gloomy on Independence Day

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel held its 49th Independence Day celebrations amid an unpromising climate for restarting Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

The state ceremony at Jerusalem's Mount Herzl opened with the theme, 100 years of Zionism, to commemorate the century that has passed since the first session of the Zionist Congress was held in Basel, Switzerland, to set out the goals of the Zionist movement.

The start of Independence Day officially marked the end of Israel's Memorial Day, which commemorated the 18,538 men and women who fell in defence of the state since the 1948 War of Independence. The total included 328 people who died during the past year.

For the first time, this year's Memorial Day observances recalled civilians killed in terrorist attacks.

As a siren brought the country to a standstill in memory of the fallen, Israeli leaders and military officers stressed that a strong Israel was essential for the country's future.

"We are moving surely, step by step, toward an era of acceptance by our neighbors of Israel's existence," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at the main state memorial ceremony at the Mount Herzl military cemetery.

He said that a strong Israeli army was "the true basis for the hope of peace."

Meanwhile, U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross continued efforts to revive the stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

His mission to the region, which began last week and was his second in a month, was to be extended by several days, American officials said.

Ross, who held a series of separate meetings last week with Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat, is encountering hardened positions on both sides.

Israeli-Palestinian contacts all but stopped in mid-March, when Israel started construction of a new Jewish neighborhood at Har Choma in southeastern Jerusalem.

The Palestinians have been calling for a halt to the project, and to settlement expansion, as a precondition for restarting negotiations.

Israel also has a precondition — the resumption of intelligence-sharing.

Less than optimistic about immediately finding a formula to bring the two sides back to the table, Ross said that it could take weeks before Israeli-Palestinian negotiations resume.

Netanyahu said he believed there were still many hurdles to be overcome before the talks would get back on track.

"They cannot expect us to make all the concessions, while they make none," Netanyahu told Israel Radio, adding that it was too early to decide whether Ross' shuttle was a success or failure.

Netanyahu also discussed Israeli-Syrian negotiations, which have been stalled since March 1996, saying that Washington would play a key role in restarting the talks.

The prime minister said that there had been recent contacts in which Damascus signaled interest in renewing the talks, but added that it was too soon to judge Syria's seriousness.

Senior Israeli army officers warned that if the peace option failed to break the deadlock over the future of the Golan Heights, Damascus could still consider the war option.

Syrian words and actions are "pointing to the possibility of Syria's using force to achieve political aims if the path of peace does not succeed," Israel Defence Force chief of staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Shahak told Army Radio.

Israel imposed a closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, when Memorial Day began, as a precaution against terrorist attacks.

The closure was to be lifted after Independence Day ended.

Arab land dealer found murdered

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A Jerusalem Arab land dealer was found dead last week in Ramallah from a blow to the back of the head, one week after Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat ordered his security forces to prevent land sales to Jews.

The death of Farid Bashiti, 70, who had worked as a real estate agent for 30 years, came three days after PA Justice Minister Freih Abu Medein said publicly that the death penalty would be demanded in PA courts for anybody who sold land to Jews, since the Har Choma project showed that Israel used land purchases to reinforce its claims to political sovereignty over land.

Bashiti was considered to have intimate dealings with the Israel Lands Administration.

The PA-appointed mufti of Jerusalem, Akrime Sabri, said during a sermon in Al-Aksa Mosque, shortly after the body was discovered, that Bashiti would be denied a Muslim burial. According to Islamic law, a Muslim who sells land to a non-believer in Jerusalem is considered an infidel, he said.

Recently, the house of the Armenian patriarchate on the Mount of Olives sold to an American Jewish millionaire was transferred to the Mercaz Harav Kook Yeshivah.

Arafat held a cabinet meeting in Ramallah on May 2 in which he called for action to be taken to prevent land sales by Arabs to Jews. The cabinet placed the burden of preventing such sales directly on the security agencies and the Justice Ministry, which later pronounced the death penalty.

However, the main issue for the PA now is land sales within the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem, and most landowners in Jerusalem live under Israeli authority. They thus cannot be tried by the PA, and the PA security agencies have no legal access to them.

Bashiti was apparently spirited out of Jerusalem. According to the Israel Police, he was kidnapped from the Ambassador Hotel in eastern Jerusalem. However, WAFA, the Palestinian news agency, quoted a receptionist as saying he left the hotel arm-in-arm with a young woman.

There is no direct evidence yet to imply that the PA was involved.

However, the Palestinian Preventive Security Service (PSS), headed by Col. Jibril Rajoub, has frequently operated in Jerusalem, sometimes abducting wanted suspects to Jericho.

Bashiti was found with his hands behind his back. His body was taken by the Israel Police for an autopsy.

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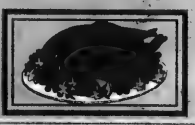
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Holocaust survivors could benefit from U.S. report

By MATTHEW DORF
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Holocaust survivors stand to benefit as a result of a U.S. study on the fate of Nazi gold.

Analysis

With more than 200 pages that leave no Allied, Axis or neutral power untouched, the United States, in releasing the report recently, said it would seek to give tens of millions of dollars in World War II-era German gold to survivors.

The gold, stored in the Bank of England and the Federal Reserve Bank in New York, is the remnant of Nazi wartime plunder recovered by the Allies. Holocaust victims could see millions more if the United States reopens negotiations with Switzerland and other nations over decades-old agreements that misrepresented the amount of money the Nazis looted and sold to neutral nations to finance their war effort.

Holocaust survivors could obtain additional reparations as a result of new inquiries into a chapter of history that had not so long ago been thought closed.

Earlier this year, bowing to international pressure from international Jewish groups, led by the World Jewish Congress (WJC), the Swiss government established two funds to provide needy Holocaust survivors with millions of dollars.

The release of the U.S. study, *U.S. and Allied Efforts to Recover and Restore Gold and Other Assets Stolen or Hidden by Germany During World War II*, caps a seven-month interagency review, which was overseen by U.S. Undersecretary of Commerce Stuart Eizenstat.

The report is as unique for its research of more than 15 million documents as it is for its specificity.

Among the key findings:

- Neutral countries "ignored repeated Allied entreaties to end their dealings with Nazi Germany." Their trade "with the Third Reich had the clear effect of supporting and prolonging Nazi Germany's capacity to wage war."
- Switzerland prolonged the war and the murder of Jews by supporting Germany's "capacity to wage war."
- The U.S. secretaries of state and treasury lied to Congress after the war about the amount of Nazi gold in European banks.
- The "inflexibility" of the Swiss banks "made it extremely difficult for surviving family members of Nazi victims to successfully file claims to secure bank records."
- There is no evidence that Switzerland or other countries, including the United States, knowingly accepted the gold of Holocaust victims.
- Congress and U.S. state governments should consider subpoenaing private records to determine whether there are unclaimed assets of Holocaust victims in American banks.

The Eizenstat report grew out of questions and accusations involving a single country — Switzerland.

As wartime documents were declassified, Switzerland found itself besieged by international criticism over allegations about its wartime role.

It was charged with hoarding the wealth of Holocaust victims while helping to finance the Nazi war effort by purchasing vast sums of looted Nazi gold.

But as researchers combed through thousands of documents in the archives of the United States and European countries, additional questions surfaced regarding other countries' purchases of Nazi gold.

In addition, some of the documents raised the question of whether the Allies themselves, including the United States, had been aggressive enough in locating and distributing Nazi gold.

WJC praises document

In the wake of these questions, the State Department announced last October that it would launch an intensive review into how the Allies identified and distributed Nazi gold plundered during the war.

The importance of the findings to Jews was underscored by the fact that Eizenstat briefed some two dozen Jewish organizational officials, a few hours before the report was made public.

WJC officials, who worked closely with Eizenstat's researchers, hailed the report as "an historical document."

In Israel, Jewish Agency for Israel chair Avraham Burg, who has been closely involved in restitution efforts, viewed the Eizenstat report as a call to action.

"The time for batting accusations of relative responsibility is well past," Burg said in a statement. "Now is the hour for immediate action by all governments" that received post-war transfers of looted gold.

How the money is distributed is certain to be the subject of much debate over the next few months. Survivors' groups want to see all the compensation turned over to needy survivors.

Other Jewish groups and Eizenstat are seeking to set up an endowed fund and draw payments in part from the interest generated by the fund.

At the briefing with Jewish organizational officials, Eizenstat, who serves as the U.S. special envoy for restitution issues and is slated for a senior post at the State Department, blamed the United States for "failing" Holocaust victims "in the areas of restitution and compensation.

"Ultimately, the United States, its Allies and the neutrals will not be judged so much by our actions or inactions 50 years ago," Eizenstat said, "but by what we do today."

Eizenstat called for the immediate release of a "substantial portion" of the $70 million (US) in gold still to be distributed from the Tripartite Commission.

But Eizenstat and the report stopped short of calling for a renegotiation of the post-World War II agreement that divided the Nazi regime's plunder.

The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold, established in September 1946 by the United States, Britain and France, was charged with the distribution of so-called monetary gold looted by the Nazis from the central banks of those European countries they had overrun.

Recently declassified documents indicated that the Tripartite Commission's distributions also may have included privately owned, or non-monetary, gold — some of which may have come from wedding bands and tooth fillings stripped from Jews on their way to the death camps.

The Swiss government contributed some $58 million in gold to the gold pool administered by the Tripartite Commission under the terms of the so-called 1946 Washington Agreement.

According to Eizenstat's report, the Swiss held far more looted Nazi gold than it turned over to the commission — an amount estimated at between $185 million and $289 million at the end of the war.

An additional $120 million was also estimated to be held for other countries by the Swiss central bank.

The Tripartite Commission distributed most of the gold in the pool during the 1940s and 1950s. The claimant countries receiving the distributions were: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland and the former Yugoslavia.

But in February, the United States, Britain and France agreed to halt distribution of the remaining $70 million while officials investigated whether some of it came from Holocaust victims.

In his assessment of the report, Eizenstat saved his harshest criticism for Switzerland and other neutral countries.

"The report makes painfully clear that neutral countries — Argentina, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and until the last three months of the war, Turkey — were slow to recognize and to acknowledge that this was not just another European war," he said.

"Their cooperation was motivated in part by fear of invasion. It was also motivated in part by Nazi sympathies in some countries and by a desire for profit in all."

Contributing to this report were JTA foreign editor Mitchell Danow in New York, and correspondents Fredy Rom in Zurich and Ruth Gruber in Washington.

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Swiss Jews face ghosts of World War II

[Cont'd from page 1]

Last December, the outgoing president of Switzerland and the current minister of economics, Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, claimed in a fiery speech that Jewish groups were trying to "blackmail" Switzerland into creating a special fund for Holocaust survivors. He later apologized for this remark, but did not withdraw his assertion that foreign powers were using the controversy to destroy Switzerland as a financial centre.

At the same time, Jewish community centres and Jewish leaders were inundated with hundreds of thinly veiled anti-Semitic letters dredging up ancient canards and taking Jews to task for "insulting" and "threatening" Switzerland with an economic boycott. And in a reflection of this mood, the letters-to-the-editor columns of Swiss newspapers were filled with ambiguous missives.

"What was done to the Jews is indescribable and unforgivable," wrote one man, referring to the Holocaust, in a typical letter. "But does that give Jewish organizations the right to accuse, insult and threaten Switzerland as a whole?"

Rolf Bloch, president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Switzerland, says this outpouring of bile in the Swiss press constitutes the gravest upsurge of overt anti-Semitism since the war.

"The old cliches are coming up again," he said in an interview at the annual meeting of the federation held at the Hilton Hotel last week.

Werner Rom, president of the community in Zurich, says that recent events have had the effect of lowering the threshold of explicit anti-Semitism. "A lot of people have been traumatized," he conceded.

Francois Loeb, the sole Jewish member of the federal parliament in Bern, says he has received a plethora of *signed* anti-Semitic letters of late, whereas in the past, he got very few.

Saly Fromer, a 75-year-old retired banker who lived through the war in Basel, attributes the upswing in anti-Semitism to inaccurate reports in the American press that Switzerland collaborated with Nazi Germany. "That's wrong," he declared. Switzerland made mistakes, but it was not pro-Nazi.

Although Jewish leaders here are clearly disheartened by the attacks on their community, they are at pains to emphasize that the picture is anything but uniformly grim.

"We have gotten many letters of support," said Bloch, one of Switzerland's leading chocolate manufacturers. "And members of the federal government have spoken against anti-Semitism."

"There have been a lot of positive reactions, too, letters of regret and sympathy," added Rom.

In Bern, the federal capital, high school students recently raised $80,000 for Holocaust survivors, while thousands of people gathered at Parliament Square for a silent vigil to commemorate the victims of the Shoah, Loeb said.

Bloch acknowledged that the Jewish community is caught between its loyalty to Switzerland and the reasonable demands of overseas Jewish organizations for a full accounting of Switzerland's behavior during the war.

"We want truth, justice and transparency," he explained. "But we have to feel sympathy for Swiss people who are unjustly accused in a collective way."

Block and other Jewish leaders are satisfied with Switzerland's efforts to confront its dark past.

- A commission, headed by Paul Volcker, is investigating the issue of dormant bank accounts, and a report is expected by the summer of 1998.
- A panel of Swiss and international historians is studying Switzerland's wartime conduct. Reports will be issued periodically.
- A $265-million humanitarian fund for needy Holocaust survivors has been set up by Swiss banks and private companies.
- A $5-billion foundation designed to assist victims of poverty and oppression, including Holocaust survivors, has been announced.

Sheldon Kirshner is in Switzerland at the invitation of the Swiss tourist board.

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Welcome Home.

This holiday belongs to all Jews

By BENJAMIN NETANYAHU

Message from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to the Jewish communities of the Diaspora on the occasion of Israel's 49th Independence Day, May 5757-Iyar 1997.

On Israel's 49th Independence Day, I extend warm greetings from Jerusalem, Israel's eternal capital, to the Jewish communities throughout the world.

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Our Independence Day belongs not only to Israelis, but to all Jews. It celebrates the rebirth of the Jewish people, it pays tribute to a bond between a people and its land unparalleled in human history, and it gives us all a sense of unity and oneness, a feeling of responsibility for each other.

We must nurture this feeling, for on the fundamental issues we agree. First and foremost, we all want peace. From that moment 49 years ago, when David Ben-Gurion read our declaration of independence in a modest museum building in Tel Aviv, our hand has been stretched out in peace to our neighbors. In fact, the Zionist commitment to peace dates back to the time Theodor Herzl first conceived the idea of a Jewish state a century ago.

Today, there are few sacrifices and concessions Israel is unwilling to make to achieve peace. But there is a fundamental requirement all Israelis feel must be satisfied: security.

This should have been self-evident. The very definition of peace includes the absence of violence and war. Terrorism and threats of violence are incompatible with the peace process.

Yet there are many in the world community who expect Israel to withdraw from areas that are the cradle of Jewish civilization, to relinquish control over strategic assets, and to leave itself vulnerable to attack despite the absence of any credible assurance of security. This will not do. To treat the matter of security lightly is to abdicate our responsibilities as a government. Only if Israelis and Jews everywhere remain united in demanding that security be an integral, indispensable component of the peace process, can we achieve real peace for ourselves and for all the peoples of the region.

I know that for many of you the faith in Jewish unity has been shaken by the proposed conversion law which recently passed a first reading in the Knesset.

Benjamin Netanyahu

Although the bill intends to do more than turn current practice in Israel into law, and although it ensures continued recognition by Israel of Reform and Conservative conversions performed abroad, I understand the anxiety and anguish it has caused. Any hint of legally sanctioned inequality among Jews due to religious affiliation is intolerable.

I want to assure you that I shall do everything in my power to reach a solution to this painful problem. The struggle against assimilation and alienation is far too crucial to be deflected by internal bickering over the legitimacy of conversions to Judaism. Our energies will be far better spent if we focus on Jewish education and the inculcation of Jewish values and traditions in our young.

I believe we must never view the bond between Israel and the Diaspora as anything less than vital, nor can we afford to let anything loosen this bond. It is what gives the Jewish people strength in the present and confidence in the future. But as we mark 100 years of modern Zionism and enter Israel's 50th year we must not lose sight of the purpose of Zionism: the ingathering of the Jewish people in the Jewish state.

With Israel's economy developing at an extraordinary pace and with its standard of living approaching that of the most advanced nations, there is every reason for Jews everywhere to consider aliyah. Our goal is to have a majority of the Jewish people living in Israel by the time we celebrate the state's 60th anniversary.

I believe we can achieve this goal and every other goal we set for ourselves if we remember that regardless of differences of opinions, beliefs and affiliations we are one people, united forever by faith, history and a shared destiny.

Mideast Analysis

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Rebirth of Jewish state is a true success story

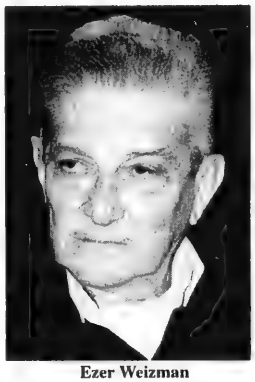
By EZER WEIZMAN

President Ezer Weizman's Independence Day Message to Jewish communities abroad, 5757-1997.

This Independence Day marks the beginning of the 50th anniversary of our being a free and sovereign nation in our own land. The re-establishment of the Jewish state in its homeland is a success story unparalleled in the annals of history. Israel at the end of its first jubilee is a country which looks ahead in hope. In various fields of creativity we are among the world's best.

This bright side of our lives encourages us and must be remembered when we come to face with sorrow and bereavement, the result of extremist elements. The road to peace is not an easy one. It is full of dangers and obstacles, but we are determined to continue along it, in the knowledge that it will lead to a better and more secure future for our children and grandchildren.

The stronger we are and the greater the number of our inhabitants, the easier it will be to achieve our aims. I, once again, call upon you, our brothers and sisters, in the Diaspora to send your children here to breathe the atmosphere of a free nation and to contribute their knowledge and expertise. Together we will make Israel more and more attractive to all Jews and create the largest Jewish centre. Together we will be able to advance even further Israel's scientific and cultural development and deepen our understanding of our ancient Jewish culture.



Ezer Weizman

The Week in Israel

May 5

• An Israeli businessman, Nahum Manbar was indicted in a Tel Aviv court on charges of selling Iran equipment for manufacturing chemical weapons. If convicted, he faces the possibility of life imprisonment.

• Israel's new ambassador to Jordan, Oded Eran, presented his credentials to Jordan's foreign minister.

May 6

• The head of Hamas' political wing, Mohammed Abu Marzook, vowed to continue his struggle against Israel, but said he would no longer target Israeli civilians for terrorist attacks. Marzook spoke to reporters in Amman a day after the United States deported him to Jordan.

May 7

• Israeli air force planes attacked Hezbollah targets in Lebanon for the second straight day.

• Several members of the inner security Cabinet criticized Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai for the destruction earlier in the week of illegally built structures near Nablus. Some members of the cabinet have threatened to quit the coalition if a policy more supportive of settlements is not implemented.

May 8

• Palestinian Authority officials denounced the Armenian archbishop for selling his home on Mount Olives to a Jew. The building had been purchased through a company representing U.S. developer Irving Moskowitz.

• A report in the media said some of the missing assets of Holocaust victims may be in banks in Israel. A professor at Bar-Ilan University wrote in *Ha'aretz* that German Jews deposited huge sums in the banks before World War II and that their accounts had been frozen by British authorities.

May 9

• Preparations underway for Yom Hazikaron were to officially commence Saturday night. Ceremonies across the country were planned to pay tribute to the 18,538 men and women who have died in defence of the country since 1949.

With files from the JTA.

Israel & the Jewish World

Peres, Barak to meet soon

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Labor leader Shimon Peres and his would-be successor, MK Ehud Barak, may meet in an effort to defuse a quarrel which threatened to overshadow the party convention this week.

Barak phoned Peres last Saturday, after Peres had indicated that he might not attend the convention because of what he termed Barak's "dictatorial outlook and steamroller tactics."

Barak suggested they meet that night. Peres, however, replied that it would be unseemly to talk politics on the eve of Remembrance Day.

The acrimony in Labor grew to such proportions, prior to the phone call Barak made to Peres, that one of Barak's chief boosters, MK Haggai Merom, suggested that the entire convention be put off till after the June 3 leadership primary.

In a related development, leadership candidate MK Yossi Beilin also threatened to boycott the proceedings, charging that Barak refuses to let other candidates have the floor.

Beilin attacked Barak, saying that "someone unwilling to even consider an honorary title for Labor's unique statesman shows a great deal about his own character and unfortunately what he shows is highly unflattering."

Beilin said that he would boycott the convention if all four candidates for the party leadership are not allowed to address the delegates at the close of the convention. Barak's supporters want him to be the sole closing speaker.

Peres returned to Israel last week from a trip to the United States and immediately conferred in his home with a number of leading supporters, including party Secretary-General Nissim Zvilli, MKs Dalia Itzik and Rafi Elul (who have pledged their support in the primary to Barak) and Jewish Agency chair Avraham Burg.

They discussed the Labor steering committee's decision not to put the proposal that Peres be appointed party president on the convention's agenda. Zvilli said he feels he can overturn the committee's decision with the support of 10 percent of the 3,700 delegates.

Peres, however, indicated to his supporters that he might not show up for the convention because "a new party is being created here, not the one which I know. The contention here is not about whether or not I will be party president but whether this party will remain at all democratic or will become a dictatorship in which everything revolves around the say-so of a single man. What is at stake is the soul of this party."

Meanwhile, the party's Jerusalem branch held its own convention last week. The main attraction was Likud MK Ze'ev Begin, invited to put forth his anti-Oslo views in an ideological debate.

The standing ovation he received did not prevent Begin from launching a stinging attack on Labor for "being a captive of its own Oslo conception, despite the fact that it is patently clear that this illusory process will not bring peace...The Palestinian covenant remains unamended and Labor fell into Arafat's trap...

"The idea that terror could be controlled by terrorists was thoroughly discredited, as was the notion that there can be overwhelming common interests between Israel and the PA...

"What we have is a process which defines progress as Israeli withdrawal. Israel's role is to give and the Arabs need only take. Labor sought a deal at any price and brought us a deal in which we will all pay a heavy price."

Israel's state comptroller finds ethical breaches

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Issuing her annual report on government activity, Israel's state comptroller said last week that she had found numerous instances of breaches of ethics in the public service.

The report, which covered the end of the Labor-led government and beginning of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud-led coalition, recommended that the attorney general investigate at least three cases of suspected criminal activities.

Miriam Ben Porat said she considered the 1,100 page report "one of the most serious" she had ever prepared.

The report comes on the heels of the Bar-On affair, a political scandal surrounding the short-lived appointment of an attorney general who stepped down in the wake of sharp criticism about his lack of experience.

Among the report's findings were a long list of political appointments that Porat said failed to meet required standards.

"It is natural that a new government would want to appoint people who share its views," Ben Porat said. "But unfortunately the drive to garner power sometimes pushed individuals to try to circumvent proper procedures and the law."

The report cited the appointment of a legal adviser to the prime minister's office, who was later forced to step down because he lacked the required experience.

In another case, the deputy housing minister promised projects to a contractor on condition that a Likud activist, who did not have the requisite experience, be made a deputy director of the company.

The report pointed to conflicts of interest in the disbursement of public funds, when members of organizations seeking such funds also sat on the ministerial committees which allocated them.

The state comptroller also criticized the lack of follow-up to ensure that funds distributed to organizations were used for their intended purpose.

On a separate issue, she raised grave concerns regarding the Israeli army's preparedness for war. Reserve combat soldiers do not receive adequate training, and there is no follow-up assessment of their training, the report said.

The report said that the army's wartime emergency stores were low, that armored vehicles were found to be flawed and that ammunition had expired.

Some 2 million citizens were still without proper gas masks, which must be supplied by the army, the report said.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said in response that he was aware of the problems and hoped that the defence establishment would be given the necessary resources to correct them.

On another matter, Ben Porat said she had not yet decided whether to investigate the role of former Israel Defence Force chief of staff Ehud Barak in a November 1992 military accident.

Five soldiers were killed when a live missile prematurely fired during a training exercise.

Ben Porat said that in her initial investigation of the accident she had heard conflicting reports over how, and whether, Barak helped soldiers who were injured in the accident.

Barak, is a leading contender for the leadership of the Labor Party, which is set to hold internal elections on June 3.

Ben Porat said it was important to clarify the matter, in light of the fact that it involves an individual who could conceivably lead the country.

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Schizophrenia In The Jewish Community

Researchers at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and other collaborating institutions are conducting a study to understand the biological cause of schizophrenia among Ashkenazi Jews. Both environmental and genetic factors are believed to play a role in determining who is susceptible to the disease. Although schizophrenia does not occur more frequently among the Jewish population, the fact that the Ashkenazi Jewish community evolved from a limited number of ancestors and that they tend to marry individuals from the same ethnic background provides unique opportunities for the genetic analysis.

Ashkenazi Jewish families with TWO or MORE LIVING SIBLINGS who have a diagnosis of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder are potentially eligible for inclusion in the study. Travel is not required.

For more information, please contact Dr. Ann Pulver or Gail Ullrich, MSW, toll-free at 1-888-289-4095 or via fax at 410-955-0644 or by mail at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, 1615 Thames Street, Suite 205, Baltimore, MD 21231.

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Gene mutation identified in cancers

TORONTO — A research team led by scientists from Mount Sinai Hospital's Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute has found that the BRCA2 gene mutation previously identified in Jewish breast cancer patients of Ashkenazi descent, is also eight times more prevalent in Ashkenazi men and women with pancreatic cancer than in the population-at-large.

The findings are cited in an article in the May 1997 issue of *Nature Genetics*. The research team is led by Dr. Mark Redston, pathologist, Mount Sinai Hospital; Dr. Hilmi Ozcelik, scientist, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital and Dr. Steven Gallinger, scientist, Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute and surgeon at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Through identification of the BRCA2 gene, one of the two genes previously identified as responsible for hereditary breast and ovarian cancers, scientists have been able to conclude that a certain proportion of the Ashkenazi population has an increased risk of inherited predisposition to pancreatic cancer as well.

The research involved the collection of data from both newly diagnosed pancreatic cancer patients and from pathological and clinical records of pancreatic cancer patients over a 15-year period.

The results indicate that the risk of pancreatic cancer in the Ashkenazi population carrying the mutation is estimated to be about 7 percent, compared to a risk of 0.85 percent in the general population, making some individuals about eight times at risk of developing pancreatic cancer.

The ability to identify a population at high risk for the development of pancreatic cancer may provide an opportunity to develop and evaluate prevention and early detection protocols that could lead to reduced mortality. "Currently we are unable to screen for this most devastating cancer. These findings provide an excellent impetus for the development of new screening tools, which we hope will lead to a change in the detection and cure rates, similar to those that currently exist for colon cancer," says Gallinger.

APPOINTMENT

Dr. David Matear, formerly dental director at Glasgow Dental Hospital in Glasgow, Scotland, has been appointed chief of dentistry at Baycrest Centre. He will be responsible for the ongoing management and development of Baycrest's dental program, including the dental clinic. He also plans to pursue dental research activities between Baycrest and the University of Toronto, where he is an assistant professor.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Obsessive fear of water can hinder one's activities

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Many people harbor an obsessive fear of water, preventing them from participating in many activities, says Michael Berger.

"Individuals are more likely to seek help with other fears such as the fear of flying, but they often keep their fear of water a secret and make up excuses to avoid the water," Berger says.

Berger founded Water Confidence to help children and adults cope with and overcome their phobia. The important thing, he says, is to help them realize that change is possible.

He developed techniques to teach people how to overcome fear of water.

"The first thing I do is remove the shame and help them develop their confidence before they step foot into the water."

Berger, 61, who earned a degree in commerce and finance at the University of Toronto, has helped both children and adults for more than 25 years. He worked as a swimming instructor and was in charge of the waterfront for the Jewish Camp Council. He also works with the legally blind through the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Berger begins by trying to understand why the fear exists. He then measures the pupil's anxiety level and begins step-by-step breathing instructions, not in the water but on dry land.

He says a proper breathing technique is one of the most vital components of swimming and he has developed a "relaxation scale" that helps individuals recognize and work at their level of comfort. His pupils progress from breathing to floating and then, swimming.

"I have had a 100 percent success rate with my breathing technique," he says. "That speaks for itself."

Berger believes age is no barrier. In Ottawa, he presented a paper titled *The Use of Visualization to Overcome Fear in the Elderly* at the Conference of Aging in the 20th Century. His research has made him one of Toronto's foremost authorities on the subject.

"Fear of water prevents people from participating in many joyful recreational activities such as swimming, canoeing, boating, fishing and other water-related events. As a result, many of these people not only deprive themselves of pursuing a satisfying hobby, but they suffer from loss of social interaction."

He adds that "swimming stands out as a universally recognized therapy and one of the safest and most beneficial forms of physical exercise."

Fear may result from a bad experience or it may have been passed on by parents consciously or unconsciously. He says his mission is "to get this issue of the silent fear on the table."

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Travel, Arts & Business

Young actor produces, stars in Anne Frank play

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — It's not often you find a young actor who is versed in directing and producing. Leah Garbe, the 21-year-old star of the upcoming production of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, defies the ordinary.

Garbe stars in the play and is the producer and founder of the theatre company Encore Entertainment. Last year, in its first production, the company (previously known as Rising Star Productions) produced *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, in which Garbe premiered as producer and director.

"I had the greatest experience producing *Charlie Brown*," Garbe said. "I love producing. I like having control over the production."

With her strength in musicals, Garbe had originally tried to find another musical to produce for Encore's second season. "No other play stuck out," she said. "I had to find one I could first afford to do, and second, would enjoy doing."

While *Anne Frank* cost twice as much as Encore's first production, Garbe saw many positive aspects to producing it. The Jewish content was appealing, she said, especially because of the large Jewish population in the Vaughan area where it will be performed. It also appeals to all ages.

Garbe would eventually like to see Encore Entertainment perform exclusively children's theatre. She felt that *Anne Frank* was both a good way to attract a young audience and get the company's reputation known.

She had not intended on acting in *Anne Frank* but she couldn't pass up the opportunity to play Anne. "She's the greatest person I've ever played," she said. "She had such optimism, even being in hiding. She was so strong. Even when she was in the concentration camps, she was just happy to be outside."

The play has personal significance to several members of the cast. Most are Jewish, including veteran actor, Allan Price who plays Otto Frank, and Garbe's mother as Mrs. Van Daan. Elaine Martyn, who plays Mrs. Frank, has particular ties to the production as her own mother was in the camps with Anne.

"I love working with this cast," Garbe said. "We feel like a family."

Garbe's own family has helped nurture her for the stage. She has been performing since she was 11, featuring in numerous musicals, and studying dance and singing. Her mother has directed community theatre and combined her company with Garbe's to create Encore Entertainment. Garbe's brother is also no stranger to stage, having performed in *Les Miserable* and currently starring in his own television show, *Skip 'in*.

But Garbe herself is weary about pursuing performance as a career. Currently, she studies psychology at York University. "I really enjoy school and being a student. I like having something to fall back on." But, she is quick to add, she doesn't want to have to.

"I would love to make it as a performer and be successful," she said. "But it's so unrealistic and unpredictable. I'm not counting it out totally, but I love producing."

Anne Frank runs for five performances at the City Playhouse Theatre, from May 21 to the 24. Performances are 8 p.m. nightly, with a 2 p.m. matinee on the 24. Tickets are $15 or $12 for students and seniors. Call 733-0558 to reserve tickets.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Jacob Aaron Edri celebrated his first birthday on March 8. With love from grandparents Marcia & David Phillips and family.

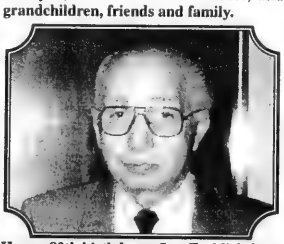
Happy 12th birthday, Josh. Love, Mom, Dad and Vanessa.

Happy 75th birthday to Myna Lazer with love from husband Max, children Mel & Marlyne, Bill & Fern and Carole, and grandchildren, friends and family.

Mazel tov to Kay & Morry Rotman on their 50th anniversary celebration Jan. 12. With love and best wishes from your family and friends.

Sydney Brooke, daughter of Maxine & Josh Schulman celebrated her first birthday on Jan. 23 with family and friends.

Mazel tov to Robyn on her bat mitzvah in Vancouver on March 8. Love, Bubbie Rose & Zayde Otto in Montreal, Bubbie Lily & Zayde Charles and everyone in Toronto.



Happy 80th birthday to Leo Frohlich from Helen & Allen, Freda & Ben, grandchildren Paula, Alan & Beth, Sheldon & Susan and great-granddaughter Samantha Lauren.

Mazel tov to Ilona & Adolf Ungar on their 50th wedding anniversary March 19. With love from their children Judy & Calvin, grandchildren, sister, nieces and nephews.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

FIFTH FILM FEST WRAPS UP, LEAVES AUDIENCES WANTING MORE

Unreeling from May 1 to 8, the fifth annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival finished the way all good entertainment is supposed to — leaving audiences wanting more.

For new programming director **Shlomo Schwartzberg**, the biggest surprise was in seeing the enthusiasm of Toronto audiences for Jewish film.

"You get told how interested people are, but it's different when you actually experience it first-hand."

Several newsworthy incidents occurred during the fest. One of the rarest items was *Sabbath in Amsterdam*, made in the Netherlands in 1932. The 12-minute film shows Amsterdam Jews observing the Shabbat.

After the screening, a woman told festival organizers "that she knew and could identify every person in the film," said Schwartzberg.

Festival organizers intend to convey the information to the Spielberg Jewish Film Archives in Israel.

Similarly, after the showing of the fascinating documentary *Exodus 1947*, which focuses on the famous ship that never reached Palestine, two audience members identified themselves as former passengers. Both live in Toronto.

Predictably, the most controversial film was *Jerusalem: An Occupation Set In Stone?*, whose negative portrayal of Israel seemed to upset many people. Even so, many others expressed satisfaction that "the other side of the story" was being told.

Love it or hate it, the film's inclusion made a statement in itself. Would a Palestinian film festival likely tolerate a correspondingly negative view of themselves?

The Polish-made 1937 Yiddish film *The Vow (Tkies Kaf)* proved a popular favorite, filling the 650-seat theatre to capacity early Sunday evening. Audience members were kvelling during this old-fashioned shtetl romance, finding humor and pleasure in every rare Yiddishism and bashful screen kiss.

The screening of the five-part Israeli TV serial *Mr. Mani*, several next-day repeat screenings and a Saturday late-night showing of the Israeli film *Underdogs* made this "a year of innovations," said festival producer **Helen Zukerman**, who confirms that attendance figures were up again. Half of the 400 festival passes sold were purchased before the program was even available, she said.

Another innovation, according to Zukerman, is that rare Yiddish films like *The Vow* and *Sabbath In Amsterdam* were not rented at typically exorbitant cost from a U.S. distributor as in previous years. Instead, prints were purchased outright and made available to the festival by the private Zukerman Foundation, which Helen Zukerman heads.

"I hope these will be the beginning of a collection of old classics that will be available across Canada," she said

As the films were being sealed into cans to be returned to their various distributors, Zukerman was still tallying the numbers on what seemed to be a very good year.

For the festival, the one sour note was that York University film prof John Stuart Katz is moving to Philadelphia. Katz, who teaches courses on Jewish film, was a programming consultant to the festival since its inception.

Literary Calendar

• Acclaimed Israeli novelist **A. B. Yehoshua** is in Toronto May 22.

He's scheduled to give a reading and sign copies of his latest book, *Open Heart*, at Chapters bookstore, 110 Bloor St. W., from 1 to 2 p.m. Later the same day he speaks on The Israeli Identity: How to Fill the Black Holes with New Content, Holy Blossom Temple, 8 p.m. (Word is, the talk is not political in nature — it's literary and artistic.) Admission free.

Music & Theatre

• Musician **Brian Katz** gives a solo recital of original compositions, including works with Jewish themes. Mezetta Cafe, 681 St. Clair. Ave. W. (at Christie), Toronto. May 21. Sets 9:15 and 10:30 p.m. Reservations 416-658-5687.

• Introduction to Theatre for Adults, an eight-week course, starts this week at, Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St., North York. 416-636-1880, ext. 231.

• Centre Spotlight, hosted by **Gloria Valentine** and **Eddie Rice**, features singer **Naomi Bell**, humorist **Murray Kash**, musicians **Vanessa Av Ruskin** and **Stephen Targett**, raconteur **Norm Gilbert**, comics **Allen Farkas** & **Michael Lebovic**, and others. Winchevsky Centre. May 17, 8:30 p.m. First-time supporters $10. 416-789- 5502 or 638-2222.

Benefits and Galas

• Toronto resident **Ross Rumberg**, formerly of Winnipeg, has organized two evenings of comedy with all proceeds to aid Manitoba flood victims. Friends Of The Peg, May 14 and 15 at the Comedywood Club, Thornhill. Doors open 7:30 for 8:30 p.m. curtain. Tickets two for $20. 905-761-0543.

SAD TIMES

Following the tragic helicopter collision recently, restaurants and places of entertainment in Israel were closed as a sign of mourning. This street musician in Jerusalem plays a soulful tune reflecting the feelings of the nation. [Isranet photo]

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Academic journal focuses on Jerusalem

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

KINGSTON — Steeped in Canadian history and covered in snow for much of the year, the city of Kingston, Ont., seems an unlikely spot from which a book about Jerusalem might emerge.

So it's all the more surprising to many people that the Winter 1996 issue of *Queen's Quarterly* — the well-established academic journal of Queen's University in Kingston — should be devoted to the theme of Jerusalem.

"People don't expect to see a quarterly that is a Canadian forum going so far as the Middle East," said editor Boris Castel. "We've gone way beyond North American ideas and expectations. The response has been very positive."

Castel, who lived in Jerusalem for 10 years until moving away about 25 years ago, said he wanted the issue to reflect "a spectrum, not necessarily of opinion, but of reflection and knowledge and origins — Palestinian and Israeli, modern and secular and religious. I wanted it to reflect all of what Jerusalem seems to stand for in the emblematic representation of that city for the rest of the world."

The front cover shows a dramatic photograph of the Jerusalem Citadel with the heading, "Jerusalem: The Battle of Memories." The nine articles on the Jerusalem theme take up more than half of the roughly 200 pages. (Other recent themes have included the history of Eastern Europe, particularly Bosnia, and the philosophy of sports.) The prose is enhanced by dozens of photographs and illustrations of the Western Wall, domes, towers, arches, churches, mosques, political figures and the ruins of buildings that did not survive the city's tumultuous history.

"Sieged, sacked and burned 50 times in 30 centuries, often in the name of God, Jerusalem witnesses today its latest battle, the battle for

[Cont'd. on page 45]

Lorne Kashin (left) and Elaine Botnick (fifth from left) are seen with staff members at the 20th birthday party of the Eyeglass Factory

Eyeglass Factory survives letdowns to celebrate its 20th anniversary

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Over 400 people attended the 20th birthday celebration of The Eyeglass Factory recently.

Owner/optician Lorne Kashin, 43, says he threw the birthday party to show his appreciation to his customers and suppliers who have been loyal and supportive despite his numerous setbacks.

Kashin has been plagued by robberies at his Doncaster location. He says several years ago he was almost forced to close.

After the latest robbery took place despite his spending $5,000 in security upgrades, he posted a sign in his store that read: "Please excuse our lack of inventory—it is due to our ninth break in."

Elaine Botnick, who is in charge of special promotions, said she felt the rash of thefts had occurred because "glasses are a hot commodity and are no longer only a necessity; sunglasses can cost up to $500."

Kashin believes that to operate a business, the owner should be present at all times and says he is proud to have been in business for 9 years "at a time when small businesses are struggling to survive. The Eyeglass Factory [shows] that anything is possible."

Botnick attributes Kashin's success to his "true caring, quality products and professional service of his five staff members." She adds that Kashin realizes that today it is important to do more than just sell eyeglasses.

Botnick presents trunk shows — displays by sales representatives of their entire collections in the form of fashion eye wear shows, as well as special kids' weeks to raise public awareness of children's needs, teenage programs to educate them on the difference between designer and knock-off sunglasses, and information clinics on low vision aids for people who have suffered vision loss.

"Whenever we see a need for education pertaining to eyewear fashion, which includes lenses, we create a day or week dedicated to the issue at hand," says Botnick.

Kashin says that one of his objectives is to create and maintain a friendly and trusting attitude where customers will not hesitate to come back for even the smallest detail. And many of them were there to enjoy the birthday celebration.

Tourism down 15 percent

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Tourism Ministry statisticians reported last week that the continuing decline in the number of foreign tourists has abated, although there were 15 percent fewer visitors during the first three months of 1997 than in the same period last year.

According to the ministry statistics, there were 528,100 visitors from abroad during the first quarter, a number which includes 36,700 cruise passengers and 116,900 who entered through land border crossings.

Controversy obstructs El Al privatization

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Differences in opinion among members of the government comittee on the privatization of El Al are preventing the compilation of its recommendations, a senior government official said.

The committee should have presented its proposals to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu by early January, but ongoing differences over the method of privatization and particularly the thorny issue of flights on Shabbat are causing the hold-up, according to the official.

However, another senior government source denied there are disagreements and said the committee is only weeks away from completing its work.

The committee will probably present its recommendations some time this month.

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Film professor returning to his U.S. roots

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — John Stuart Katz, a York University professor and consultant to Toronto's annual Jewish film festival, is saying goodbye to Toronto this month precisely 30 years after he arrived for what he thought would be a temporary stay of only a few years.

A native of Cincinnati, Katz received a doctorate in English literature and education from Harvard, then came here to begin teaching at OISE, the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. It was 1967, and Katz, seeing the triangulated maple-leaf logo of the Expo '67 World's Fair on roadsigns, instantly saw a resemblance between that symbol and the six-pointed Magen David.

"I joked, 'What a wonderful medinah, there are Jewish stars everywhere,'" he recalled.

He joined the staff of York University as a film professor about 25 years ago and started teaching a course on Jewish film some 10 years ago, thereby ensuring that others would see plenty of Jewish stars, too.

John Stuart Katz bids farewell.

He also taught courses in documentary film, screenwriting and the Canadian film industry, and was chair of York's film department for five years.

A consultant and co-programmer of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival since its inception, Katz introduced many films to festival-goers over the past five years. He has written four books on film and co-wrote the feature film *Isaac Littlefeather*, dealing with a Native American boy who is brought up as an observant Jew.

As though following a film script straight from Hollywood, Katz is getting married and moving to Philadelphia.

"The director of the Jewish film festival of Philadelphia introduced me to my fiancee at the Montreal Film Festival about four years ago," he said.

He is taking a sabbatical from York next year and retiring the year after. In the meantime, he is set to start teaching as an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania in the fall. He also expects to do some consulting for the Jewish film festival in Philadelphia.

"I have a bittersweet feeling about leaving Toronto," he said.

"Canada and Toronto have been very good to me for the past 30 years, and I've loved living here. There are certain things that I'll miss very much, like my friends and my former students.

"On the other hand, I feel like it's time to 'go home' — to go back to the United States," he continued. "I feel a longing for the east coast."

Academic journal focuses on Jerusalem

[Cont'd. from page 44]

appropriation of memory," Castel writes in the one-page introduction.

Four articles deal with civic history, two others with architecture, but all seem to pay at least some attention to the particular problems associated with Jerusalem as being a holy city to three world faiths.

To A.P. Thornton, Jerusalem is "a place where three of the world's monotheistic religions have managed to make their house, but not their home." Thornton concludes: "Three faiths are two too many for any one Holy City" to accommodate.

Ken Sherman's *The Master of Repetition* is perhaps the most impressionistic piece of writing in the quarterly. It describes an encounter with a blind beggar sitting without expectation on a wooden crate, who "embodied the vision of Jerusalem. His silence and patience stood for all who wait for the day of peace."

As they reflect upon Jerusalem's towers from their own academic ivory towers, the writers recall many intriguing minutiae of Jerusalem's history. John Osborne, for instance, writing on Crusader-era Christian perceptions of Jerusalem, notes that Christians after 1099 mistook the sacred Muslim shrine, the Dome of the Rock, as the Temple of Solomon, and called it "Templum Domini, or House of the Lord, its Muslim origin unknown or more probably conveniently forgotten."

Ironically, Hadia Danaji-Shakeel, writing on *Jerusalem In the Prayers of Islam*, notes that the Dome of the Rock has often been wrongly referred to as the Mosque of Umar, which stood on the same spot but preceded the present structure by 54 years.

"Some Muslims do not challenge this misnomer," writes the U of T professor, adding: "However, the Muslim world does object to the term Temple Mount, which is often used in the West to identify the whole area encompassing the two shrines, known to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary. For Muslims, 'Temple Mount' neglects the intrinsic Islamic nature of these monuments."

Is this mere semantics, or is this author genuinely forgetful of the intrinsic Jewish nature of this site, which was known — even a millennium and a half before the birth of Islam — as the Temple Mount? This seems the only passage that, in the name of historical accuracy and mutual respect between faiths, could have used more stringent editing.

An intellectually probing book of this kind might be said to have failed if it did not contain at least one tiny contentious utterance such as this.

Taken as a whole, however, this issue of *Queen's Quarterly* seems a fitting tribute to the world's most holy city at the conclusion of its 3,000th anniversary celebrations. One shares the wishes of Castel and other writers that Jerusalem will soon experience peace.

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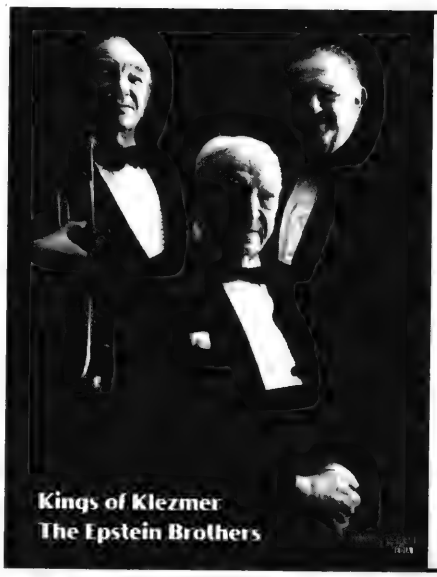

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Custom-made, top quality, heat resistant. Wide selection, courteous home service. 745-2711.

490 TABLE COVERINGS

Made To Measure
TABLE PADS
Dover Pad. Finest quality since 1950. Heat resistant to 600°F. Many colours. Home service, no obligation.
1-800-354-4445

510 UPHOLSTERY

Arctic Custom Upholstering Free est. Let us beautify your yesterdays furniture. Free armcovers, free toss pillows with every 2-piece suite. 665-3445.

Before signing any contract make sure your contractor is appropriately licensed with the **Metropolitan Licensing Commission** 392-3000

CREATING: THE STORE
Creative gifts & loot bags for children *start at* **$3.99**
Custom Creative Portfolios *start at* **$14.95**
Just phone & we will create Special gifts based on your budget.
NEW LOCATION! 10220 Yonge St. Richmond Hill
3 blocks North of Major Mackenzie
Lots of Free municipal Parking
Mon to Fri. 10 a.m - 5:30 p.m. Sat 10 - 5 p.m.
1-800-950-4773
905-737-3507

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Due to the Victoria Day Holiday, The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on Monday, May 19th

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Call 391-1836
for information on classified ad rates

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
453 GIFT SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
505 WORD PROCESSING
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
550 WORKSHOPS

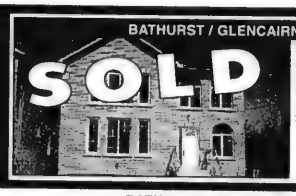
REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Brand new 4 bdrm. executive home, main floor library & fam. room, attention to detail, only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

GLEN PARK GEM – LOADED WITH UPGRADES

Stunning 5 - bdrm.! Custom designed and built, dream maple kitchen, luxurious upgrades throughout, sep. entry to finished basement. A MUST SEE! Only $599,000 — ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT — NEW LISTING

Spacious ranch bungalow, custom built. Pride of ownership, 3 + 1 bdrms., fam. room, hardwood floors, sep. entry to in-law suite, asking $439,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — NEW LISTING

Lots of home — low price! 5 bdrms., 4 baths, family room, bright open concept, hardwood floors, Finnish spa in basement, only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – STORE FOR SALE!

Fabulous location, only $239,000. Ideal for user — priced to sell! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — UNSURPASSED ELEGANCE!

Custom-designed & built (1990), quality craftsmanship & finishes, 10 ft. ceilings on main floor, 4,600 sq. ft. (approx.) + bsmt., dream designer kitchen, loaded with luxury. A MUST SEE at only $799,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR — EXCLUSIVE NEW LISTING

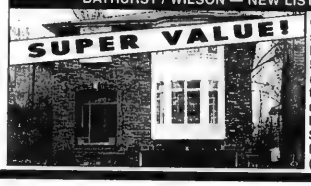
Immaculate 3 bdrm. side-split bungalow, 52.20 ft. frontage, fam. room, Jacuzzi. ACT NOW — only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE RD. / GLENCAIRN – FAB. BLDG. LOT – REDUCED!

70 ft. frontage, OMB approved for 5,000+ sq. ft. new home. Fab. location! Only $389,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / WILSON — NEW LISTING

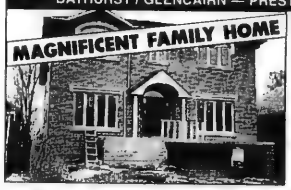


Custom built spacious family home, 5 bdrms., 5 baths, family room, library, finished basement. Incredible price — only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE

60 ft. frontage, spacious ranch bungalow, ren., new roof, windows, floors, only $369,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS



Brand new, 6 bedrooms, custom designed luxury home. Dream maple kitchen, oak panelled library, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. basement. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — REDUCED

Fabulous building lot in prestigious location. 50 ft. x 136 ft. Existing bungalow renovated. Only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

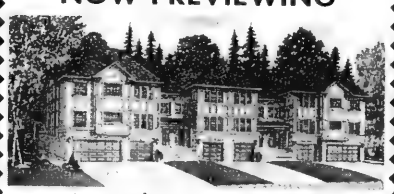
• • •

EARL BALES PARK – SPLENDID RANCH BUNGALOW

Spacious ranch-style bungalow with 65 ft. frontage, 3 + 1 bdrms., sep. entry to bsmt., near Earl Bales Park, lots of potential, only $269,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

Teefy Green Homes

NOW PREVIEWING



Just 12 luxury townhomes,
1 km. North of Hwy. 7, on Bathurst

ONLY 5 LEFT!

- Some with double car garage
- Backing onto lush ravine
- Beside Richmond Hill Country Club & Golf Course
- Finished lower levels with walk out to ravine
- Approx. 2000 sq. ft. and up
- Priced from $249,500

Call **MARLON & CLARA GREEN**
CENTURY 21 HERITAGE GROUP LTD.
905-764-7111 or 905-707-5926

Sales Office located at 8909 Bathurst St.
Mon. - Thurs. 3-8 pm. Sat. & Sun. 11-6 p.m.

HK

HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

Celebrating our 40th Year!

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
43 Elm Ridge Dr. $424,800. Updated 4+1 bdrm., 3 baths, reno. white kit. o/l's spectacular green belt lot!

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
Bathurst/Glencairn! Co-operated in the sale! Fab. 3+1 bdrm., 3 baths, mn. flr. fam. o/l's spectacular 60'x150' lot!

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! — RETREAT
Big Bay Point! – Waterfront, year-round privacy, 4 bdrms., loft, 2 fireplaces, sandy beach! Double garage. **Carole Lazer***.

BAYVIEW/LAURELEAF $659,000.
Custom built 2 storey, 70 ft. lot, circ. drive, 3350 sq. ft., 4+2 bdrm., fam. rm., library, fin. L/L. walk-up. **Gert Kerbel***.

NEW PRICES! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
Orchid Crt.! $719K 5+2 bdrm., 5 baths, mn. fam. & lib. & lau. Cobblestone Dr.! $379K German Mills 5+1 bdrm. reno.

LAKE SIMCOE WINTER/SUMMER!
Award winning design, 4 bdrms., 3 baths, stone fireplace, backs onto golf course. Move-in. **Carole Lazer***.

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to "Turning Point Charity" supporting Homeless Youth.

(416) 441-2888 www.harveykalles.com

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

SOLD RECENTLY BY PERRY WAISGLASS
Sales Representative

17 Wideford Court*.....Over 98% of the asking price
43 Chelwood Drive.....Over 97% of the asking price
23 Barwick Drive*.....Sold in 1 Day!
92 Venice Crescent.....Over 93% of the asking price
16 Thornbury Circle*.....Over 95% of the asking price
22 Springfield Way.....Over 92% of the asking price
31 Leah Crescent.....Over 94% of the asking price
136 Gailcrest Circle**.....Over 96% of the asking price
20 Gailcrest Circle**.....Over 94% of the asking price

*Assisted in the sale
**Sold more homes on Gailcrest Circle since 1995 as per TREB

FOR RESULTS, CALL **PERRY WAISGLASS**
(905) 764-7200

PRIME MANOR HOME 80 FT. FRONT
$270,000 - 3 bdrms, 2 baths, fam. rm., fin. bsmt. Ceramic & hdwd. flrs., CAC, CVAC, alarm, lg. rec. rm., w/bar + + much more. Must see. Must sell!

HUGE BEAUTIFUL HOME – 3030 SQ. FT.
$289,000 - 4 bdrm., 3 baths, fam. rm. w/frpl., library, parquet flrs., Prem. lot, huge kit., walk-out deck, garden. Priced to sell.

WANTED: 2 bdrm. condos in Bathurst-Steeles area. Cash Buyer

***Call* NAT STARK**
One of Re/Max Realtron Rlty. Top Producers
(905) 764-6000

BATHURST - CLARK
Prime location, 2200', large foyer, circular stairs, 4 bdrms., 2½ baths, main flr. family & laundry, walk to synagogue, schools & promenade. Just $315,000.
IRENE SMITH 905 - 889-2200
HOMELIFE/BAYVIEW REALTY INC.

LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

- **HIGH PARK/RONCESVALLES** - 11 units. $520,000. Over 11% return. Excellent income.
- **BATHURST MANOR** - Triplex, $269,900. 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd., dbl gar., excellent income.
- **BATHURST MANOR** - $195,000. Just listed, 3 bd. semi-detached home, c/a, 3 bths (1 on main), fin. bsmt. apt.

BATHURST MANOR
3 bdrm. bung. on 52' x 115' lot, clean & well kept, CAC, bsmt. apt., quiet street, great starter home! Asking $279,900.

AVENUE ROAD / BROOKE
Newly built 3 bdrm. backsplit on generous 45' x 130' lot, self-contained in-law suite, large kitchen. Close to all amenities.

GLENCAIRN / FOREST WOOD
5 bedroom executive home with huge family room & main floor library. Prestigious location.

COTTAGES! BELLE EWART!
Two side-by-side waterfront cottages, lots totalling 125' x 240', very quiet street, short walk to synagogue, motivated vendors!
Call **Jacob Florans,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

BATHURST MANOR $265,000
3 bdrm. brick bung. on 52' x 115' lot, 2 baths, sep. ent. to fin. bsmt., white kit., 5 app., CAC, hrdwd. under brdlm., new roof, park 6 cars, near subway. Rebecca Moscoe, Sutton Group Admiral Realty (416) 739-7200.

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

WILMINGTON/OVERBROOK
Spac. 3 bdrm., 2 bths., 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., gar., extras, A-1 buy.

BATHURST/STEELES
4 bdrm. bung., good size liv. & din., up-dated kit., fin. w/out bsmnt., steps to all.

ARMOUR HEIGHTS A-1 BUY
3 bdrm., 2 storey, liv. & din. comb., 2 bths., fin. bsmnt., dble. drive, gar., lge. lot, don't miss!

BATHURST/WILSON
Store & apt., ideal for many uses, busy location, A-1 buy, open to offers.

A. & D. SEIDMAN (416) 633-7373

Bath. Manor, 3 bdrms, 2 storey home with w/o bsmt, ravine lot, updated decor, move-in cond., $285K. 633-4960. **Open House:** Sun.,May 18th, 2-4pm, at 4 Overbrook Place.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

SANDRINGHAM DR. – 2 ACRES ON RAVINE
Approx. 5000 sq. ft. luxury & ing. pool. $1,329,000. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

LOWER VILLAGE TUDOR - 6 BDRM. – $859K
Mn. flr. fam. rm. & lrg. den. Susan Smith* 488-2875

CASA LOMA AREA – 210' LOT
$689K, 2 stry, 4+bed, 5 baths, fam. rm. Gayle Mitchell* 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS - SPEC. CUSTOM – $649K
3300 sq. ft., highest quality, 50' frontage. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

FANTASTIC CUSTOM RENOVATION – $549K
Armour Heights, 4+1 bd., best St., B. Westbrook*/P. Pollock* 226-1987

YONGE/LAWRENCE – $495K
Stonefront, Gabor Poppel SOLD Gayle Mitchell* 488-2875

YONGE/LAWRENCE - GORGEOUS TOWNHOUSE
Spacious & bright, 2 car gar. Bonnie Singer** 488-2875

CEDARVALE
4 bdrm, 3 bath, large principal rms near temple. S. Smith* 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS – $430K
Superb 4 bdrm. reno., lux. m SOLD ., bleached hrdwd., 50'x170' lot. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

BATHURST/LAWRENCE – $369K
Fab 4 bdrm., mn. flr. fa SOLD prof. fin. bsmt. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

YONGE/SHEPPARD - PICTURE PERFECT – $325K
2 storey, 3 bdrm., pr. drive, CAC. C. Sniderman* 488-2875

LOCATION! LOCATION! BATHURST/WILSON
Spac. 3 bdrm. bung. on SOLD 20' ft. lot, needs TLC, hurry. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

UPPER VILLAGE BSMT APT. FOR LEASE
Fab. 1 bdrm renovated! Spacious! L. Elkind* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BRIDLE PATH FAB HOMES AND GARDEN RENO!
4+bdrm., 6 baths, pool, sauna. J. Rosenblatt* 488-2875

YONGE/YORK MILLS – JUST $999K
Build your dream home SOLD 00' ft. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

DESTINY ROSE HOMES & FOREST HILL R.E.
Presenting 6 cstm blt. homes in North York. Faithe Sversky**/ C. Jong* 488-2875

BAYVIEW/HWY 7 – WON'T LAST
4 bdrm., 4 bth., cstm. blt. h SOLD bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

FRASERWOOD
6 plex, good income. Rose Simon* 226-1987

GREAT FAM. HOME – BAYVIEW S. OF 16TH
Close to all amenities, motivated vend., must sell R. Bass* 226-1987

1ST AD – THORNHILL- $259K
3 br. det., fam. rm., 2-4pc., 2 car gar. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

BATHURST PROMENADE– OVER 1900 SQ. FT.
One year new townhouse, 3 bdrms, extras! A. Edlitz* 226-1987

BELLE EWART – WOW! – $225K
6 bdrm. cottage, steps to everything! Rose Simon* 226-1987

ATKINSON/ CENTRE – $209,900
3 bdrm., huge kit., 4 appls., value! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

BATHURST/DREWRY OVER 1900 SQ. FT.
On the park, fabulous 2 bdrm. Anne Edlitz* 226-1987

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Paul Slavens
REAL ESTATE INC. REALTOR
RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS
483-4337

FINE HOMES

UPPER VILLAGE - $429,000
Handsome centre hall plan home in mint condition. Finished lower level. Central air conditioning. Pretty south garden. Private drive & garage. *Leslie Dennis.

STUNNING CASTLEHILL.
Regency model features quality custom finishings. Master retreat w/jacuzzi + loft w/sundeck. "Paris" kitchen. Parking. A breathtaking home. *Marlene Federman.

ALLENBY SCHOOL - $339,000.
Detached 2-storey home w/front pad pkg. Fireplaces, reno d kitchens & baths. Fabulous family rm. addition w/walk-out to deck & private garden. Fin. l/lvl w/full bath & separate entrance. **Don Wagman.

YONGE/EGLINTON $289,000.
Beautiful 2-storey condo townhouse. One of only seven in complex. Private patio. Fireplace. CAC. Terrific location - steps to shops, restaurants & subway. *Barbara Kaplan.

CRANBROOKE AVENUE - $569,000
New house under construction. Boasts 3+1 bdrms. Main floor family rm. Private drive & garage. Choose your finishings. Fabulous location. **Don Wagman.

BLYTHWOOD/BAYVIEW - VERY SPECIAL
Totally updated 4-bdrm. home in country-like setting. Open concept for gracious entertaining w/gourmet eat-in kitchen. Huge, fully finished lower level. *Betty Cohen.

SPECTACULAR BRIDLE PATH
Marble foyer. Den + family rm. 4 + BRs. Master w/adjoining dressing rm. Sunroom overlooks inground pool & cabana. L/lvl has party rm., extra bdrm. & kitchen, sauna. Circular drive. *Edie Winberg.

YONGE/EGLINTON - $469,000
Stunning "in-town" home ide SOLD professionals. Exciting blend of old & new. Bright lo level office w/separate entrance. Private parking. **Don Wagman

RIDELLE AVE. - CONDO
$116,000 - Why rent when SOLD an own this great west-facing 2-bdrm. suite in a wonde location? Balcony. Parking. Walk to subway. *Carol Cotton.

ARMOUR HEIGHTS - $425,000
Ideal family home for com table living & entertaining. Features 4 good bdrms., SOLD ated kitchen & fin. l/lvl. Fabulous. south garden. Private drive & garage. *Heather Sherman.

THE BRIDLE PATH
A rare find. Approximat SOLD acres backing onto Edwards Gardens. Premier building lot for your dream home. *Judy Nathan or *Edith Weiss

LESLIE/JOHN - HOUSE & GARDENS
$389,000. Stunning 4 BR. Mas upgrades. Main fl. family rm. + library. Lower level g SOLD rm. & rec. rm. Skylight. CAC. Double garage. Must be seen. *Ruth Kaufman.

(416) 483-4337
* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

LET US GET RESULTS FOR YOU
SERVING YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS SINCE 1969

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

CUSTOM BUILT HOMES ON SPRING GATE BLVD.
Top quality construction, fin. bsmnts., private lot, landscaping, steps to synagogue, bus & plaza! *C. Fleischmann/*S. Tamin

CUSTOM HOMES UNDER CONSTRUCTION
Bathurst/Centre, 9½ ft. ceilings, 3600 sq. ft., 3 baths on 2nd flr., totally upgraded! *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

BATHURST-ELGIN MILLS "ONE OF A KIND"
Large 4 bdrm., fin. bsmnt., upgraded with extras galore! On ravine, exquisite!! $439,000. *Ted Waxman

FANTASTIC VALUE – BATHURST-CLARK $319,900!
About 3,000 sq.ft., fantastic floor plan, open staircase to bsmt., ceramics, quiet court! *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

BATHURST-ELGIN MILLS $314,900
Spacious 4 bdrm., circular stairs, large white kitchen, fab finished lower level. Motivated! *Helen Gould

"SPRING FARM" BEAUTY – PRICED TO SELL!
Custom home on demand street, will not last! *Rosenzweigs

BATHURST-CENTRE "ROSEDALE NORTH"
Lovely 4 bdrm with prof fin bsmt., shows great, close to everything! Call *The Rosenzweigs

DON MILLS-STEELES TOWNHOME $209,900
Great 3 bdrm., large kitchen, fam. room with w/o, air, appliances + + + Great complex! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-WILSON $199,900!
Det, 3 bdrm. bungalow on large lot, dble. garage, centre hall plan. Needs TLC. *Helen Gould

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

LUXURY 3 BDRM CONDO + 2 BALCONIES!
APPROX. 2,600 SQ. FT. - MUST SELL!
$389,000 - Bathurst & Finch lux. bldg., indoor pool, thousands $ $ in upgrades, marble, granite, hardwood, 3 baths. **Berta Kogan (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248

BATHURST & STEELES - MUST SELL!
LUXURY 3 BEDROOM - $207,000
Large 3 bdrm., 2 baths, parquet floors, ceramics, mirrors, large living room, white kitchen, overlooks park! Call **Berta Kogan (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200

MILL ST. - BATHURST
Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms., 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!!
BATHURST - ANTIBES
2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, large wrap around balcony.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath. Village, spac. sidesplit, 3 bdrm., hollywood kit., L-shaped liv. & din. rm., 4 bths., fam. rm. with w/out, rentable income bsmt. 665-1090.

Thornhill, 3 bdrm, walk to shul, lot size 100' x 308',102 Arnold Ave,$675K,**Priv.** 905-884-3847.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Clark, Priv. Sale, 3 bdrm, 2 storey, det, huge eat-in kit, 2 1/2 bths, dble drive, steps to shul, TTC & shopping, $274.9K. Marty, 416-230-7166.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Lawr., spac. 3 bdrm. bungalow, fin bsmt apt, att. gar, move-in cond, great loc, close to everything. Call David after 6 pm at 416-785-3185.

Bath./Wilson, 3 bdrm bungalow. Call for details 789-3030.

Bath./Wilson,3 bdrm, newly renov,2 bath, gar, appls,fin bsmt, $1400+, nr. shuls,785-7770,evg

18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Glencairn, renov. 4 bdrm + fam, jacuzzi, 2 frplcs, w/o to deck, lge backyard, gar, cac, mins. to subway, shul & amen., $3,000+/mo, Aug. 1/97-July 31/ 98. 785-9705, No Sat. calls.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Finch, Savoy, comr, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bths, whirlpl, marble,extras galore. 736-8007

DENISE ABRAHAM
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle Real Estate
416 - 485-2299
CONDO - CONDO - CONDO

GLENCAIRN W. SUBWAY
$149,000 Rare 3 Bdrm. Corner, Balcony, Pool, Sauna, Parking, Access to Shops & Schools,
$139,000 2 Bdrm Corner, 3 Pc Enste, Parking, Balcony.
$134,000 2 bdrm., Laundry Enste, Shabat Elev., Parking, Balcony.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

1 bdrm + sol., ensuite lndry, 2 car pkg, se exposure, exc. facil, 24 hr. sec, exc. floor plan & view, across from Promenade. $1250./mo., avail. July 1st. Call Erika, 416-739-7200.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst St., 1 bdrm + den, 5 appls, cac, cable, pkg, 24 hr. secur, sabbath elev, avail July 1.$1100/mo. 905-780-0685

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp,spac. condo, furn, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc, pool, pkg, $950. inclusive, 444-4813.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

100 Canyon, lux. 3 bdrm, 2 baths, updated.638-4041, evgs.

45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED

BATHURST/CLARK PROMENADE TOWERS
East corner unit - 2nd to 5th flr. To sell, please call
ERICA at 739-7200
Sutton Group Admiral Realty

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Prof./Mom transferred from Mtl. Wishes 2 bdrms in house nr. Forest Hill & Westmount Collegiate, refs. 905-709-0337.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

3 bdrm. apt., Fraserwood Ave., avail. June 1. 416-782-9966.

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Bessie Freind** will take place Sunday, May 18th at 11 am, Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park, Agudath Israel Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ETHEL COHEN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 18th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
National Order of Hatzofim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Bertha Fromstein ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 18th, 9:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Section M, Row L, Plot 15
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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will take place
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Warshawer Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
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will take place
Sunday, May 25th, 12:30 p.m.
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Pride of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Nettie Resnitzky ז"ל
mother of Isabelle Leibovitch
will take place
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Junior sailor heading to Ireland for regatta

Holtzer the pride of Island Yacht Club

Ari Holtzer at the helm of his "Opti," a floating bathtub that will take him to Ireland this summer.

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Back in April when temperatures were frigid and the wind blustery, most fair weather sailors only dreamt of putting their boats in the water. Better to wait for summery breezes and warm temperatures.

Not so for Ari Holtzer. From his perspective, it was already mid-season and time to test his Optimist in the waters of Lake Ontario in preparation for a summer of competitive racing.

Wearing an all-weather suit that doubles as a life preserver, the 14-year-old phenom was undaunted by the elements as he guided his "Opti," an 8½-foot racing pram that looks like a floating bathtub, around Toronto's inner harbor.

Its stubby appearance aside, the Opti has opened the door for Holtzer to compete in racing regattas around the world.

The pride of the Island Yacht Club's (IYC) junior training program, Holtzer is ranked third in Canada in his class and will represent this land of lakes at the World Optimist Championships in Ireland in August. He'll vie for the title against 120 other competitors who are 15 and younger.

A veteran of regattas (competitions) in Halifax, Vancouver, Boston and New Orleans and of training clinics in Miami and St. Petersburg, Fla., Holtzer has vaulted quickly to the elite ranks of Canada's sailors. He began competitive sailing only two years ago though he'd been sailing his Opti since he was about seven.

Even at his age, it takes a lot of hard work to get to the top and to stay there. Holtzer goes through a tough physical regimen that includes running and ab work. The conditioning is necessary to get in shape for Ireland, where he'll have to sail eight hours a day in strong winds while mostly "hiking out," leaning over the edge of the boat to balance its weight against the force of the wind, he said.

For Holtzer, who'll soon try out for a black belt in karate, sailing is synonymous with competition and he's willing to make the sacrifices to get to his ultimate, and not immodest, goal of three Olympics and a gold medal.

Spokespeople for the Island Yacht Club point to Holtzer's sailing success with satisfaction. Although he may be the most renowned of their junior sailors, he's not the only one, they say. Two of the club's members, Jason Kobrick, 19, and Rolf Wagschal, 18, will participate in this summer's Maccabiah Games in Israel in the two-man 470 class boat. There is no Optimist competition at the Maccabiah Games.

Both are members of the IYC's junior program and currently serve as instructors and role models for younger sailors, said Bruce Bussin, director of the junior sailing program.

The duo won the British Airways competition in Quebec last summer and participated in a series of regattas to qualify for the Maccabiah, he said.

They are among several top-ranked, competitive sailors to come out of the yacht club. Adam Bookman and Bob Palter, for example, represented Canada at the Maccabiah in 1993, Bussin said.

At the games before, in 1989, Palter competed in the laser class and won a silver medal, sailing in a rented boat that Bussin scrounged up at the last minute. He finished second behind a Brazilian sailor who had won the silver medal at the Olympic Games the year before.

His accomplishment was all the more remarkable, Bussin continued, because boats sail higher in salt water than they do in the fresh water of Lake Ontario. Sailors also have to contend with tides and different sized waves in sea water, he added.

Sailing is a highly competitive event at the Maccabiah, said Elaine Leve, the IYC's harbor-master. Sailors from warm weather climates put a lot of resources into the sport. The Americans, for example, sail in world class boats while Canadians make do with recreational craft, she said.

IYC members have participated in every Maccabiah Games going back to 1985 and in 1960, Jerry Conway and the late Mel Gould represented Canada at the Rome Olympics in a 32-foot boat.

Bussin, Ivan Lavine, currently commodore of the club, and David Bussin represented Ontario at the first Canadian Summer Games in 1969 in the soling class, an event they won.

In the mid-'80s, W. Bernard Herman was champion of the Southern Ocean Racing Circuit while other members have competed in regattas across the continent. So Holtzer's success is not unprecedented at the IYC, though he represents the club's recent success in trying to foster enthusiasm for the sport among young people.

In addition to Holtzer's success, Sam Bussin was named most improved sailor in Ontario by the Ontario Optimist Association. Coincidentally, both have younger brothers chomping at the bit, waiting to outdo their older siblings.

The junior program has generated "a wonderful spirit at the club" and serves as "a farm system" for the IYC, say Lavine and Bussin.

Young sailors often get their parents interested in the sport, eventually increasing the club's membership.Currently, the mostly Jewish IYC has 215 family members, as well as 60 kids enrolled in junior programs and another 25 young people, aged 19 to 29, in intermediate programs.

Of the juniors, only half are the children of members. They take part in a variety of Learn to Sail programs. Entry level programs are geared for kids seven to nine (they're called "kneekickers" or "pramsters"), while youngsters from 10 to 13 participate in the "Albacore" division, named after a type of boat.

Both programs lead to the intermediate level where more competitive racing is offered, including "silver sail, level 6" programming, a national level competitive grouping for older teens.

IYC kids also participate at CORK, the Canadian Olympic Race Week in Kingston. Last year, Roger Kobrick was leading the Ontario Youth Championships but forfeited his first place position when he jumped into the water to help another sailor who had been hit by a boom. Sportsmanship is one of the elements taught to young sailors, Bussin said.

While the club's younger sailors are making a name for themselves in the world of competitive racing, the IYC is today primarily a cruising club for recreational boaters, Lavine noted. IYC members have reciprocal arrangements with clubs around Lake Ontario to offer each other use of their facilities during weekend jaunts.

The club also offers its adult members social activities, including dinner dances, wine-tasting, a scotch and steak night and a traditional Friday night dinner.

Monday nights are devoted to inter-club races, which now feature an all-women's team on a 34-foot yacht. Bussin said plans are afoot to launch a second women's boat.

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The Inside Back

Life in small towns captured by Epstein

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — He had to cut through three miles of bush and then hop on a freight train, but Sam Mogelon made it home in time for Yom Kippur services.

Mogelon, a news agent on the CNR Port Arthur to Sioux Lookout overnight train always had trouble coordinating his work with High Holy Day services and on this particular run, he knew he wouldn't make it unless he left the train and plunged into the bush.

This is one of the anecdotes in *Jews in Small Towns*, a 741-page volume by Howard V. Epstein of Atlanta, Ga., who himself grew up in Logan, a small town in Ohio.

There are 140 personal accounts by Jews who lived in communities of under 25,000, including seven by Canadians.

One of the seven is Alex Mogelon, 71, whose father made it on time for Yom Kippur. Alex and his wife, Lila, now live on a 25-acre hobby farm at Dunvegan, Ont., west of Hawkesbury, where he is engaged in video production.

Mogelon's family lived in Port Arthur and Fort William (now Thunder Bay), where Sam Mogelon had to collect the rabbi's salary of $25 a week by going door to door to the Jewish homes.

Alex wrote that he suffered beatings at the hands of anti-Semitic youths, but what he remembers most vividly is that their ball games were interrupted by Jews who needed them to make a minyan at the local synagogue.

To shorten the delay in their game that resulted when they had to wait for the 10th man, Mogelon said they recruited a non-Jewish ball player and taught him how to open a siddur (backwards) and say a few words of prayers.

In another anecdote, Saul Berger wrote, "As a child growing up in Estevan [in Saskatchewan], I had my share of fights where I was called 'dirty Jew,' but as I excelled in school and at sports, I earned the respect of the gentiles. However I never achieved friendships that lasted into adult life.

Howard V. Epstein

"I am intensely Jewish, but not religious. I love the State of Israel and pray for its well-being. I have four children, all married to Jews, all very pro-Israel, and a son who has made his home in Israel. My experience in being raised in a small town strengthened my conviction that Jews need the homeland that is Israel, that Israel needs support and that Israel is a refuge and a bulwark against the ever present hostility of the outside world."

Rudy Brill, of Corunna, seven miles from Sarnia, said lots of young Jews move to Sarnia, "but about half don't even care about Judaism and the rest have their careers, and a promotion usually means a move somewhere else."

Minna Loewith of Lynden, Ont., came to Canada from Sudetenland with her parents and a group of farmers. "I am convinced that the Canadian government, which was most hostile to Jews at the time, did not ask about our religion, and thus our lives were spared."

Loewith and her husband still live on a farm they bought in 1947. "Not one of our neighbors is Jewish," she wrote. "In all these years we did not encounter any hostilities."

For further information about *Jews in Small Towns*, call or write Howard V. Epstein, 2513 Melinda Drive, NE., Atlanta, Ga., 30345-1918, 404-636-0748. The book sells for $39.95 (US) plus $5.50 postage and handling.

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SALMON MUFFINS

1 cup cooked brown rice
1/4 cup grated cheddar cheese
1 6-3/4 oz. can skinless and boneless salmon, drained
5 tblsp light mayonnaise
1/4 apple, peeled and finely chopped
1 tblsp lemon juice
3/4 tsp tamari or soya sauce
1 tsp spicy brown mustard
3 egg whites

Preheat oven to 375°F. In a large bowl, combine all ingredients except egg whites. Beat egg whites until stiff. Fold into salmon mixture. Coat muffin tins with cooking spray and fill with salmon mixture. Bake 40 minutes or until golden brown. Let cool in pan for 10 to 15 minutes, then loosen with a spoon to remove. Yield: 6.

About Life

Dear Ella,

My mother is 52 and had a stroke just over a year ago. She has gone through extensive therapy this past year to be able to walk and talk again. On the outside, she is not exactly the way she was before her stroke. Mom walks using a cane and has a very definite limp. She has trouble using her right arm, but is getting better every day. Her speech was affected as well, but that too is improving. Mom is a very proud and determined person and I have no doubt at the rate she is improving, she will overcome this, as she has many other obstacles.

The problem is not my mom, it is what we once called her friends. Before her stroke, mom had a large group of friends, both couples and single people. She used to go with them to the theatre, to dinners and to their cottages in the summer.

Where are they now? Since her stroke they have slowly disappeared. One by one, they have left mom alone. Fortunately, my dad has been a pillar of strength for her, but I know he is devastated by the loss of what they thought were their good and close friends.

Have you ever heard of this before? Is there anything I can do to help reunite mom with her friends?

Fake Friends

Dear Fake Friends,

Your mom sounds like the kind of person anyone would be fortunate to have for a friend, someone you can not only have fun with, but can learn from as well.

My guess is that your mother's friends don't care about her any less, but they either feel awkward, or don't know exactly how to approach your mother's disability. People are often uncomfortable or even scared when something like this happens to someone close. It reminds us of how vulnerable we all are, and some people find that hard to accept.

There are two roads your mother can take. She can break the ice by making the first call and reassuring her friends that she is still the same person. Once this happens, that nervous barrier they have built may begin to melt.

The other route is to make new friends, friends who understand what she and her family are going through — possibly through a support group.

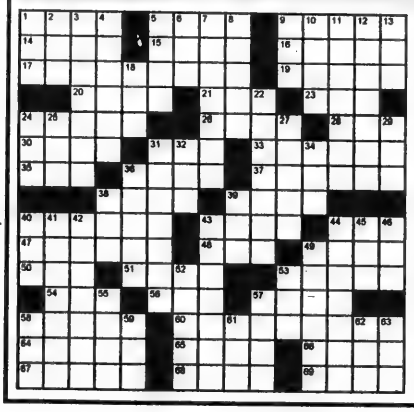
Just remember how lucky your mother is to have survived and have a strong and supportive family. Either way, with that kind of courage and determination, this lady is a winner.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Breaks the ninth
5. Paul Newman's hobby
9. Prepare Seder bone
14. Levaye notice
15. Funt or Sherman
16. JPSA founder, Cyrus
17. Dead Sea resort (3 wds.)
19. Comedian Seinfeld
20. Challah maker's equipment
21. ___tadrut
23. Spin (Heb.)
24. Lauder
26. Oy Vey!
28. Use the tuches
30. Dreidel activity
31. Actor Cobb
33. Abba Eban specialty
35. Golfer Alcott
36. Jacob grabbed Esau's at birth
37. Author Sheldon
38. Seder
39. Digits
40. Jerusalem mayor
43. Son of Gad
44. Jew (Yid)
47. Rothschild's fame
48. Biblical ore
49. 1,003
50. Long period
51. Actor Mostel
53. Comedian Fields
54. Bubkes (Eng)
56. Copeland on track
57. Winkler role
58. Scout
60. Chupah happening
64. Imitated Mauri Rose
65. Donkey sound
66. Raphael's headgear
67. Newman
68. Ellis
69. Distort

Down

1. Canaanite or Amorite
2. Son of (Seph.)
3. ADL fight
4. Stone or Segaloff
5. Abel's brother
6. King and Arkin
7. Angel
8. Tref crawler
9. Indian officer
10. Ibn Gabirol specialty
11. Baseball player "Flip"
12. Musaf or Selichot
13. Nizer pleasure
18. Daled: (Eng.)
22. Haircare empire
24. Arkia posting
25. Total
27. Imitated Moe Berg?
29. Thou possessive
31. Tefilin straps
32. Wiggling tref fish
34. Goldman and Koch
36. Chief Rabbi of British Empire
38. Brooks
39. Three: combined form
40. Sighs
41. Nimoy or Baskin
42. Singer Barry
43. Kol Nidre chanters
44. Rabin
45. Patriarchs
46. Reason for shiva
49. Tammuz and Av
52. Sally J. Priesand
53. Also
55. Leah's third
57. Mimic David
58. Alphabet run
59. Artist Shahn
61. Prayer for dew
62. Shikker's choice?
63. Shiva mood

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 41.)

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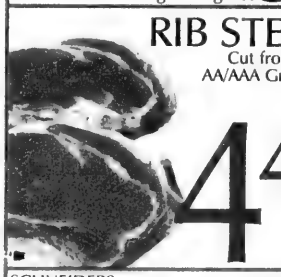

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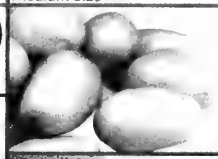

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Historian lays out background for wartime atrocities. *Page 3*

Loss of Jewish values poses a threat to community, Irving Abella says. *Page 5*

No media outlet deliberately distorts Israeli coverage, panel agrees. *Page 6*

Rikudiyah '97 Children's festival draws over 400 students to celebrate 100 years of Zionism. *Page 14*

Election '97

Who's going to stop Art Eggleton? Candidates vie for seat in strong Liberal rididng. *Page 22*

Health

Twin sisters give birth to daughters on the same day. *Page 36*

Index

Greater Toronto Area 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
Election '97....11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 16
Just Between Us 18
Yom Ha'atzmaut....24
On Campus 28
Coast to Coast 29
International 31
Health 36
Travel, Arts & Business 37
Classified 41
Sports 46
Crossword....47
Ask Jesse....47

Shabbat: Behar
Candlelighting: 8:24
Iyar 16, 5757
Havdalah: 9:29

Court rules on Law of Return

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Immigration and refugee advocates are hailing a recent Federal Court decision they hope will quell the explosive debate on refugee claims to Canada by Jews.

Officials say the ruling is historic, as it marks the first time a Canadian court has examined in detail Israel's Law of Return, which has been the source of much controversy in legal and immigration circles here.

Jewish communal officials hope the ruling will clarify, once and for all, Canada's policy on admitting Jewish refugees.

In a decision handed down earlier this month, a Federal Court judge found that Jewish refugee claimants cannot be denied asylum in Canada solely because, as Jews, they can go to Israel.

Even though the Law of Return gives every Jew the right to Israeli citizenship, with few exceptions, a clearly-expressed desire to settle in the Jewish state is first required, Justice William McKeown ruled.

The ruling overturns a decision last year from the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB), which denied refugee status to Lioudmila Katkova, a Ukrainian Jewish woman, on the grounds that she could automatically receive asylum in Israel.

The IRB panel found that Katkova did have a well-founded fear of persecution in Ukraine, but that she should first make a claim under Israel's Law of Return, rather than in Canada. The board said that because she's Jewish, Katkova, is, in effect, a potential Israeli national.

In a strongly-worded decision, McKeown said the IRB panel "ignored extensive evidence" that Katkova did not want to go to Israel, noting she stated as much "on at least four occasions," and even gave reasons: her husband is not Jewish, and she feared terrorist attacks.

Quoting directly from the 1950 Law of Return, McKeown says the statute only applies "to every Jew who has expressed his desire to settle in Israel."

The law "does not say that every Jew should return to Israel...the desire to settle in Israel is

Continued on page 30

IN AN ORCHARD, LEARNING

In 1958, Israel's Foreign Ministry initiated Mashav, Israel's International Development Cooperation Program, which in its 39 years of existence has provided more than 50,000 people in 137 countries with knowledge and techniques to contend with and hopefully conquer hunger, poverty and disease in their respective homes. Recently, Mashav has expanded its programs to include AIDS treatment and disaster control managment, as well as offering courses in an enhanced role for women in agricultural development. Seen in this photo are recent participants from Africa in the Mashav program at Moshav Rinatia near Ben-Gurion airport. [Vera Etzion photo]

Setting limits to missile warfare

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Iran's got them. Syria's got them. Even the Palestinians are trying to get them. That's the story of the Middle East missile race confronting Israel.

Far from the missile batteries is Yoram Dinstein, who is trying to figure out if all this is legal.

Dinstein, an expert on international law and president of Tel Aviv University (TAU), is one of the organizers of an effort by jurists to draft guidelines on the conduct of air war. The questions his panel, working in San Remo, Italy, are addressing include the following: When can countries use missiles and against what targets; what targets can be bombed from the air; how can the international community maintain no-fly zones; and how can airborne medical relief be ensured?

In other words, Dinstein says, how do countries at war ensure that civilians on the ground don't bear the brunt of the battle?

Feature

The first and only time an international agreement was drafted on air battle was in 1923, before the days of missiles or strategic bombing.

"Until 1943, bombers were so imprecise that they did not cause any military damage," Dinstein says. "Moreover, the entire issue of missile warfare is so new, and Israel has probably more experience in facing the missile threat than most."

The Arab missile buildup, Dinstein points out, has been formidable. Syria is said to have 1,000 missiles. Iran is developing a huge arsenal. The Palestinians, Israeli security sources say, are trying to smuggle in Katyusha rockets. The matter is further complicated given that in an air war, decisions are far more rapid than in either a battle on sea or land.

"In land warfare, you have a flag," Dinstein says. "You could put up signs. You could do the same with ships and anybody can see whether that ship is neutral. But in the air everything is so fast, it requires immediate decisions."

The missile issue is perhaps the most immediate and least understood, Dinstein says. How can a country fire missiles at another and

Continued on page 33

INSIDE

This week we introduce a new feel on the Opinions page, with illustrations by Britta Petersen. Page 10.

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Labor endorses Palestinian state. Please see page 31

The News in Brief

CANADA

White Supremacist Jailed

SARNIA — A Toronto-area man linked to the Heritage Front has been jailed for three years for 10 offenses, including assault with a weapon and uttering death threats.

The charges arose in connection with acts of violence he perpetrated while attempting to recruit youths who opposed his racist views.

Gifts Donated

TORONTO — Devorah Bess Goodman celebrated her bat mitzvah with family and friends, as well as with many grantees from the New Israel Fund (NIF) and National Anti-Poverty Organization (NAPO) last month.

In her bat mitzvah invitation, Goodman asked her guests, instead of giving her a gift, to make donations to the NIF or the NAPO. To date, her request has resulted in gifts of over $2,000 for the NIF and over $1,200 for NAPO.

ISRAEL

Secret Plans

JERUSALEM — Israeli officials are secretly considering plans to expand the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem, the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* suggested last week.

Senior political officials involved in planning the greater metropolitan area view it as an important move prior to the final-status negotiations with the Palestinians, the paper reported.

Bloodshed Feared

JERUSALEM — Norwegian Foreign Minister Bjorn Tore Godal is warning of bloodshed if the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations are not resumed soon.

Godal, whose country was closely involved in forging the Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements, often referred to as the Oslo accords, made the comment in Cairo after conferring with Egyptian officials.

Israel 2000

JERUSALEM — The Israel Bank Association and the Kahanoff Foundation — a private Canadian organization dedicated to creating and developing innovative solutions to societal problems — have pledged $3 million to Israel 2000, the first project to create a model for cooperation between corporations and volunteer organizations.

WORLD

Holocaust Commission

PRAGUE — The Czech Republic's Presidential Office established a commission to study the country's Holocaust era.

The seven-person commission includes academics, members of the local Jewish community and representatives of other Czech groups persecuted during the war.

Israel Blasted

GENEVA — Israel is rejecting the conclusions of a United Nations committee that it uses torture against suspected terrorists.

The Geneva-based UN committee against torture recently called on Israel to "cease immediately" the use of such techniques as sleep deprivation and violent shaking, saying this constituted torture and broke international law.

Israel immediately lashed out at the 10-member committee, saying it was being singled out, that the findings were based on the "hearsay evidence" of non-governmental organizations, and that Israel was employing only commonly used anti-terrorism methods.

Neo-Nazi Parade

BUENOS AIRES — In the first neo-Nazi demonstration here in years, a small group this week marked the first anniversary of the death of a skinhead who was killed in a street fight with left-wing activists.

Reform, Orthodox Unite

NEW YORK — The Reform and Orthodox movements created a shared letterhead in an effort to free Jonathan Pollard.

Rabbis Eric Yoffie and Raphael Butler, the heads, respectively, of the Reform movement's Union of American Hebrew Congregations and of the Orthodox Union, wrote to U.S. President Bill Clinton, asking him "in the noblest spirit of biblical teaching" to "show mercy to Jonathan Pollard and commute his prison sentence."

Argentinian Probe

BUENOS AIRES — The Argentine government has created a national committee to probe how many Nazi officials arrived in the country after World War II, the level of protection extended to them by local authorities and the transfer of Nazi gold to Buenos Aires.

RIETS' Centennial

NEW YORK — Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS) will celebrate 100 years as North America's pre-eminent centre for Torah scholarship at a centennial convocation on May 28.

Rabbi Norman Lamm, president of RIETS and of Yeshiva University, of which RIETS is an affiliate, will be honored at the convocation.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday May 19, 1972

MEIR RETURNS FROM ROMANIA

Premier Golda Meir returned from her three-day visit to Romania amid indications that the friendly relations between Israel and Romania will become ever closer in the future although the two countries are far apart in their assessment of Middle East peace prospects.

Meir scotched speculation that Romania might assume a mediating role between Israel and the Arab states. She avoided saying whether her visit, the first by an Israeli premier to a Communist bloc nation, would contribute to improved relations between Israel and other nations of the East European bloc.

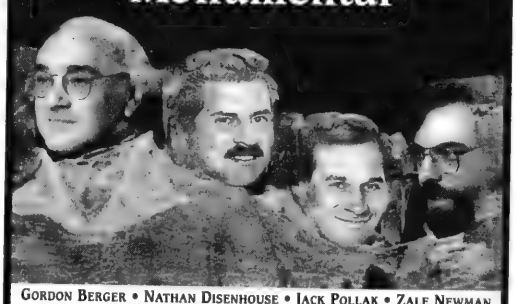
OTTAWA GROUP TO VISIT ISRAEL

A delegation from the federal departments of industry and transport will be going to Israel shortly for negotiations on the sale and installation of equipment to improve Israel's air, road and rail transportation.

Israel is considering many improvements in their rail travel and Canadian consultants are conducting a study.

These are signs of the continuing expansion of Canada-Israel trade which was marked last week by the visit of the first Israeli trade mission to Canada in over 10 years.

Monumental



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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,593 copies
Publisher's sworn statement April 30, 1996

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Bogutin case heads overseas

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Nazi-occupied Ukraine swarmed with police units, including local volunteer forces that collaborated in the German policy of killing enemies of the Reich, a Federal Court judge was told last week.

Ukrainian militias were involved in local law enforcement and "the killing of Jews, communists, Gypsies was part of this enforcement of law," said Prof. Franz Golczewski, a German historian testifying in the Wasily Bogutin war crimes case.

Bogutin, 88, faces the loss of citizenship and deportation for allegedly lying to Immigration officials about his wartime activities. Government authorities allege Bogutin was an investigator with the Selidovka police from 1941-43 in southeast Ukraine, about 100 kilometres from Stalingrad. They allege he took part in the execution of a Jewish family and a former militiaman, was at the site of an execution of 10 people at a mine shaft on the outskirts of Selidovka, beat and interrogated prisoners and ordered the arrests of young girls for forced labor in Germany.

Bogutin has denied the charges. His lawyer, Orest Rudzik, claims Bogutin merely worked as a warehouseman and postman for the Selidovka police. In opening remarks, Rudzik told Judge William McKeown that since his client was half-Jewish, his Ukrainian mother helped get him the police jobs to make him inconspicuous to German authorities.

Testifying last week, Golczewski said the Selidovka police consisted of volunteers who were institutionally subservient to the German gendarmerie and remained so until Soviet forces advanced and overran the city in 1943.

Some joined the police to get better access to food, which was in short supply. Responding to a question from Justice Department lawyer Christopher Amerasinghe, Golczewski said Jews were not allowed to join the police unit.

In an affidavit filed with the court, Golczewski described instances where the Selidovka police participated with German units in the persecution and execution of Jews and non-Jewish civilians.

In addition, "the enforcement of labor programs was usually carried out by the German and especially the local police authorities," Golczewski's affidavit states.

After wrapping up Golczewski's testimony, court recessed until it reconvenes in Donetsk, the largest city near Selidovka, to hear testimony from 13 Ukrainian witnesses. Following the evidence-gathering commission, which will sit from May 26 to June 13, court will reconvene in Toronto after Labor Day. Bogutin, who suffers from emphysema and was not in court last week, is expected to testify at that time.

MURAL DEDICATED AT BETH EMETH

Renowned Holocaust scholar Yaffa Eliach (right) joined Toronto artist Dubi Arie (centre) at Beth Emeth Synagogue last week for the dedication of a quarter-scale replica of Arie's mural, *Under the Wings of God and the Shadow of Amalek*, to be on permanent display in the shul's foyer. It was dedicated by Temi Schreiber (left) in memory of her parents, Norman and Regina Silver. An interview with Prof. Eliach will appear next week. [Ron Csillag photo]

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In Jewish world, no-one's a stranger

Many years ago, a young man visiting Geneva during the damp, pre-spring chill of March walked into a dry goods store to buy a pair of gloves.

As soon as he walked into the store, he immediately sensed the familiar air and aroma of his father's clothing store far away, back home in Toronto: a distinctive conglomerate smell emanating from the countless unopened plastic wrappings on the piles of shirts about to fall from their chaotic stacks on the counter, the unmistakably heavy presence of wool and tweed rolled, undoubtedly, into yards and yards of bolts of cloth somewhere in the back of the store, and the somewhat musty, sour scent of flattened cardboard cartons crunching under foot.

Breathing deeply, the young man inquired about the availability of a suitable, namely inexpensive, pair of gloves. He quickly selected a pair, paid for them and was on his way out of the store.

With one foot already out the door, he heard a voice say: Shalom.

Sitting behind the serving counter at the opposite end of the cash register was an old woman, wearing a black cardigan sweater over a pale blue dress. Her silver grey hair was tied tightly into a bun. She nodded at the young man, smiled, and said again: Shalom.

The young man looked towards her and returned the greeting.

Eventually, he discovered that the old woman and her daughter, the woman who had sold him the gloves, had fled Germany before the war and settled in Geneva, where they had lived ever since, that she had seen instantly the Jewish "imprint" on his face, and that she wanted, simply, to say hello.

Of course, he was invited to their home for Shabbat. And of course he went, glad for the glow of the candles, the kiddush, the meal, the company, the warmth, the understanding, the aspect of family and the feeling of community, grateful that he was not alone, so very far away from his home in Toronto.

* * * * *

Last week, a middle-aged man visiting Montreal, needing to say Kaddish for his father, walked into the chapel of the Shaar Hashomayim seeking a minyan.

As soon as he entered, he immediately sensed the familiar air and aroma of the places of worship from his home, not far away, in Toronto. He breathed deeply its comforting air.

The chapel is a serene chamber of symmetry and simple lines, with the elegance of dark, wooden panelling on three of the four walls; the brightness and clarity of tall windows on the fourth wall; the deep, red carpeting; and the Aron Kodesh commanding the centre of the bimah.

No sooner had he removed his overcoat than an older man walked towards him, his hand outstretched in greeting, smiled and spoke what has been spoken between strangers in Jewish places of worship for thousands of years: Shalom.

Places of worship

The older man's gentle hello was like a hand around the middle aged man's shoulders.

"Where are you from? How long are you staying? Are you by any chance, a kohen or a levi?"

Eventually, a number of the worshippers walked over to the visitor, offered him their good wishes and exchanged those little pieces and extracts of information which sometimes lead to the discovery of common acquaintances.

Thus, the visitor was able to recite the Kaddish for his father. He stood alongside the others saying Kaddish, part of their minyan, one of them even though a "stranger."

The visitor was invited to breakfast downstairs, after which the older man, the first to greet him, drove him back to his hotel.

Throughout the prayers, the middle-aged man felt great surges of gratitude towards the minyan that enabled him to say Kaddish for his father, the individuals in the elegant chapel of the Shaar Hashomayim, none of whom he had met before that morning.

Now, in Montreal, he felt precisely the same feeling he had felt 25 years earlier in Geneva, when he was glad for the glow, the company and the warmth of a shared Shabbat with "strangers," sustaining aspects of family and the feeling of being at home in one's community.

* * * * *

Election Airing

The highlight of the third week of the election campaign was the leaders' "debates."

In our view, "debates" is hardly the proper terminology to describe the childish, schoolyard-like exchanges and occasionally even churlish back and forth bickering among the candidates, each constantly interrupting the other, each essentially pleading with the TV audience: "Notice me, notice me!"

* * * * *

Experts, commentators and pundits credited Jean Charest in the post-debate "winners" and "losers" analysis as having uttered the most memorable lines in the English-language debate.

"If there's one commitment I made to my children, it's that I'm going to pass on to them the country I received from my parents."

I hope and pray he, and all federalists, succeed in fulfilling this commitment.

No one questions Charest's fervent federalist leanings or his loyalty to both Quebec and Canada, but he has never said how he and his party plan to counter the separatists.

The issue is too important for Canadians, including Quebecers, to accept his views on faith.

* * * * *

Politicians, editorialists and commentators in Quebec sympathetic to the separatist cause are urging Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to answer unambiguously whether he would respect a majority vote by Quebecers for separation. Of course, this was the central frustration they felt with the unfortunate and untimely interruption of the French-language debate.

By the time this issue of *The CJN* reaches readers' homes, the debate will have resumed and concluded, and perhaps that specific question asked of the prime minister and answered.

It puzzles me, however, and I find it inconsistent at the very least, that separatists always hector the prime minister, and indeed other federalists for a definitive answer to this hypothetical situation. Yet, they themselves are reluctant even to discuss the possible language of the next referendum question let alone promise to frame it clearly, simply, without ambiguity.

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Greater Toronto Area

Shabbat, shul said key to family life

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Most non-Jews perceive the Jewish family as being a bastion of religious life and the source of survival for Jews, says Rabbi Dow Marmur, senior rabbi at Holy Blossom Temple.

"Would-be converts are firm about the importance of the family in Judaism and are determined to be part of it. Such is the power and truth of the myth," he said.

Rabbi Marmur was the second speaker in the three-part series, The Jewish Family in Crisis, sponsored by Canadian Friends of Shalom Hartman Institute and held recently at Adath Israel Synagogue.

The reality, however, he said, is that the Jewish family is in danger of breaking down because of intermarriage.

"Very often the Jewish [partner] resents the commitment to Jewish life [taken on by their spouse.] I know a Jewish man who divorced his wife because she converted to Judaism," he said.

Even in many households where both partners are Jewish, said Rabbi Marmur, there is "a minimum reference to Judaism except in life cycle events such as bnei mitzvah, and those events are held outside the home. [Too many] homes are merely a shelter, elegance notwithstanding."

So many parents are busy working and taking their children to various activities, he said, that they "have become their children's CEOs and do nothing about turning the myth of the Jewish family into reality."

Assimilation, he said, means adapting to the mores of secular culture, "and these challenge traditional family values. Same-sex families are growing and one-third of all children live in two families. Rarely are these two in agreement as to the place of Judaism in their lives."

Though things may become complicated, however, it is not hopeless, said Rabbi Marmur. "The same way as immigrant families survived, there is hope for us as well."

He said that to keep the myth alive, Jews must first of all recognize Shabbat.

Shul, he said, is important, because it provides for things the home may not be able to provide.

The third way to keep the myth alive, he said, is through shalom, "which stands for wholeness and integration. Shalom brings fractured pieces together and before we mend the world out there, we must mend inside ourselves. Shalom bayit offers peaceful harmony within each family and within each family member."

Loss of Jewish values poses threat to community: Abella

BY BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Jewish community of Canada may be one of the fastest growing in the Diaspora, but its leaders still have cause for concern, warns York University professor Irving Abella, chair of the task force on Jewish identity of the Council of Jewish Federations of Canada.

Abella, past president of Canadian Jewish Congress, recently addressed some 200 people on the topic, Surviving Freedom: Can Canadian Jewry and Jewish Values Make It in the 21st Century?

"It seems we are at the zenith of our existence in this country," he said, noting that as members of an open, democratic society, Canadian Jews have achieved prominence in such areas as film, literature, science and education.

"Jews hold positions of influence our parents only dreamed of," Abella said.

But he expressed concern about whether the Canadian Jewish community "can continue on into the 21st century with the same vigor and vitality."

Assimilation, which has led to the erosion of Jewish values and a significant rate of intermarriage, poses a serious threat to Jewish communal life in most western countries as well as Canada, Abella said.

"We are all obsessed with the problem of the disappearing Jew ...The open democratic society may lead to our greatest defeat. Jewish lives are not in danger. Jewish life is."

He pointed to some alarming statistics on assimilation in the United States: A generation ago, there were six million American Jews; now there are only 440,000 affiliated households with some 1.5 million couples in interfaith unions. Three times as many children under the age of four are born to interfaith as to Jewish couples and interfaith offspring are 90 percent less likely to be raised as Jews.

Alarming statistics

Addressing the issue of the disintegration of Jewish values, Abella charged that the Jewish community in Canada, once known for its progressiveness, its tolerance and its leadership in social justice matters, has grown "indifferent" to poverty, women's rights and social policies.

Material possessions are more important to young Jewish adults than issues related to social justice and compassion, values that are so central to Judaism, he said.

"They don't share the value system of their parents and grandparents. Our grandparents were the conscience of Canadian society."

Referring to a survey of people under the age of 40 from several Canadian ethnic communities, Abella said the Jewish representatives were the most affluent and the least tolerant among their ethnic peers.

"Our young people are more parochial, materialistic and intolerant. This is the price we have to pay for our success."

He stressed that there's nothing wrong with the pursuit of wealth, but it should not be at the expense of one's contribution to society.

He called on the community to spend more money on services for Jewish university and college students. "The community has cut back...These organizations [serving Jewish students] need to protected to ensure our future."

Abella was the guest speaker at the annual Rosalynd Smith Memorial Lecture held at Adath Israel Congregation.

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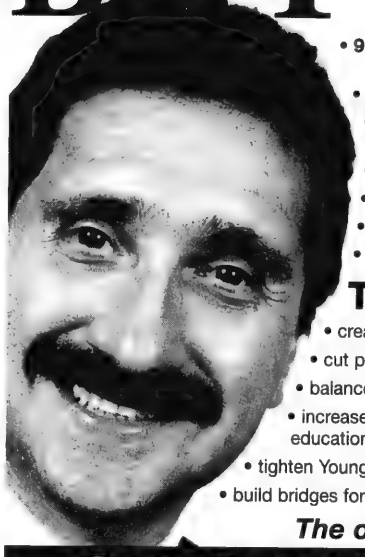

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Greater Toronto Area

Conflict, drama draw journalists to Israel

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel is a natural magnet for news because it provides journalists with unending drama and conflict.

So although there's a lot of coverage of Israel, no media outlet deliberately distorts its reporting on the Jewish state, a panel on media coverage of Israel agreed recently.

Journalists Dana Lewis, Patrick Martin and Linda Scherzer examined a touchy subject: Why does tiny Israel seem to dominate newspapers and television screens? Are the media biased against the Jewish state? Or are Jewish media consumers just too sensitive?

Lewis, CTV's Mideast bureau chief since 1992, said Israel is a "compelling and conflict-driven story," but one that is seeing less prominence because all international news is getting less play.

News, he conceded, "is a lot about ratings. A new breed of journalists has to hear a lot about what sells. Conflict will always make it. Features and perspectives often won't."

Reporters cover Israel the way they do, "because we believe it's important for human rights. That's not why we're there, but it is a by-product."

He defended CTV's coverage of Israel, saying it's "factual, not fiction."

Martin, the *Globe and Mail*'s former Mideast bureau chief and now its foreign editor, said nothing elicits more reaction from readers than the Middle East.

As for allegations of bias, Martin said the Jewish community's own newspapers often exhibit notable slants. He cited the *Jewish Tribune*, B'nai Brith Canada's in-house newspaper, for describing Israel's handover of Hebron to the Palestinians as a loss for Jews and a victory for Arabs. "Yet the Knesset voted 87 to 17 in favor [of ceding Hebron]," Martin said, "and that was buried [in the paper]."

He added that Israel seems to receive coverage that is out of proportion to its size because it is open to many foreign reporters "who have to justify their existence."

The *Globe* applies several tests before deciding to run a story, Martin noted: Is it news, that is, was the event unexpected or did an expected event have a significant impact? How far away did it happen? And the "touchiest:" How similar to Canada is the society in which it happened?

Using those criteria, Canadian readers "have become conditioned" to be more interested in Israel than most other countries. "There's a great deal of interest in Israel. Canadians want to read about it."

Scherzer, who was CNN's correspondent in Israel for five years, said nothing in her experience prepared her for "the big leagues." Mainly, she said, she was shocked by the hostility she encountered to her reporting.

For example, she found that irate viewers were quick to brand non-Jewish reporters in Israel as anti-Semites, while the Jewish reporters were frequently called self-hating Jews.

Scherzer said that while her Jewish identity stirred, especially when Iraq attacked Israel in the Gulf War, "I had to put my private feelings and professional feelings into two separate boxes within myself. In order to have any credibility, I had to use the fundamentals of journalism, and call it the way I saw it."

She rejected the old axiom that if a report offends both sides, it must be true. "Given the passion and complexity of [the Mideast], perceived bias often depends on who is watching. Before you blame the messenger, take a good, hard look at individual reports. What's important is that we use honesty and integrity. We call it the way we see it, to the best of our ability."

The panel was presented by State of Israel Bonds' New Leadership.

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Greater Toronto Area

AIDS Memorial Day set

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The 32nd day of the counting of the Omer — the 49 days of mourning observed by Jews between Passover and Shavuot — has been selected Jewish AIDS Memorial Day, Lev b'Omer.

Rabbi H. Raphael Goldstein and Norman Sandfield, co-chairs of the International Jewish AIDS Network, said the memorial day, falling this year on May 25, has been established "in response to the growing number of Jewish people who have died of AIDS-related illnesses and the tendency of many to think that the epidemic has not — and does not — affect the Jewish community."

The Hebrew letters for 32, lamed and bet, spell out the Hebrew word lev, heart.

"Jewish AIDS Memorial Day, Rabbi Goldstein said, "touches directly the hearts and minds of all of us who have loved and lost people to AIDS and will, we hope, touch the hearts of the people who have tended to ignore this growing, unending epidemic."

Synagogues and religious institutions in the United States and Canada are being urged to observe Lev b'Omer with special prayers of comfort, hope and remembrance.

Congregation Keshet Shalom, which serves the needs of the Greater Toronto lesbian, gay and bisexual Jewish community, has not scheduled a formal observance of Lev B'Omer, but plans to recite Kaddish at the conclusion of the annual AIDS Candlelight Vigil, in Cawthra Park on Thursday evening, June 26.

For more information, contact the Rainbow Line, 416-925-1408.

Health and healing explored

TORONTO — To make the community aware of its chaplaincy programs and healing projects, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue is hosting a panel discussion May 28, 7:30 p.m., entitled How Jewish Faith Can Be a Healing Power in Coping with the Complexities of Life.

For several decades, doctors have realized that the spiritual can play an important role in the care of patients and their families. This is true, even when the patient has a terminal illness.

Chaplains in the Jewish community, visit not only those in the hospital, but people in nursing homes, convalescent homes and penal institutions, because Judaism recognizes that people find additional strength when they see that they are still important to family and friends.

Panel speakers will include Dr. Vivian Rakoff, former chief psychiatrist at Clarke Institute; Rabbi Mark Dratch, spiritual leader of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation; and Etta Ginsberg McEwan, social worker.

The moderator will be Rabbi Joseph Kelman, of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, who was instrumental in establishing the chaplaincy program through Canadian Jewish Congress. Rabbi Kelman is president of the Association of Jewish Chaplains of Ontario, co-sponsors of the event along with the Toronto Jewish Healing Project, an organization dedicated to providing support and programs to those experiencing anxiety.

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A place for Ontario to stand

Traditionally, provincial governments do not wade into federal election campaigns. Generally speaking, this is as it should be, both by courtesy and by propriety. It is a good rule.

However, as with all rules, there are occasionally compelling circumstances which transform into exceptions.

The national unity issue of the current federal election campaign is one such compelling circumstance. It therefore warrants being treated as an exception.

It is widely assumed the referendum trauma will reach another boil during the mandate of the next parliament. As a result, it is incumbent upon Canadians, and especially federalist Quebecers, to elect the highest number of federalist members as possible.

When seen in this light and for this purpose — namely to encourage the widest possible federalist Quebec vote — it is appropriate, indeed desired, during the short time remaining in the campaign, for provincial governments to enter the national unity fray.

We note that Premier Ralph Klein of Alberta has already done so.

Earlier in the campaign he issued a statement which, as the *Globe and Mail* noted, "was a veiled swipe at the Reform party's Quebec policy." Klein roundly criticized his fellow Albertan's constant resort to the code language of constitutional "equality" and called upon Canada "to enable Quebec to protect those things that make it such a unique part of of our national character."

It is now time for Premier Mike Harris to issue forth a public unity stand. In particular, *The CJN* urges him to follow in the moderate, compromise-oriented footsteps of his predecessors: Leslie Frost, John Robarts, Bill Davis, Frank Miller, David Peterson and Bob Rae, all of whom understood and accepted Ontario's vital role of being a "bridge" between Quebec and the rest of the country.

A word "fittingly spoken" by the premier of Ontario might send an encouraging message to the undecided federalist voters of Quebec. It would also set an important example to other premiers who mistakenly believe that silence is the better, more secure place to stand in the slippery, rocky terrain of constitutional uncertainty.

Deja vu

With a surrealistic and sickening sense of deja vu, members of the Jewish community in Canada once again find themselves having to take legal steps to determine when, if at all, someone's speech can be so offensive, so hateful, and especially so dangerous to minorities as to warrant being curbed.

The case involves a column by Doug Collins, the controversial writer for the *North Shore News* in Vancouver. The column in question was a screed of Holocaust denial.

The Canadian Jewish Congress in British Columbia has launched a complaint with the Human Rights Commission in B. C. alleging that the Collins piece violates the B. C. Human Rights Code because it is "likely to expose a person, group or class of people to contempt or hate". Many people — inside and outside the Jewish community — will undoubtedly question the wisdom of bringing, once again, more Holocaust-denial material before the courts.

However, in our view, it is important for the civil courts to determine where an individual's right to free speech intersects with another's right to freedom from being exposed to contempt or hatred.

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(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones
CONSIDERING THE LEVEL OF LEADERSHIP
THAT ISRAEL HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH...
OUR CONTINUED EXISTENCE IS..
PROOF OF DIVINE PROTECTION!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

May 23, 1918, the first group of Canadian Jewish volunteers for the Jewish Legion for Palestine (The Royal Fusiliers) sailed from Canada. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

A cautionary note on grapefruit juice

I am writing in response to a short article (*CJN*, May 1) about the beneficial effects of drinking grapefruit juice in increasing the blood concentration of the drug cyclosporine.

This article is both misleading and, in fact, dangerous. Suggesting that people can gain an advantage by drinking grapefruit juice may cause serious problems. Therapeutic levels, i.e those that are not too high or too low are important in preventing toxicity or rejection/graft versus host disease respectively. Levels that are too high can be dangerous, causing both kidney and liver and possibly brain toxicity. Doses of cyclosporin are carefully adjusted to maintain these therapeutic levels. Taking grapefruit juice will push these levels into the toxic range.

On the other hand, for those individuals in whom the levels are adjusted while routinely drinking juice, there is a risk of dropping levels into the subtherapeutic range if they suddenly decrease the amount of grapefruit that they consume. This shows that more is not necessarily better and may in fact be much worse.

J.H. Lipton, MD FRCPC
Bone Marrow Transplant Physician
Toronto

Equity needed in education funding

When it comes to collecting taxes for education, the government does not discriminate on the basis of language or religion. When it comes to paying for the delivery of education, some people have special rights. Specifically, Catholics and francophones are exclusively able to fund their particular education at public expense. This is equivalent to the government charging different rates of provincial sales and income taxes based on language or religion — an absurd and offensive notion. Several Liberal, NDP and Tory Ontario provincial governments have to date chosen not to rectify this inequity.

If we are to resolve the flagrant inequity in education funding, we have to overcome a great obstacle: political ideology. It will take more than community led lobbying to succeed where litigation and Royal Commissions have failed.

This is not just an issue for those who wish to send their children to an alternative school; the issue is equity, plain and simple and therefore affects us all. To that end, I encourage everyone who is concerned about equity in a pluralistic and democratic society to initiate action by writing or phoning the Education minister of Ontario.

Wayne J. Levin
Toronto

Blind fundamentalism is the enemy

It seems that each and every day we are faced with some troubling national and international event that shocks and offends us.

Concerned Jews also have issues that more directly concern them, such as the dissemination of hate literature, anti-Semitism and the lack of activity in prosecuting Nazi war criminals. As we plead for tolerance, understanding and mutual respect, we do not need a pronouncement by the 600-member Union of Orthodox Rabbis that those of us whose religious practices identify with the Conservative and Reform branches of Judaism are not merely lesser Jews but not Jewish at all.

Rightly so, that preposterous pronouncement has been denounced by Reform and Conservative rabbis. The allegation is that Reform and Conservative leaders have led to generations of Jews being assimilated and intermarried when, I suggest in reality, it is the intolerance and retrograde thinking of the ultra-Orthodox that has driven young Jews away and pushed them towards cults and aberrations such as Jews for Jesus. Indeed, were it not for secular Jews and Orthodox Jews with some flexibility, the State of Israel would probably have been annihilated.

Blind fundamentalism, whether Christian or Islamic, has led to racism, anarchy and the destruction of basic human rights and values. It is hoped that responsible Orthodox rabbis will denounce and disassociate themselves from this retrograde resolution. I will always believe that what makes one a good person, Jew or otherwise, is what is in his heart and soul and not in his beard.

Bert Raphael
Toronto

Using Rehov Bar Ilan on the Sabbath

I remember asking a Lubavitch rabbi "Where was God when six million of his chosen people were being tortured and murdered by the Nazis?" His reply was that God had given man a free mind and he respects His decision. We should not blame God.

Now I ask, if God respects man's free mind, why cannot the Haredim of Jerusalem respect the free mind of others who want to use Rehov Bar Ilan on the Sabbath. Do they consider themselves holier than God?

Harry Hersh
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Ultimate fate of the Portuguese Jews

Five hundred years ago, the Jews of Portugal were forced to undergo baptism. To avoid that fate, many tried to leave; many chose death. The CJN *asked Sarah Taieb-Carlen of York University to write about that period of Jewish history. Last week, we published the first part of her essay. Today we publish the second, concluding part.*

By SARAH TAIEB-CARLEN

King Manoel dealt with the *convertidos* in the following way: from 1497 to 1512, he tried to make them assimilate and blend into the Portuguese Christian population. His policy was dictated by two conflicting wishes: to accede to the request of the king and queen of Spain who were demanding that he denounce to the Inquisition the *convertidos* who had fled to Portugal, and to keep, by any means, all the *convertidos* who had settled in Portugal because he needed not only their wealth, but also their economic, professional and diplomatic skills. Therefore, in May 1497, before the second wave of forced conversion, he passed a law forbidding the church to inquire about the *convertidos'* religious habits and practices.

But the memory of their king's cruelty was not so easy to erase and the richest *convertidos* emigrated with as much of their wealth as possible. Furious, the king reneged once more on all his promises and with the *alvaras* (king's letters) of 1499, he forbade the *convertidos* to leave Portugal and the old Christians to buy their property. The *convertidos* who were caught contravening the terms of these *alvaras* were reduced to slavery.

In 1504, the economy got worse and the *convertidos*, held responsible for the escalating cost of living, were repeatedly attacked. In 1505, the synagogue of Elvora was ransacked and burnt to the ground. In 1506, some *convertidos* caught celebrating Passover were arrested in Lisbon. A few days later, an incident triggered a violent attack on the *convertidos*. On the altar of the chapel of the monastery of San Domingo, according to a historian of the day, there "was a crucifix having a bit of red glass to represent the wound in the side; the monks to delude the ignorant populace, caused a candle to cast its light through the glass, which they proclaimed to be a miracle."

But a man said: "I see no miracle, it's just the reflection of the candlelight on the metal!" Realizing that the man was a *convertido*, the congregants fell on him, beat him to death, cut his body in pieces and burnt it. Two Dominican priests incited the crowd to act against the heresy of the *convertidos* and for three days, the Portuguese massacred, pillaged and raped, leaving more than 5,000 dead.

The king ordered the two Dominican priests burnt, the monastery of San Domingo closed down for a few weeks and, seemingly shaken by this senseless violence, he decided to abrogate the *alvaras* of 1499 and promised once more never again to interfere in the *convertidos'* religious life and to consider them equal to the old Christians.

He allowed them to leave Portugal with all their wealth provided they went to a Christian country. This time, the *convertidos* trusted their king and very few tried to leave the country where life once again became quite good for them since there was no legal restriction to their social and economic progress. They occupied the highest functions in the administration of the country such as *escrivao da fazenda* and *desembargador do paco*, respectively secretary of state and attorney general. They excelled in collecting taxes from the church and the *novidades* (new crops) from the farmers and they dominated the fields of medicine and pharmacy.

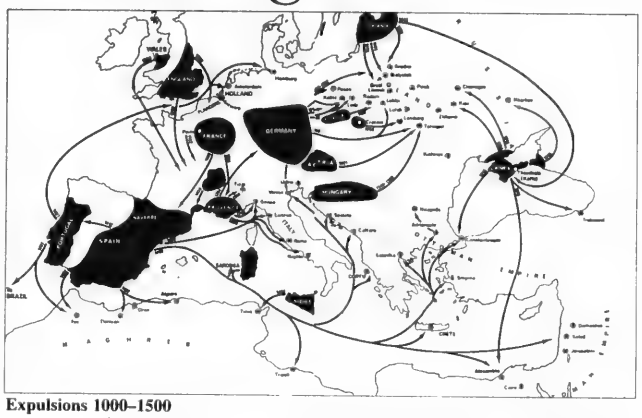
The king died in 1521, and when he acceded to the throne, his son Joao III, not quite 20 years of age, was full of a venomous hatred towards the Jews. He also inherited his father's devious ways and simultaneously as he confirmed the favorable measures extended by his father to the *convertidos*, he had people spying on them in order to uncover their lapses. In 1525, he married a granddaughter of the monarchs of Spain, his cousin Catherine, who deemed the Inquisition indispensable to any good Catholic country.

In November 1525, the Bishop of Ceuta, encouraged by the queen, persecuted the *convertidos* of Olivenca and had them burnt alive. People blamed the *convertidos* for a terrible earthquake, and they were ready for another massacre when the greatest writer of the time, and court poet, Gil Vicente, succeeded in averting it. But the king, influenced by Catherine had already decided to set up an Inquisition in his country and on Dec. 17, 1531, Pope Clement VII named the king's confessor, Fra Diogo da Silva, Great Inquisitor of Portugal. Fra Diogo first declined, but on Nov. 18, 1536, he finally asked the population to denounce the *convertidos* guilty of one of more of a number of practices and beliefs which he had listed carefully. For the first three years, the Inquisition was not too active, and Fra Diogo was replaced by the king's brother, 27-year-old Henrique, who proved to be a very zealous Great Inquisitor.

The Inquisition evolved into a gigantic machine which became the most deadly body of the state. The system of secret information and anonymous revelations was so widespread and subtle that everyone was suspect and no one could trust anyone anymore, even within the same family. At times, the accused were even taken from their beds to the dungeons of the Inquisition. Their property was seized immediately, to be shared by the Royal Treasury, the clergy and the Inquisition. Under incredible and unrelenting torture, the *convertidos* would more often than not sign a "confession" which would lead them to the infamous and barbaric *auto-da-fe* (act of faith).

The *auto-da-fe* usually took place on the occasion of a coronation, a royal wedding or a major religious holiday. It was a grandiose, pompous if terribly macabre show to which enormous crowds came for public rejoicing. The privilege of kindling the fire was granted to the highest personality present, usually the king or a distinguished guest of honor. Tens of thousands of children, men and women perished in this way.

Henrique was so ruthless an inquisitor that the pope promoted him to the rank of cardinal in 1545 for his zeal and efficiency, and he kept his office of Great Inquisitor for 30 years. He accepted the testimony of young children, and when young children were accused, he pursued them with the same intensity and zeal as he did anyone else. No one was spared: the remains of long deceased "heretics" were thrown into the fire and those who had fled the country were tried *in absentia* and burnt in effigy.



Expulsions 1000–1500

[*Jewish History Atlas*, Martin Gilbert, Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1969]

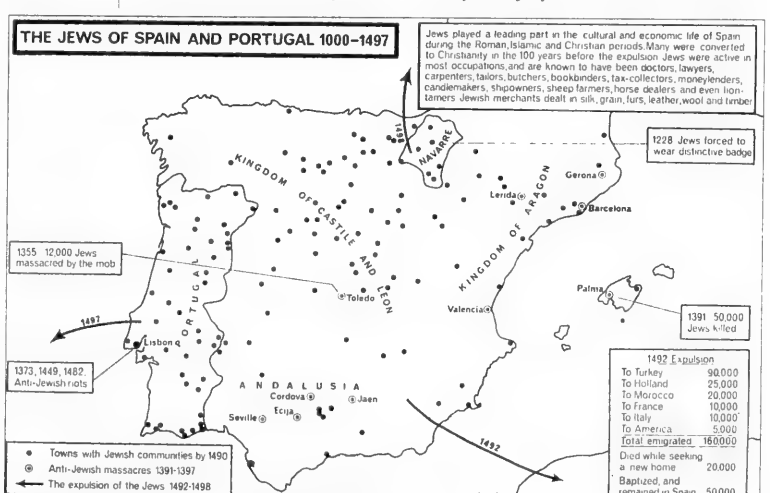
While for the Church, the *convertidos* were abominable heretics, they were also a source of great embarrassment for the rabbis. According to 20th-century Rabbi Hirsch Zimmels, a scholar who studied the *responsa* of the rabbis of Amsterdam, Hamburg, Italy, North Africa and Turkey, the rabbis decreed that the *conversos* and *convertidos* were Jews; they were like the apostates of Judaism to whom this aphorism could be applied. "A Jew, even if he/she sins, is still a Jew; they are Jews from the point of view of matrimonial legislation, but non-Jews from all other viewpoints; they are non-Jews from all viewpoints; they are worse than the non-Jews; they are like Jewish children who are prisoners of non-Jews."

With time, however, the rabbis' attitude hardened. So many *conversos* and *convertidos* left Spain and Portugal in order to live openly as Jews again, that those who stayed there out of fear or greed and those who continued to live as crypto-Jews in their new country of residence became suspicious to the rabbis.

Throughout the 16th century, the *conversos* and *convertidos* fled to North Africa and the Ottoman Empire where Dona Gracia Nasi founded congregations specifically designed to welcome Portuguese *convertidos* in Salonika and Constantinople; Antwerp; England; France, especially Bordeaux (where a large Sephardi community had settled in the 10th century), Nantes, Rouen and Paris; and Italy (where the Pope ignored them, except when he had a great number of Judaizers burnt alive in Ancona in 1556), especially Leghorno.

Among the most famous Portuguese Jews are: Don Isaac Abrabanel, Baruch Spinoza, Abraham Israel Pereira (one of whose descendants built the Boulevard Pereire in Paris) and Manasseh ben Israel.

There are countless others, as this anecdote tells us. One day, King Jose (1750-1777) ordered all Portuguese descended from or allied to Jews to wear a yellow hat. His confidant and closest friend, the powerful Marques de Pombal came to the palace that same evening carrying three hats. To the King's questions, he replied that he did "not know a single Portuguese of note who had not Jewish blood in his veins." The king asked him why, he was carrying three hats. De Pombal answered, "One for myself, one for the inquisitor general, and one in case your majesty should wish to be covered."


THE JEWS OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL 1000–1497
Jews played a leading part in the cultural and economic life of Spain during the Roman, Islamic and Christian periods. Many were converted to Christianity in the 100 years before the expulsion. Jews were active in most occupations, and are known to have been doctors, lawyers, carpenters, tailors, butchers, bookbinders, tax-collectors, moneylenders, candlemakers, shipowners, sheep farmers, horse dealers and even lion-tamers. Jewish merchants dealt in silk, grain, furs, leather, wool and timber.
1228 Jews forced to wear distinctive badge
NAVARRE
KINGDOM OF CASTILE AND LEON
KINGDOM OF ARAGON
Gerona
Lerida
Barcelona
Toledo
Valencia
Palma
1355 12,000 Jews massacred by the mob
1391 50,000 Jews killed
1497
Lisbon
1373, 1449, 1482, Anti-Jewish riots
ANDALUSIA
Cordova
Jaen
Ecija
Seville
1492
1492 Expulsion
To Turkey 90,000
To Holland 25,000
To Morocco 20,000
To France 10,000
To Italy 10,000
To America 5,000
Total emigrated 160,000
Died while seeking a new home 20,000
Baptized, and remained in Spain 50,000
Towns with Jewish communities by 1490
Anti-Jewish massacres 1391-1397
The expulsion of the Jews 1492-1498

Expulsions 1000–1500

[*Jewish History Atlas*, Martin Gilbert, Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1969]

Opinions

Taking my Jewish checklist to ballot box

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Once more, dear friends, into the breach — or, rather, into the election booth. Seems like yesterday we were putting our X in the box and handing in our ballots. In fact, it was practically yesterday as terms of office go, but no matter. We get a chance once more to choose our elected representatives.

How to make that choice? For many, both here and in the United States, that choice has a lot to do with the treatment Israel has received at the hands of the current government. I am presently reading the memoirs of Yitzhak Rabin written in 1979, and it is very interesting to see what his take was on the American presidents and government bureaucracies with which he dealt, both as ambassador to the United States, and then as prime minister.

(For instance he respected Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger, whereas many Jews regarded them as enemies of Israel and consistently voted Democrat throughout the turbulent Nixon years.)

But whatever his take was, Rabin was not an American and his opinions were justifiably bound up with what he perceived was good for Israel. For us in Canada, it has been less clear what standards we as Jews should apply to our voting patterns (if any).

Frankly I am bewildered as to what to do about this election, but a large part of that is because, living in British Columbia, I am effectively shut out of any meaningful decision as to the character of the next government. But imagining I lived in the Golden Triangle, I would certainly take my Jewish checklist in hand when evaluating candidates.

No reader will be surprised to see that high on my list is the social support network promised by a candidate. Does the candidate represent a party that is committed to support programs that benefit the poor, the elderly, the disabled and the disadvantaged? Over and over again, Jewish law enjoins us as a society to deal justly. The Torah is quite clear on society's responsibilities. Maimonides set out a pretty good ladder of tzedakah, ending with the highest form as one that enables the poor to become self-sufficient. Is any party undertaking to make this a reality?

We should expect no less of our elected representatives.

Is the party seeking our votes one that goes beyond our borders to assure human rights? Is it committed to rebuking China for its undeniable abuses within China and its increasingly threatening posture on Hong Kong and Taiwan? We *do* have clout in Asia. Are we going to use it with the Indonesian government and other Asian states that are part of our economic sphere of influence? Or will we as a nation get as far as the cash register and no further?

Next on my list is the effort each party makes to retain the loyalty of Quebec to the idea of a united Canada. I feel a great affinity with the Québécois on some issues. They too have a strong sense of communal rights and responsibilities, a vibrant culture, a special attachment to their community and a language I find hard to master — but no matter. They too want to see a government committed to social justice. Replace the word Québécois with Jews, and you would not see much difference.

I want to vote for a party that will help Quebec to feel secure inside Canada, that will respect their need to be recognized, to maintain their social net, and at the same time be forthright enough to tell them when they have erred on the side of chauvinism and outright xenophobia and racism.

This may sound paradoxical, but any party that weakens the ability of the federal government to assure equality of treatment for all Canadians will not get my vote. The government should not divest itself of such federal responsibilities as will assure the kind of social justice I am talking about.

Finally, I would like to vote for a party that is committed to maintaining and strengthening the ability of Jews to live as Jews, unmolested by hate groups, racial slurs, and physical attack. Such a party would uphold laws that prevent free speech from becoming attack speech, speech that would encourage racial enmity and disregard for historical fact (such as Holocaust denial). I would also vote for a party that supported the peace process in the Middle East, although I realize that Canada is a minor player, if a player at all, in this regard.

Since not one piece of campaign literature has crossed my doorstep as of this writing, I may be spared the tons of nonsense which masquerades as information about the candidate and the party. On the other hand, I fear this is because not only doesn't British Columbia count, but that my riding is a done deal. Too bad. I would like to see if I could apply my checklist to our incumbent, as well as to the hopefuls now shaking hands and kissing babies.

(My riding? Not telling.)

Montreal bagels are better. So there.

By Shel Krakofsky in London

For somebody who grew up in Toronto, I have come to accept two truths about Montreal. The rival city to the east (usually) has better hockey teams. I swallow hard before making the second, more difficult admission — Montreal is the place for superior bagels.

It is unnecessary to even taste a Montreal bagel to realize it is better. The first thing a Montrealer is asked upon arriving in Toronto or any other place on the planet is, "Did you bring bagels?" Has anybody ever been asked to bring bagels *to* Montreal?

In this city where I now work, despite a recent avalanche of bagels, there are two outlets which boast imported bagels, one from Montreal, the other from Toronto. The so-called Toronto bagel is advertised as "Montreal-style!"

Until I chanced upon a place on St. Viateur in Montreal, I was partial to the Toronto species. My fondest childhood bagel memories are of Saturday night when my zayde would take me to Sherman's Bakery on Baldwin Street. In the cold of winter when Shabbat ended early, we would arrive as the oven was being fired up. Zayde was a mashgiach a few doors away at Berlin's butcher shop and as a courtesy to him, I was given hot Sunday bagels to preview on Saturday night.

It was a thrill I would later experience in New York City purchasing the Sunday *New York Times* on Saturday night. New York bagels are unfortunately as heavy as the weekend paper, though the city of Madison Avenue does have the best bagel advertising. One deli has a sign in its window:

PROTECT YOUR BAGELS
— put lox on them —

Not looking for anything in particular, I discovered the ultimate bagel once while walking the streets of Montreal. A distinctive, pungent, sweet and nostalgic aroma wafted into my nostrils and carried me back to my childhood. Following my nose, I easily found the source. Once inside the venerable bagel bakery on St. Viateur that is dedicated exclusively to making bagels, I was further transported into the 19th century.

The bagels were piled up like mounds of manna outside a flaming wood-burning stove. Hickory wood I think it was, baking those bagels in ancient, public splendor. When I took my first bite (it was a bagel pebbled with sesame seeds) I knew I had found the mother of all bagels — the Montreal bagel — the "roll model" for all bagels.

All others are too soft and doughy. Donuts without atherosclerosis. Mere rolls with holes, especially the commercial kind. Too large, too round, too uniform — too artificial. They have lost their identity.

The current popularity of bagels is driven in part by health-conscious consumers who have discovered a food with no additives or preservatives and a simple table of contents with flour, yeast, water, sugar, salt and sometimes malt. High in protein with moderate fiber and carbohydrate, the bagel has *no cholesterol*!

Oh for the time of simpler choices when it was more than enough to suffer existential angst over plain, sesame or poppy. These days, the varieties are as abundant as those found in ice cream parlors, a kind of multilingual plethora of choices that only add up to an illiterate smorgasbord. Where is the joy and sophistication in ordering the confused taste of an "everything" bagel with nothing on it?

Give me a traditional bagel. Smaller, imperfectly round, dense, chewy. Something that can help clean your teeth. The main difference between old-fashioned and modern bagels is this: After the batter is shaped, the bagels are first boiled in water before they are baked.

The newfangled type are not boiled, robbing the bagel of a crusty, fuller texture. Boiling is too labor intensive for the new brand of entrepreneurs.

Before the turn of the century, some Galicianers brought little to America except the baggage of history and their 200-year-old bagel recipe. Those bagels would be more authentic and universally tasty today if only for one word in the language of those immigrants. Wouldn't it have been wonderful if there existed at the time, a Yiddish word for "franchise"?

Tension and Tennis

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Thirty-six years ago when we first came to Canada, I was introduced to the all-Canadian sport. *Hockey Night in Canada* was obligatory to watch on Saturday nights during the winter. Since then, I must confess, the novelty has worn off, and today I don't even know who is in the playoffs, except that the absence of Toronto and Montreal has reached even me.

Fortunately, there were the Blue Jays, and when the grandchildren came to town, I would take them to the Skydome. But my interest has waned over the years and I see that I am not alone. Where formerly the seats were all taken, now there are gaping holes in the stands. Even basketball has lost me, although — when I tuned in to the game the other day by sheer accident — I did admire a six-foot midget playing amongst the giants and doing remarkably well. For me, that leaves golf and tennis, the two pastimes in which I personally continue to indulge. Though the Tiger Woods phenomenon has gotten a hold of me as it has of everyone else, tennis remains my number 1 love. When someone asked me the other day why this was so, I searched for the deeper reason. It is one of the few competitive enterprises in which sportsmanship survives. That to me is one of the abiding attractions of this sport, and I use it as a metaphor for society in general.

We are forever partisans and only rarely neutral. We rarely cheer for the opposition and are hesitant to acknowledge its merit. Tennis is one of the noble exceptions, and that's one of the reasons I have remained infatuated with it. To be sure, I hope that my favorite will carry off the palm, but if he or she doesn't, I am happy if I've seen a good match.

All of which brings me, not surprisingly, to the Jewish side of this matter. Israelis (like Diaspora Jews) are like everybody else, only more so. They are vigorously partisan, and occasionally their shouts at a soccer match create enough decibels to be heard a kilometre away.

Tennis is the great exception. It is one of the few avenues which relieves the competitive tensions that beset Israelis. That is one reason why, when Israel Tennis Centre brings its young people to Toronto, they do so not only to raise money but also to show off the best of their society. These young kids are trained to be good rather than partisan, competitive but never at the expense of fairness. The growth of tennis as the second largest participatory sport in Israel, is therefore to me a good and hopeful sign.

Best of all, Jewish tennis centres now have special programs for handicapped children: autistic, developmentally challenged, hearing-impaired and those at risk. Moreover, the centres are peace builders, for they now have joint Jewish-Arab and Bedouin programs.

On June 8, a delegation of 9- to 13-year-olds will show their stuff in Toronto. If you are interested in looking at these representatives of non-partisanship, skill and good manners, you'll have a lovely time. It is an occasion not to be missed, and Leah Rabin too will be there. If you want to come, call 905-660-1999. It's an event I am very happy to advertise.

Election '97

Health, jobs key issues in bellwether riding

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In St. Paul's, long considered a bellwether riding, health care and unemployment are emerging as key election issues.

St. Paul's

The boundaries of the mostly residential area, encompassing the area between Winona Drive, Eglinton Avenue West, Yonge Street and the Canadian Pacific railway lines, have expanded eastward from Yonge Street to Bayview Avenue between Broadway and Moore avenues. Most of the riding's northwest area has become part of Eglinton-Lawrence.

St. Paul's has a population of 110,000, with a Jewish population estimated at 18,000, as well as a significant Italian population. Residents run the gamut from young singles to seniors, with substantial numbers of tenants, new immigrants and longtime Forest Hill residents.

Liberal candidate Carolyn Bennett, 46, said voters are "very keen" to raise health care issues with her because of her profession. The family physician and lifetime area resident, who ran in St. Andrew-St. Patrick during the last provincial election, believes the Tory promise of eliminating the cash portion of the transfer payment would put our health care system at risk.

Bennett, who hopes to replace current Liberal MP Barry Campbell, criticized the provincial Conservative government for closing hospitals without putting support systems in place first.

Other key issues locally and nationally are jobs and achieving a balanced federal budget, she said.

"We have two options: to throw our arms up and walk away or to roll our sleeves up and try and make things better," said PC candidate Peter Atkins, a 32-year-old City of Toronto firefighter who was a delegate to the PC Party of Canada's national policy conference last year.

While jobs may be the number 1 issue nationally, in St. Paul's, he has found health care to be a more pressing concern.

In an interview, Atkins raised the issue of prosecuting war criminals, which came to his attention largely because of the recent 60 *Minutes* segment on the issue. "I don't think we'll ever be able to right this wrong, but I think we should try," he said.

Michael Halewood, the NDP candidate, cited jobs and youth unemployment as major issues "everywhere," but said Bennett's candidacy put more of a "spin" on health care in St. Paul's.

"Our fear," said the 33-year-old lawyer, "is that the Liberals will be using [Bennett] to legitimate their cuts to health care. The current federal government has made "unprecedented changes to Canadian health care, both in terms of surrendering its ability to enforce national health care delivery standards and in terms of the overall cutbacks," he said.

Proposed tax cuts by other parties "just mean more bad news for health care, education and job creation," says Halewood, a first-time candidate.

During last week's televised leaders' debate, Tory leader Jean Charest "should have been challenged directly" on the efficacy of creating jobs through tax cuts, said Halewood.

Reform party hopeful Francis Floszmann, a 61-year-old lawyer, believes the three main issues in St. Paul's are taxation, crime and national unity.

"As soon as the deficit is gone, we've got to start to reduce the tax level," said Floszmann, a native of Hungary who came here as a refugee student in 1957. A member of the Reform party since 1992, he worked for the local association as vice-president and acted as official agent at the last election.

Floszmann decided to enter the race because he'd "had enough of the big government, high taxes, crime, sidestepping of issues and the rhetoric." He believes a vote for Reform will prevent the Bloc Québécois from "getting back into the Opposition. We don't want somebody in Opposition who advocates the breakup of the country."

Other candidates in St. Paul's are Daniel Widdicombe, Canadian Action party; Don Roebuck, Green party; Fernand Deschamps, Marxist Leninist party of Canada; and Neil Dickie, Natural Law party.

For more election news, see pages 21, 22, and 23.

Drabkin making another attempt

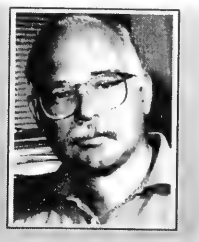
By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Neil Drabkin, the Progressive Conservative candidate in Montreal's west-end Pierrefonds-Dollard, is reminding the riding's sizable Jewish population of all he and former MP Gerry Weiner did in Ottawa to further the community's interests.

Pierrefonds-Dollard

Drabkin, 35, who was senior policy adviser to Weiner while he was a Mulroney cabinet minister from 1984-93, is taking a second shot at a House of Commons seat. He is courting the vote of the approximately 11,000 Jews in the riding, reminding them of his personal role in pursuing suspected Nazi war criminals, the multiculturalism grants to Jewish causes and his battle against Holocaust deniers.

Drabkin, an immigration lawyer, will need the Jewish vote. Incumbent Liberal Bernard Patry garnered over 65 percent of the vote in 1993, with Weiner placing third behind the Bloc Québécois. Drabkin ran for the Tories in Mount Royal then, too, also coming third.



The Kirshner File will return after the federal elections.

Drabkin and Patry, a 54-year-old physician and former suburban mayor, differ on the most important issue in this campaign. For Drabkin, it's national unity. "I decided to run when I saw Jean Chrétien tell a Quebec anglophone during the town hall on CBC that, if he feels threatened, to move elsewhere.

"I'm a proud Jew, born and raised here, and I intend to fight to keep Quebec part of Canada," he said. "Everything else is inconsequential."

For Patry, the main issue is the economy and he is playing up the government's success in reducing the deficit. "When the Liberals came to power, the country was near bankruptcy, the deficit was over $40 billion. We've been able to restore confidence in our economic future."

He's also emphasizing the government's integrity, saying it has kept 90 percent of the promises in the party's Red Book.

Patry hedged on offering a clear opinion on the unity resolutions passed by some municipalities, including Dollard-des-Ormeaux and Pierrefonds.

"I don't think of them as 'partitionist.' They just want to remain in Canada...It's much too soon to talk about partition because we haven't lost the battle yet."

Drabkin sees these resolutions as a consequence of the sense of "abandonment" and lack of leadership federalists feel in Quebec.

As far as Drabkin is concerned, Patry has been silent on national unity and that echoes Chrétien's lackluster performance, in his view. He believes Conservative leader Jean Charest is the only one who

[Cont'd. on page 21]

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Thursday, June 5 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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FX:(416) 633-1740

Wednesday, 28th
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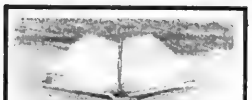
Beth Sholom Synagogue
1445 Eglington Ave. W.
Tickets available at Shul Office
VISA/Mastercard accepted
PLEASE CALL OR FAX
PH:(416) 783-6103
FX:(416) 783-9923



Rabbinic Reflections

Acts of kindness

By RABBI RONALD WEISS

As Jews, we are required to develop the attribute of chesed and incorporate acts of lovingkindess within our nature. Being kind and sensitive to the needs of others is one way of emphasizing the importance of this moral and ethical value; we demonstrate our concern for and involvement with those around us — individually and collectively — as a means of improving the society in which we live.

Perhaps one can see a reference to this teaching in the Torah portion this week. In Parshat Behar, we are told: "Do not give your money on interest and do not give your food for which one will have to give increase." [Leviticus 25:37].

As is well known, the taking of interest violates one of the laws in the Torah. This prohibition is of such importance that we are told of a midrash which states that on the Day of Judgment, all sins a person has committed will be presented for debate between accusing and defending angels, with the exception of the sin of taking interest. For this sin, we are told, there will be no deliberation, just immediate condemnation.

Why should the commandment against the taking of interest be seen so harshly by the midrash? It would seem that the loan of money to one in need is clearly an act of chesed. However, when the loan is given only on interest, the act of generosity and goodwill is transformed. Chesed, where the giver is motivated by concern for the welfare of the recipient, disappears and in its place is greed, where the giver is prompted to action by the prospect of his own personal gain.

Clearly kindness should be done with an altruistic intent, without regard to receiving compensation. If one has the opportunity to lend money interest-free to a person truly in need, and instead charges the recipient for the use of his money, the lender fundamentally changes the nature of the situation. The opportunity to perform the mitzvah of chesed has been perverted. No longer can these circumstances be described in terms of chesed, as it is now a business transaction.

I think that this may be why the midrash views the sin of taking interest so severely. If one accepts the opinion which teaches that the world was created to make possible the performance of chesed, any diminution of this essential characteristic is deemed worthy of immediate condemnation.

We do not claim to be angels, and often our survival in G-d's world requires that we do many things for ourselves. But the things that we do for ourselves should not be to the exclusion of what we can do for others.

If we see the taking of interest as an act that diminishes chesed in the world, one can see why it would be prohibited by the Torah. However, we should come away from this teaching with a renewed commitment to treat all people with kindness and sensitivity.

Chesed does not mean simply responding appropriately when one sees a need. It means anticipating another's problems and providing a solution.

Would that we all worked at developing this quality.

Rabbi Weiss is director of chaplaincy services for Jewish Family and Child Service in Toronto.

Guest Voices

Accepting self-expression

By ARON TANNY

Several months ago, I casually asked my father how he would feel if I were to pierce my eyebrow. His reaction was calmer than I had expected, but the answer was basically: "Not as long as you are living in my house."

My father is a religious man and has a firm belief in Judaism. But the exchange left me with several questions. The basic issue that I began pondering was: How does Judaism feel about teenage rebellion? Is it permitted? Is it accepted? I decided to investigate.

In this specific situation, I am using the word "rebellion" to mean issues such as outrageous dress styles, hair dyeing, body piercing. These examples can be found in the hallways of most secondary schools, including the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), where I am a student. I wanted to discover what Judaism's views were about some of the activities in which teenagers may be involved.

For my investigation, I first spoke to a peer at CHAT.

"The issue is more about how Judaism feels in regard to self-expression," she said, and went on to explain that she personally felt Judaism has little tolerance for those who step out of the accepted mainstream. She herself has no interest in having blue hair or a lip ring, yet through her years of Jewish education she had formed this view.

"Rabbis are not going to be extremely pleased with teenagers who wear outrageous clothing or dye their hair. They would see it as disrespectful," she concluded.

In the Torah, I found few if any instances that deal with this issue. It is noticeable, however, that those who in the past went against the norm were looked down upon. This was true in the case of Esau, who was depicted as a rebellious child, and was not accepted as a part of society. As well, there was Ishmael. Abraham had many difficulties with Ishmael, as he was also a rebellious child, and therefore Abraham left Ishmael and his mother in the desert to fend for themselves. Esau and Ishmael were segregated from society because of their behavior, and this somewhat expresses the Torah's views concerning those who are rebellious.

"There is the commandment: Honor thy father and thy mother," said a rabbi from Beit Haminyan Synagogue, to whom I spoke. "Teenage rebellion has a lot to do with rebelling against their parents, and this shows a lack of respect and a lack of honor. What is the purpose of blue hair or a ring through your nose? The Torah would not be accepting of teenagers indulging in such actions. It is a form of mutilation of the body. There is no room for this in the Judaic view."

The forms of rebellion that I looked into all involved the outward appearance, yet this is generally a reflection of what the teenager feels inside. It may stem from angst or confusion or simply the need to shock or to be different. Judaism, it seems, does not to support such actions, as they display disrespect and a lack of care for the body. The idea of self-expression seems to hold little importance or value. Teens do rebel and their beliefs might conflict with the urge to avoid conformity.

"Teenagers experience a lot of confusion, and they may even rebel against their religion in terms of their dress or outer appearance. Judaic law recognizes this and understands the need to be accepting as long as the adolescent does not lose their attachment to their faith," the rabbi said.

"Judaism feels that expressing yourself is welcome, yet doing outrageous things to yourself in order to express your individuality is unnecessary and disrespectful. Rebellion can be an inner thing. Teenagers have that right to question and become their own people, yet they should not be piercing various parts of their anatomy in order to accomplish this."

Self-expression is something I greatly value. I admire it in myself as well as in others. I place my individuality on a higher level than I place my ties to Judaism. I feel it is important for someone to determine who they are before allowing their religion to dictate their life style. Judaism's inability to accept self-expressive acts is troubling to me. I see these acts not as desecration, but as a form expressing oneself outwardly and artistically.

Judaism attempts to enforce conformity to its laws and customs and this only stifles creativity. It is important to be Jewish and have a strong connection to our faith, yet I believe it is even more important to act and look the way we want. Teenage rebellion plays a prominent part in forming who we are as individuals. Our religion should have meaning to us, yet we must first be able to establish who we are as people in order to discover the role that our religion has in our lives.

SCIENCE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

A symposium in honour of Roel and Dorothy Buck
upon the establishment of the
Roel Buck-Weizmann Chair in Chemical Physics
at the University of Toronto

and in recognition of Professor Paul Brumer,
Department of Chemistry, as the first
Roel Buck-Weizmann Chair in Chemical Physics

May 27, 1997
University of Toronto
J.J.R. McLeod Medical Sciences Auditorium
1 King's College Circle
1:30p.m.-5:00p.m.
The public is most welcome-no tickets required

The series of public lectures on developing topics in Chemical Physics and Chemistry at the University of Toronto and at The Weizmann Institute of Science

Programme
Programme Chairman: Professor Martin Moskovits, Chair, Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto

1:30-2:00 Introductory Remarks:
Professor Heather Munroe-Blum, Vice President, Research and International Relations, University of Toronto
Professor Marsha Chandler, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Toronto

2:00-2:30 "Quantum mechanics: Confusions for the layman", Professor Paul Brumer, Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto

2:30-3:00 "Controlling molecules with lasers: Past, present and future", Professor Moshe Shapiro, Chemical Physics Department, The Weizmann Institute of Science

3:30-3:30 Coffee Break

3:30-4:00 "Diamonds - Their creation from thin air and their processing with light," Professor Yehiam Prior, Chemical Physics Department, The Weizmann Institute of Science

4:00-4:30 "Altering Hemoglobin - How to get the right stuff for transfusions", Professor Ronald Kluger, Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto

4:30-5:00 "Inorganic life", Professor Geoffrey A. Ozin, Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto

Jewish Life

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Biography of Jesus

***The Gospel According To The Son*, by Norman Mailer (Random House, $31).**

Hundreds of books have been written about Jesus, about every aspect of his life and ministry. Yet we know very little about him as a historic personality. The four accounts of his life in the Christian Bible are tendentious and often contradictory. The famous reference from Josephus is probably a Christian interpolation; and the comments about him in the Talmud are fragmentary and polemical.

For more than 200 years — ever since critical analysis was first applied to Biblical literature — scholars have attempted to write an objective biography. These lives of Jesus have been as different and varied as the temperaments and interests of their authors. Some of them have depicted Jesus as a fiery prophet and social reformer, some as a personality with a simple message of charity and love for his fellow man, some as a self-proclaimed messiah, some as a supernatural figure with miraculous powers of healing.

Albert Schweitzer, who, long before he went to Africa as a medical missionary, achieved an international reputation as a Christian Bible scholar and theologian. In his famous book, *The Quest for the Historical Jesus* (1906), he reviewed and evaluated these attempts at writing an objective biography of Jesus. Schweitzer's conclusion — which has come to be almost universally accepted among students in the field — is that the quest must necessarily end in failure.

He maintained that the sole sources upon which the historian can draw, basically Christian Bible accounts, are so contradictory, so encrusted with legendary accretions, so influenced by the theological preconceptions of their authors, that it is impossible to attain any definite and certain historical knowledge.

Norman Mailer, one of the esteemed writers of our time, approaches the life of Jesus in an imaginative and unique manner. He sets down what purports to be Jesus' posthumous autobiography. Jesus tells his own story. He speaks for himself. He says, "I would hope to remain closer to the truth than Mark, Matthew, Luke and John, who were all eager to enlarge their fold."

Mailer's account is largely a paraphrase of the familiar material with a number of deviations — some trivial, a number significant. What are these? Jesus and his family are Essenes, some of his earlier followers are homosexual, the Devil is a constant and wily adversary, Judas betrays Jesus because he believes that he has become enmeshed with material concerns and has forgotten the plight of the poor. Most importantly in Mailer's account, Jesus doubts God's omnipotence. On the cross, he muses, "My Father was only doing what He could do. Even as I had done what I could. So He was truly my Father. Like all fathers He had many sore troubles, and some had little to do with His son. Had His efforts for me been so great that now He was exhausted?"

Why did Mailer, at 74, decide to write this kind of book? In a recent interview he confided that the Gospels are boring and inadequate and that the time was ripe for a retelling of the story.

The Gospel According to the Son written in a brief and simple fashion, displays something of Mailer's narrative skill and is not without flashes of insight. This pastiche of the old and new, however, will not long endure. It is destined to take its place on the dusty shelf with all of those other abortive attempts to bring to life the enigmatic and elusive carpenter from Nazareth.

Beth Tzedec Congregation

announces the introduction of a

PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM

commencing September 1997.

This program will hold classes
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for children ages 2 1/2 to 4 years of age.
Mornings: 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.
Afternoons: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Applications are now being accepted and enrollment will be limited to 16 children per class.

Special introductory fee of $2,600.00 per year.

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Israeli archeology on the WWW

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Anyone who has ever visited Israel knows that the most common profession in the country (after amateur politician) is amateur archeologist. Well, just because you don't live in Israel doesn't mean you can't dig through Israel's past. But instead of a shovel and sunscreen, all you need is a connection to the Jewish Highway.

The first place to stop for the armchair archeologist is at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Archeology Hotlist **[http://www.israel.org/sites.html#arch]**. There you'll find links to several attractive sites such as Israel Archaeology from the Air, and Israel's Archaeological Treasures. For a good overview of archeology in Israel over the past 150 years since Frenchman F. De Saulcy began his excavations of the cave of tombs in Jerusalem, see **[http://www.israel.org/mfa/ariel/archeol.html]**.

At Archeological Excavations in Israel **[http://www.israel-mfa.gov.il/archdigs.html]** you'll find a comprehensive listing of dozens of current digs (many of which have links to their own Internet home pages.) For example, volunteers are welcomed to Hazor **http://unixware.mscc.huji.ac.il/~hatsor/hazor.html]** in the Galilee during the summer months. (By the way, breakfast at Hazor is served at 4:15 a.m.)

If you prefer a dig that's a bit different, how about the Underwater Excavations of Herod's Harbor at Caesarea **[http://meguma.earthsciences.dal.ca/~reinhard/CaesareaHome.html]**? There, archeologists are working on the harbor which was commissioned and built by Herod the Great in 21 BCE.

Now that you've visited a few digs, have a stroll through some museums and universities which specialize in archeology. At Jerusalem's Israel Museum **[http://www.imj.org.il/archaeology/]**, you can travel from the Old Stone Age (Paleolithic) through to the Late Islamic Period to learn about the numerous inhabitants of the land of Israel and the artifacts they left behind. Not quite as famous is the Kibbutz Ein Dor Archeological Museum **[http://www.geocities.com/Athens/3603]**. The permanent exhibit focuses on the history of the Lower Galilee and boasts a unique burial coffin constructed from two clay storage jars.

Ironically one of the most alluring archeological sites for Israelis isn't found in Israel. Petra in south Jordan is a city carved in pink and salmon rock. **[http://www.iiconsulting.com/jordan/petra.html]**.

The 2,000-year-old capital of the Nabataean Arabs has become one of the most popular destinations for Israelis in Jordan.

Of course, you don't have to dig very deep in Israel to find a controversy or two. One of the largest disputes is whether the Tanach's stories can be verified through archeology — or whether believers in the Torah should care about archeology at all. Hershel Shanks, editor of the *Biblical Archaeology Review* asks "How reliable is the Bible? The answer is it has a sound historical core. What is heating up now is an academic battle between those who deny this and those who affirm it." **[http://home1.gte.net/eweiss/arch.htm]**.

So whether you're a Yigael Yadin **[http://www.aw.com/gb/authors/silberman/aprophet.html]** or an Indiana Jones **[http://us.imdb.com/cache/title-exact/81885]**, there's a wealth of archeological information to uncover on the Internet.

If you do a little digging.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
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See our recently completed renovations!
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Rikudiyah '97 pays tribute to 100 years of Zionism

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — More than 400 students from 16 Toronto-area Jewish schools recently danced together on one large stage, spanning an entire gymnasium floor.

They were participating in Rikudiyah, the Israeli folk dance festival for children, held last week at the main gymnasium of York University. All the children performed the same dances simultaneously on the gym floor, with teachers from their schools leading them in the dances.

An estimated 1,100 spectators were on hand for Rikudiyah '97 whose theme this year was a celebration of 100 years of Zionism, with dances commemorating the first International Zionist Conference held in 1897.

Teme Kernerman, the director of Rikudiyah since its inception 26 years ago, said this year's event reflected a mix of music and dance styles brought to Israel by the pioneers who originated from a number of different countries.

Kernerman researches and creates dances to fit the particular theme of Rikudiyah and then visits the schools to teach the dances to the teachers s prior to the performance, she said. "I love Rikudiyah. To see the children enjoying Israeli dance is worth all the effort."

She stressed that one of the most important aspects of Rikudiyah is that the children get to perform for an audience without the pressure of being on stage.

"They're enjoying themselves. They're getting excited about dance. Dance belongs in the schools. It's part of our heritage and culture. Today in Israel, the country is dancing."

She noted that dance has long been part of the Jewish heritage and can be traced back to biblical passages.

Kernerman, a recipient of the Ontario Arts Council award for her contribution to folkdancing, is the coordinator of the senior adult services and folkdancing at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC). She is also the director/choreographer of the BJC-based seniors dance troop, the Chai Dancers, who opened the program with the premier performance of *Shtetl Sher*, based on one of the oldest forms of shtetl dances.

Students from Bialik Hebrew Day School rehearse *Fun After Work*, the dance they performed at Rikudiyah. [B. Silverstein photo]

United Synagogue Day Schools' (USDS) Bayview branch and Bialik Hebrew Day School gave featured performances.

Presented by Ronit Eisenman, the USDS dance, *Hey Daroma l'Eilat* (Let's go south to Eilat), was created by student performers Katherine Devlin and Elana Hager, who were inspired by Ben Gurion's efforts to settle the Negev.

Bialik's dance, *Fun After Work*, was directed by Rivka Atzmony. It recalled the days of the chalutzim, who rose early, worked long, hard days and then danced late into the night.

The Rikudiyah is sponsored by the Koffler Centre of the Arts at the BJC and the Board of Jewish Education (BJE). Opening greetings were given by Dorothy Shoichet, president of the Koffler Centre and Rabbi Irwin E. Witty, executive director of the BJE.

Rabbi Witty said the Rikudiyah is one of a series of inter-school activities that bring Jewish children from different schools together. "It is this type of effort that the BJE as a community agency seeks to foster."

The participating schools were: Bialik, B'nai Shalom Hebrew School, Leo Baeck Day School the Downtown Jewish Community School, Bet Sefer Solel, Holy Blossom Temple Religious School, Temple Kol Ami, Richmond Hill Hebrew School, Hamilton Hebrew Academy and The Dr. Abraham Shore She'arim Hebrew Day School, as well as three branches of both USDS and Associated Hebrew Schools.

REPORT
ON THE
STATE OF
WORLD
JEWRY
JUNE 3
905-764-1818

Book educates, entertains children about Canada

By PAMELA SWEDKO
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A new book, *Crazy for Canada*, is an entertaining way for kids to learn about the country.

"Its a catalyst for understanding Canada, but its a fun book," says author Noa Schwartz, 25, who teaches language arts and social studies at United Synagogue Day School (USDS).

The concept took shape when publisher Aaron Zevy of Tumbleweed Press approached Schwartz, showed her the drawings of the character, Lester B. Beaver, and asked her to write the text.

With artist Susan Tebbutt's clay pictures and Schwartz's verse, Lester B. Beaver takes young readers across the provinces and teaches them about the country.

The book is filled with "Did you know?" items, such as, "Did you know that the first Stanley Cup was won by the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association in 1893?"

Schwartz believes that when kids listen to rhyme, it is easier to understand and remember information.

Crazy for Canada made its debut recently at a USDS book fair, where Schwartz read from her book. A mini-version of the book is scheduled to be in department stores across the country by Canada Day, as well as a cuddly Lester B.

Her next book called *Old Times*, set to be released in January 1998, is a story in verse about a boy whose grandfather is suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

We Are Steppin' Out For Israel

Walk '97

SUNDAY, MAY 25

UJA FEDERATION

TWO ROUTES

RAIN OR SHINE

1. LEAVING FROM

PROMENADE SHOPPING CENTRE

BATHURST STREET ENTRANCE

CHECK IN FROM 9:45- 10:30 A.M.

2. LEAVING FROM

BATHURST JEWISH CENTRE

4588 BATHURST STREET - LOWER PARKING LOT;

CHECK IN FROM 12:00-12:30 P.M.

TO NORTH YORK CENTENNIAL CENTRE (580 FINCH AVENUE WEST)

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE AT ESTHER SHINER STADIUM AND BRANSON HOSPITAL

Please call the **UJA Walk for Israel Hotline** at **(416) 631-5700** if you have any questions.
Visit the ***Jewish Toronto*** Web Site at **www.feduja.org** for more information.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
Call 905-660-6028

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, May 26, is deadline for June 5 issue, and Monday, June 2, is deadline for June 12. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, May 22

SEPARATION AND DIVORCE

Impact of Separation and Divorce on Children group examines divorce-related stress on children and discusses parents' role in their children's adjustment, sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service, 7-9 p.m., Lipa Green Building. Register. **Elinor Gertner** 905-882-2331.

Friday, May 23

ONEG SHABBAT

Congregation Shir Libeynu Oneg Shabbat service followed by pot-luck supper, for singles, families, 6:45 p.m. Bloor Jewish Community Centre. 537-3435.

Saturday, May 24

MIDNIGHT MERRIMENT

Lag b'Omer Midnight Merriment, Beth Jacob Synagogue, 147 Overbrook Place, **Rabbi Zigmund Wolkenstein**, A Study in the Merit of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai. Azamra Institute presentation. Suggested donation $5. Doors open motzaei Shabbat. 537-2671.

Sunday, May 25

HA! HA! HADASSAH!

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO presents Ha! Ha! Hadassah! comedy night and silent auction for Youth Aliyah, 7 p.m., Comedywood, 800 Steeles Ave. W. $12. 630-8373.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general members breakfast meeting, 9:30 a.m. at Eglinton Avenue premises.

SIDEWALK SALE

Sidewalk sale, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Magen David Congregation, 10 McAllister Rd. **Helen** 635-6343.

Monday, May 26

WOMEN TO WOMEN

Lecture by **Rebbitzen Twersky**, What Do You Have to Show For Your Time on Earth?, 8 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark St. W., Thornhill. $5.

Tuesday, May 27

JUSTICES' SERIES

Beth Tzedec Congregation presents **Justice Kathryn Feldman**, Ontario Court of Justice (General Division). 7:30 p.m.

YAD BEYAD

Adult volunteers needed in Israel this July to teach conversational English to new immigrants. Orientation and training evening, 6 p.m., Lipa Green Building. **Katy** 221-7384 or **Sheila** 445-4554.

Wednesday, May 28

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

Pride of Israel Synagogue Rabbi's adult education classes, The Bible and Our Lives: A Look at Four Stories That Will Forever Change the Way You Think as a Jew, continue with The Reluctant Messenger: If Moses Could Choose to Follow, Can We?, 7:45 p.m.

JACQUES ISRAELIEVITCH

Beth Tzedec Congregation Joseh and Faye Firestone Concert, An Evening with Jacques Israelievitch, concert master, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., 781-3511, ext.10.

MOONLIGHT CRUISE

Aish HaTorah and Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada, moonlight cruise on the Jubilee Queen with dinner and entertainment, 6:30 p.m., departing Queen's Quay Terminal 7 p.m. $20. **Roberta** 512-8005.

CHAT BLUE JAYS NIGHT

CHAT fundraiser, dinner/draw and auction at Metro Hall 5-7 p.m. and then off to the Skydome for the the Toronto Blue Jays/ New York Yankees game. 636-5984, ext. 243.

Thursday, May 29

SINGLE PARENTS

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue Single Parents'

[Cont'd. on page 17]

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher
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Mott's Fruit Snacks
Assorted Varieties
6 x 113 g pkg.
169 each

Beef Pastrami
Perl's
2.15 /100 g
979 lb.

Peaches or Nectarines
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade
First of the Season, 1.96 kg
.89 lb.

Lean Ground Beef
Kosher, Valu Club Pack
8.55 kg
388 lb.

Taste Delight Swiss Rolls
285 g pkg.
149

Perl's Regular Coleslaw
From the Deli
.99 /100 g
179 lb.

Lettuce
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade, Size 24's
.79 ea.

Single Chuck Steaks
Glatt Kosher Beef
9.90 kg
449 lb.

Manischewitz Egg Noodles
340 g pkg.
.99

Black Forest Bar Cakes
From The Bakery
350 g
299

French Bread
From the Bakery
425 g loaf
.99

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, MAY 18 UNTIL SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

(30-50) lecture, Future Jobs in the Future Workplace, **Sandy Vale**, 8 p.m. $5. 633-5500.

MAYOR'S BREAKFAST

Well-known sports and corporate celebrities join **Mayor Barbara Hall** for Leukemia Research Fund of Canada's Toronto Mayor's Breakfast, 8 a.m., Toronto Colony Hotel. Event launches June as Leukemia Awareness Month. 661-9541.

And What Else Is New

JWI CONVENTION '97

Jewish Women International Convention '97, Voices of Women, May 23-25, Embassy Suites, Markham, features keynote speaker **Linda Frum**, author of *Barbara Frum: A Daughter's Memoir*; Woman of Achievement Award recipient **Sally Armstrong**, editor-in-chief of *Homemaker's Magazine*; outstanding speakers, panels and workshops. Register, 630-9313.

JEWISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Lachan, the Toronto Jewish Chamber Choir under direction of **Cantor Benjamin Maissner**, program highlighting Jewish Art Liturgy and Jewish Folksongs, including commissioned work by composer **Yefim Adler**. Sunday, June 8, 8 p.m., Studio Theatre, Ford Centre for the Arts. $15. 872-2222.

HOOPS FOR HOPE

The 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament for Canadian Friends of Jay Feinberg Foundation and Audey Stanleigh Leukemia Research Foundation takes place Sunday, June 1, at Bathurst Jewish Centre. Registration deadline, Sunday, May 25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., BJC or phone 322-2300, ext. 376.

Also June 1 at BJC, a blood donor clinic for persons over 17, noon to 5 p.m.

75 GREAT YEARS

Celebrate Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood's anniversary at a luncheon and musical extravaganza, *75 Great Years*, Thursday, June 5, 12:30 p.m. RSVP 489-5709.

CIGAR NIGHT

Charity cigar night for Laniado Hospital, Sunday, June 1, 8 p.m., Academy of Spherical Arts, 38 Hanna Ave. (King/Spadina), run by Toronto Friends of Laniado Hospital. 256-0488, ext. 239.

MASTER THE MARKET

Mount Sinai Hospital's Master the Market fundraiser, June 2-Aug. 29, offers over $8,000 in prizes. Proceeds go towards Leadership Sinai's $250,000 pledge to fund the hospital's Labor, Delivery and Recovery (LDR) Room. Registration deadline Friday, May 30. Entry forms at Mount Sinai PR Department, Room 341. Information **Ira Grossman** 586-8662.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan egalitarian Shabbat service every Saturday, 10 a.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Room 204. Services are lay led and participatory and include prayers in Hebrew and English, music, discussion of weekly Torah portion. Next service is May 24.

A CORRECTION

In the May 1 and May 8 columns, the address of the Beach Hebrew Institute was incorrect. The correct address is 109 Kenilworth Ave. Incorrect information was submitted.

CHALLENGE OF ANGER

Jewish Family & Child Service group, The Challenge of Anger: For Women, to help women express anger in an effective, assertive and non-aggressive way. Daytime and evening groups begin in June. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

SHAW FESTIVAL

Serve A Child group trip to Shaw Festival to see *Hobson's Choice*, Thursday, June 12, matinee. $44 bus and ticket. **Molly** 781-7077.

BUBIES AND ZAIDIES

Bubies and Zaidies have a great variety entertainment program. Would you like to join the chorus? Rehearsals Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m. . **Fred Field** 633-2877.

HEBREW COURSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute for Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., courses for adults, teenagers and preteens in conversational Hebrew, Tuesday mornings May 27-Aug. 26 (beginners); Wednesday mornings May 28-Aug. 27 (intermediate); Thursday evenings May 29-Aug. 28 (all levels). Beginners' instructor **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

HEBREW ACADEMY

Beth Israel Hebrew Academy Sunday and/or two evening programs in Thornhill at Rosedale Heights Public School and in Richmond Hill for children ages 5 to bar/bat mitzvah. Also, Chug Kesher L'e Israel once a week starting September. **Lillian Benlolo** 905-770-1082.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Intertidal Life by **Audrey Thomas** will be discussed by the Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, Sunday, June 1, 2-4 p.m., North York Community Centre, 505 Lawrence Ave. W. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

THERAPEUTIC TOUCH

Therapeutic Touch practice groups are held at Mount Sinai Hospital the last Wednesday of every month. 586-4800, ext. 6776.

JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family Life groups: Living With Your Teenager begins May 26; Bereavement Group for people who have recently lost a spouse begins June 17 at 10 a.m.; Divorce: Not My Idea for people for whom separation was an unwanted event begins June 17. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting Thursday, May 22, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Loren Zon**, executive director, Health Council, speaks on The Reconstruction of Our Hospitals. Reserve. **Goldie Leibman**, 635-2860.

Four Seasons Connections is an outdoor home assistance program for seniors and adults with disabilities living in the City of North York. A student or adult worker will assist you with window washing, outdoor painting, garden work. Students (12-17 years) charge $7 per hour and adults (18 plus) charge $12 per hour. 447-5074.

Senior Adult Services, Bathurst Jewish Centre and **Bernard Betel Centre** fun-filled week at the Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills July 15-21. Kosher meals, daytime activities, entertainment and more, $869 double. **Teme** 636-1880 or **Barbara** 225-2112.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: *Dames at Sea*, June 1; Kingston cruise July 15; Boat Farm Aug. 5; Ottawa Aug. 17-22. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 29, Consul of Israel **Irit Waidergorn** lectures on 100 Years of Zionism. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Chai Dancers of the Bathurst Jewish Centre, a performing folk-dance group, has openings for new dancers age 55 plus. Some dance experience necessary. **Teme Kernerman** 636-1880, ext. 364.

LZA Seniors Club: *Shirley Valentine* at Stage West June 25 and *Camelot* at Stratford Sept. 3, tickets at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dance June 1; blood pressure clinic Tuesday, June 3, noon to 2 p.m. (members only); *Forever Plaid* June 4; Casino Niagara June 16; Oscardo Factory June 25; Catskills at Raleigh Hotel July 21-27; upcoming trips Washington Holocaust Musem and more, dates to be announced. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Florida trip to Raleigh and Tamarak Hotels, Aug. 1-10. **Helen** 635-6343.

Sunrise Group trip to Casino Niagara, $25. **Esther** 223-9165.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Literary Luncheon Monday, June 2, 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. **Selma Sage** reviews *A Letter from Vienna* by **Claudia Cornwall**, a true story of a child of Holocaust parents who denied their Jewishness. Members $8, non-members $9.50. Book review only $5. Seating for 100. Register at Information Desk.

Osteoporosis Support Group meeting with resource person **Joan Turner** and guest speaker pharmacist **Lisa Ruston** of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Tuesday, May 27, 1:30-3 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. May 28 is a lecture. **Anna**.

Movie *Speechless* Sunday, May 25, 2:15 p.m.

Dance to music by Creative Band Sunday, May 25, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday social May 28 features **Fern Dworkin** with **Shlomo Aviv**, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

The Mystical Meaning of the Hebrew Alphabet with Rabbi Michael Skobac, university chaplain, will explore Gematria and selected passages of the Bible, Wednesdays 8-9:30 p.m., May 28, June 4, 18, 25. Fee $20 four classes, $5 per class.

Summer camps, Half Day Summer Fun (ages 3-5); Summer Fun (ages 4½-10); Summer Fun Plus (9-12 years); Main Space School of Circus Arts (6-10 years); Teen Specialty Camps (pottery, acting, city scapes).

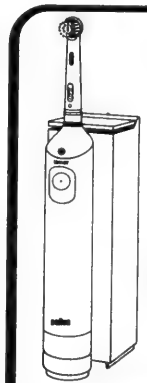
Bloor JCC Seniors day bus trip to Village of St. Jacobs, Farmer's Market, Outlet Mall, Thursday, May 29, 9 a.m. departure. $10. Lunch not included. Reserve by May 22.

ABOUT PEOPLE

Sharon Kroft

HADASSAH PRESIDENT

Sharon Kroft will be installed as Toronto Hadassah-WIZO president June 2 for a two-year term. A member of Gila chapter for the past 20 years, Kroft chaired the Toronto Hadassah-WIZO Youth Aliyah Campaign for two years and in 1994 retired from her professional career (she holds a graduate degree in speech pathology and audiology and ran a private practice and acted as speech consultant for several hospitals and private schools) to chair the annual Hadassah-WIZO Bazaar. Fellow Gila chapter member **Carol Lou Speigel** will serve as the new vice-president.



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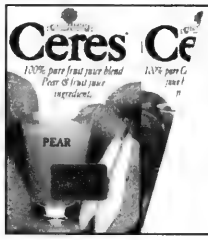

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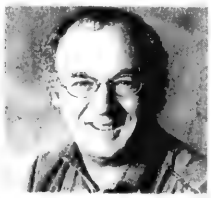


כתב העת הבריטי "אקונומיסט" דירג את ישראל שניה בעולם במצב הבריאות של תושביה. "מצב בריאות" הוא דבר מסובך לחשב, כי צריך לכלול מה קורה לתינוקות, למבוגרים, לזקנים,וכדומה. בדרכה למקום השני גברה ישראל, על פי ה"אקונומיסט" על כל מדינות העולם, מלבד שבדיה. העיתון מציין בפליאה שישראל הצליחה לשמור על מצב בריאות טוב כל -כך למרות מלחמות, הגדלת האוכלוסייה פי 5 מאז הקמתה, ולמרות המשך הטירור, שגורם לאנשים להיות בחרדה מתמדת. מדהים לחשוב על כך שבישראל מעשנים הרבה יותר מאשר במדינות מתוקנות-והדבר אינו משפיע על התמונה הגדולה. לעומת זאת - בישראל אין כמעט בעיות של שתיית אלכוהול, שגורמת לתחלואה ותמותה בממדים ענקיים בארצות המערב. ועכשיו משהו שקשור לתחום שלי: בישראל אחוז אלה שמקבלים חיסונים בילדות הוא מעל לתשעים, דבר שמונע המון צרות. זה קשור לכך שמדובר במדינה קטנה בשטחה ובמערכת טיפות חלב מעולה, אם הייתי צריך לתת צל"ש לדבר אחד שיש בישראל ואין, למשל בקנדה או בארה"ב , אלה הן אחיות טיפת חלב שמלמדות אימהות איך להניק, שמזהות בעיות לפני שהן הופכות לקטסטרופה, והולכות לבתים ומזהות עוני, ABUSE , ומה לא. איך זה שבקנדה אין טיפות חלב ואחיות טיפת חלב! נורא פשוט! רופאי הילדים נוטים לראות את כל הילדים ואפילו נותנים להם חיסונים. זה טימטום אמיתי, כמובן, כי לשום רופא אין את הזמן והסבלנות של אחיות טיפת חלב, ומדוע לעזאזל צריך רופא לתת חיסונים! זהו בזבוז זמן וכסף. נעדות אמריקניות חזרו והתריעו שזה בזבוז כסף וזמן, אך רופאים בארה"ב (וגם כאן) הם קבוצת לחץ רבת כוח. חזרה לישראל: אז אם המצב הבריאותי כל כך טוב, איך זה שכולם מקטרים ושהעיתונים מודיעים כל יום ש"מערכת הבריאות בהתמוטטות"!

יצחק מרדכי - לתת ולא לקחת.:

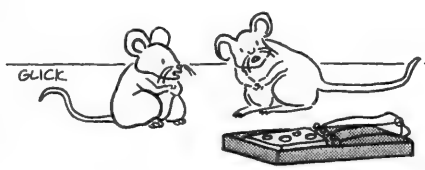
יצחק מרדכי, שר הביטחון הישראלי, הוא קצין עם עבר צבאי מפואר. אבל מה שאני אוהב אצלו זה דווקא שדרך כל המסלול המטאורי שלו הוא נשאר בן אדם - להיות בן אדם זה מצרך די נדיר בהנהגה הישראלית. מרדכי מתגורר בבית גדול במושב - מה הוא עושה בימים אלה? הוא משלים שלוש דירות נפרדות בקומה הראשונה של ביתו כדי לאפשר לשלושה חיילים אתיופיים בודדים לגור שם ללא תשלום. וכששואלים אותו מה המורשת הכי חשובה שקיבל מאביו, הוא אומר רק לתת ולא לקחת.

פיקאסו הצעיר :

במוזיאון האמנות של וושינגטון מוצג פיקאסו הצעיר, שציוריו מגיל שתיים עשרה ועד עשרים וארבע ממלאים שלוש קומות. אלה הן השנים שבהן צייר פיקאסו את העיניים עדיין במקום הנכון וגם שאר חלקי הגוף היו במקומם. אחר-כך, תוך שנתיים שלוש, התחילה התקופה שיצרה את הסגנון הייחודי שלו. מה אני אגיד לכם - בשבילי אחת הבעיות הגדולות בציור מודרני היא להאמין שלצייר יש מושג איך לצייר. אחרי שרואים איך צייר פיקאסו בצורה נפלאה בגיל שתיים עשרה, זה בהחלט נותן לו קרדיט להתחיל אחר כך ליצור סגנון משלו.

הכניסה לכל המוזיאונים הלאומיים בוושינגטון היא חופשית. זה אומר שהממשלה משקיעה מליונים רבים לאפשר לדלי האמצעים להיחשף לאמנות. רק תחשבו כמה עולה לאסוף ולהעביר את כל הציורים של פיקאסו, וכמה עולה הביטוח! בהחלט יפה שהאמריקאנים מאפשרים לאזרחיהם כניסה חופשית למוזיאונים, אבל למה לכל מליוני התיירים! ואם הם מאפשרים לעניים להיכנס למוזיאונים, לא הגיוני יותר לאפשר להם קודם להיכנס לרופא! (בארה"ב יש 40 מליון איש ללא ביטוח רפואי). אבל שישאר בינינו.

SHMOOZIN



"For a plain slice of cheese, it's not worth it. If it was a nice piece of kishke, now that would at least be something to think about."

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Associated students go to work

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Acting captain Larry Crang, of the Vaughan Fire Department, showed Associated students, from left, Oren Cainer, Ashley Levinson and Daniela Boles the ropes on job shadow day. [Frances Kraft photo]

TORONTO — Oren Cainer has always wanted to be a firefighter. The Grade 8 student recently had the opportunity to learn about life at the fire station as part of an innovative day-long job shadow program at Associated Hebrew Schools.

About 150 students, from both Hurwich and Danilack branches, took part in the program instituted eight years ago as part of the Grade 8 curriculum.

School counsellor Gail Freeman designed the program after attending a conference on Career Days. "I wanted to cover more occupations, and I wanted everyone to have fun," she said.

None of the dozen or so students interviewed for this article expressed delight at having the day off school or the opportunity to sleep later than usual. Rather, they all enthused about their day on the job and what they had learned.

Oren Cainer, Ashley Levinson and Daniela Boles toured the Vaughan fire station at 9290 Keele Street in Maple, learned about fire safety, the features of a fire truck and what goes on behind the scenes. They also tried on firefighters' uniforms and found out why they're important.

"We learned a lot, and it was fun," said Oren. The students agreed there's more to a firefighter's job than meets the eye.

Their peers had a wide variety of experiences: a small group tagged along with a cargo pilot; some of the others spent the day with, respectively, a pediatrician, a cardiologist, a radiation oncologist, dentists, journalists, lawyers, a makeup artist and a physiotherapist.

A Royal Ontario Museum curator, a computer systems analyst, a City-TV sportscaster, the company manager for the stage show *Ragtime* and even the mayor of Markham got into the act, sharing their workday with the young teenagers.

All the adults were quizzed in detail about aspects of their jobs such as responsibilities, prerequisites, working conditions and opportunities.

The students were "very well informed and prepared to ask very intelligent questions," said acting captain Larry Crang of the Vaughan fire station.

Students Daniel Markin and Josh Freeman joined *The CJN* for the day, spending part of the time collecting material for this article.

Aaron Goldstein shadowed guitar-maker Sheldon Shwartz. Because he likes guitars, he wanted to see how they were made "first-hand."

Amanda Dunec thinks she might want to become a dentist like her father Arthur. Although she admitted her first choice was to spend the day with the Toronto Blue Jays, she likes going to her dad's office and spent the day shadowing him with classmate Ariella Goodman.

Deborah Velsher's day at the Doncaster Animal Clinic, observing animal examinations and surgery, "sparked an interest in medicine. I like animals, and I thought it would be interesting."

Veterinarian Allen Gignac advised Deborah and others thinking of pursuing a veterinary career to get related experience working with big and small animals and to do "very well" in school.

Jonathan Laski, who joined fellow students Eric Sacks and Gila Ashtor at Gâteaux-Gil Cakes (owned by Gila's mother Alla), said the program was a beneficial experience. "It was fun. We got a better understanding of how things are made at the bakery."

Although he had never considered a career as a pastry chef, his new understanding of what it involves will make it possible for him to make better-informed career decisions in the future, he believes.

The intention of the program is "to expose students to the work world and the world outside of school, to allow students to explore different careers and for students to learn and practice interpersonal skills outside of school," said Jerry Rosenfield, Associated's general studies principal for its junior high division.

The experience didn't end when the day was over. Students were to report back to their class about their experience, with their report counting towards their social studies mark.

With files from Daniel Markin and Josh Freeman, Associated Hebrew Schools.

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Election '97

Drabkin running

[Cont'd. from page 11]

can "face up" to Lucien Bouchard. "Before the referendum, [Charest] gave his heart and soul, while Chrétien sat on the sidelines."

Drabkin is proud to say that he was responsible for drafting the order-in-council that stripped Jacob Luitjens of his citizenship, the first alleged war criminal so dealt with in this country. "My only regret is that in 1993, there were seven or 10 other cases ready for denaturalization."

On this issue, Patry commented that he "fully agrees with what the Jewish community is doing...There's no place in this country for war criminals."

Asked if he felt the government was stalling, Patry replied. "This is not my file...It's coming."

He said he favors the setting up of an international tribunal to hear war crimes cases.

Bloc Québécois candidate Normand D'Ambrosio, 48, an industrial relations consultant, has no illusions about winning. He says he'll be happy if he can maintain the 10,000 votes the BQ garnered in 1993.

A Parti Québécois member since 1969, this is his first run for public office. "But I'm not quitting my day job," he joked. Nor does he make any pretense that he is familiar with the specific concerns of the riding's electorate, which is largely anglophone and ethnic.

"I can understand anglophones' strong emotional bond to Canada, but the ethnic population...like every country, we would like the people to be part of the mainstream," he said. "It's disappointing [that they identify with Canada], but they are free."

D'Ambrosio said he will not make any overtures to the Jewish community. "I don't think I'm that important that they would be concerned with me."

Carrying the New Democratic Party's standard is David Lyons, 24, a student. He hopes he can profit from what he sees as the Liberals' shift to the right and public grumbling over cuts in social spending.

He's making few promises, but one thing he has pledged is to introduce a private member's bill for what he considers a fairer tax system — higher taxes for those with $100,000-plus incomes and for corporations.

A native of Windsor, Lyons moved to Montreal a year ago. He's been active in the gay rights movement and in helping AIDS patients, as well as environmental issues.

Lyons said his first choice is a united Canada, but if Quebecers voted for separation, even by a 51 percent majority, he would support their choice.

Debate in Vancouver

VANCOUVER — More than a dozen Vancouver-area federal election candidates debated social justice, human rights and multiculturalism at a meeting last week at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver.

The discussion was co-sponsored by the United Chinese Community Enrichment Services Society and Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region.

Rotenberg hopes to add federal riding to his resume

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An interesting fight is shaping up in Eglinton- Lawrence riding, where incumbent Liberal Joe Volpe, who has held the seat for nine years, is facing the Conservative standard-bearer, David Rotenberg, a veteran campaigner who has held both municipal and provincial office.

The other two candidates are

Eglinton-Lawrence

Sam Savona of the NDP, a first-time political contender, and Charles van Tuinen, representing the Reform party. He ran for Reform in the 1993 election, receiving 12 percent of the vote.

The riding's new boundaries, which take in a part of the old St. Paul's constituency, have increased the number of Jewish voters (17,000) from 13 to 15 percent of the total.

Cutting a swath across north Toronto from south of the 401 to Eglinton Avenue, west to Keele Street and east to Yonge Street, Eglinton-Lawrence now includes a new area that runs south along Yonge Street from Brooke Avenue.

The riding is the fifth most affluent in Metro with a large number of entrepreneurs and professionals and a significant element of blue collar workers, according to Volpe, 50, who serves as parliamentary secretary to the minister of health.

"The percentage of homeowners is higher in this riding than any other in the city," said Volpe. "At every door, I'm told that jobs and the security of opportunity in the future for themselves and their children is the big issue in this election."

Keeping the country together is the major issue in this election, according to Conservative candidate Rotenberg, 67.

"[Party leader] Jean Charest, through his tremendous contribution in the referendum campaign, has shown that he can relate to the 'soft nationalists' in Quebec," Rotenberg told *The CJN*.

Rotenberg served on Toronto city council for 11 years, was a member of the Ontario legislature for eight years, and briefly, a cabinet minister in a former Conservative government.

Volpe is responsible for legislative issues related to health, both in the House of Commons and in the health committee.

Savona, 35, is hoping to become one of the first physically disabled persons to be elected to the House of Commons. Affected by cerebral palsy since birth, Savona has to do his campaigning in a wheelchair with the assistance of an attendant.

Though his speech is impaired, campaign manager Daniel Coburn says Savona can make himself understood in a one-to-one conversation after a few minutes.

Savona, who works fulltime as an event organizer for the Ontario Disability Network, got a late start in the campaign when the original NDP nominee had to pull out.

The lack of jobs for Canadians and the Liberal government's failure to keep its promises on job creation are the chief issues in this campaign, Savona said.

"This is a tough riding. It's been a Liberal fiefdom for so long," said van Tuinen, 43. A millwright at a large glass manufacturer in Scarborough, van Tuinen is running the campaign from his own home to save money.

Though it will increase the number of voters in the riding, he does not think the boundary change will affect his fortunes.

Confident that his party will do better than the 12 percent vote registered last time, van Tuinen says Canadians are concerned about jobs.

"People are getting nervous about employment. Things look better but it's not being correlated to jobs. I'm meeting a lot of people with young kids at home who are unemployed."

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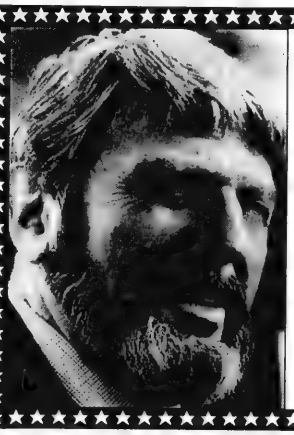
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Election '97

Redistribution expands Eggleton's riding

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Who's going to stop Art Eggleton?

Back in 1993, the popular former mayor of Toronto had to face down a court challenge from disgruntled candidate Peter Li Presti, upset that the Big Red Machine overturned his Liberal nomination when Eggleton was parachuted into the riding.

Eggleton shook off the distraction presented by Li Presti, who went on to run as an independent, and garnered 27,150 votes, far ahead of Li Presti's second place total of 3,918. The Tory and New Democratic candidates captured about 4,200 votes between them.

This time around Eggleton is again facing a trio of challengers in York Centre, which has grown following readjustment to include the area west of Bathurst Street from Steeles south to the Don River (just north of Sheppard). The Tory candidate, Anthony Figliano acknowledges that York Centre is one of the safest Liberal ridings in the country but he hopes his message of hi-tech job training, coupled with maintaining the strength and quality of the health care system and social safety net will win him support among the voters.

Candidates for the other two major parties, Mark Berardo of the NDP and Anthony Ayok-Chol of Reform, are going after Eggleton more aggressively. Berardo has called Eggleton a spokesperson for "the corporate agenda" while Ayok-Chol accuses him of being "unethical" for amassing a huge government pension at a time when the public is being asked to tighten its belts.

As for Eggleton, he's going door to door talking to his constituents, listening to their views and responding to their concerns. There's no one dominant issue the voters are concerned about though he says he's gotten more than his fair share of comments about the GST. "It's a job undone," he admits, but the Liberals are working with the provinces to develop a harmonized formula to allow for easier collection of the tax.

York Centre

Berardo, a 24-year-old communications consultant, is most vocal in attacking Eggleton. He points to the proposed development of the federally-owned Downsview Lands and says that despite Liberal promises, the community's views are being ignored. A community committee has been briefed on the proposals but "there's been no consultation, no real community involvement on an issue that's in their backyard," he said.

Community agenda

The community, Berardo continued, doesn't want to have the lands used for a residential development or for a multi-use sports complex. "That's the agenda of developers, not the agenda of the community," he said.

Reform candidate Ayok-Chol, 42, is highly critical of the government for "sitting on the fence" in responding to Quebec over separatist issues.

A former professor of law at the University of Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania, Ayok-Chol is obtaining a Doctor of Laws degree at Osgoode Hall. He believes that if concepts like distinct society are accepted, "you don't know where it's going to end...It's demographically a mixed group in Quebec."

Ayok-Chol deflected suggestions that Reform had a reputation for intolerance of minorities, saying it was the Liberal government that turned away Jewish refugees fleeing the Nazis and it is the current Liberal who are tightening immigration laws to make it easier to deport people for simple offenses like traffic tickets while failing to deport Nazi war criminals.

Figliano, who manages a company that does sales and research, said giving the economy "room to breath" is a key issue in York Centre. People must also receive the kind of hi-tech training that is increasingly in demand to help them escape the plight of underemployment.

Eggleton, meanwhile, seems to be running a low-key campaign, "responding to what people are raising as their concerns for York Centre." He denies suggestions the Downsview Lands projects would not be good for the riding. The proposed development would created 11,500 permanent jobs over 10 years and 15,000 during the construction phase while adding to the quality of life in the riding, he said.

Though he's not touting it, Eggleton said his work in facilitating completion of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement has been recognized by some voters during the campaign.

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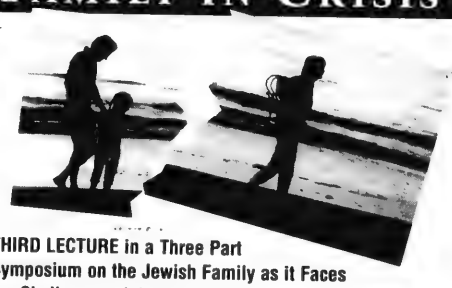

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Rabbi Dratch is Rabbi at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

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Election '97

Economy on the minds of riding candidates

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In the riding of Willowdale, Liberal incumbent Jim Peterson faces a challenge from veteran politician Progressive Conservative (PC) candidate Norm Gardner, New Democratic Party (NDP) newcomer Mikael Swayze and Reform's Peter Cobbold. Initially a candidate in 1993, Cobbold contested Don Valley North, now absorbed through redistribution.

Willowdale

A realignment of boundaries in Willowdale has reduced the Jewish population from about 20,000 to 14,000.

Peterson, a lawyer who has served three terms as Willowdale's MP, sees the economy as the key election issue. "There are too many unemployed or underemployed," he says.

While declaring that the Liberal government is beating deficit reduction targets, he concedes that there is more to be done. "Government doesn't create jobs," he emphasizes. "The private sector does." Helping to reduce interest rates and keeping inflation low is creating the climate for business investment and more and better jobs, he says. His party, he adds, is making progress.

He is hearing that people are wary about the impact of the provincially-driven megacity.

Businessman Norm Gardner, Metro councillor for North York Centre and a member of the Metro Police Services Board, zeroes in on "the large number of jobless, the uncertainty of those who are working, escalating bankruptcies."

Gardner, who tallies a long list of Jewish communal activities, sees today's PCs as a party with new ideas coming from the Canadian people, not backroom gurus.

He would push for lower taxes to give more discretionary income. "That would funnel more into the economy and create jobs."

Security and safety is an issue which comes up in his door-to-door canvassing. Gardner would make the Young Offenders Act more stringent, especially for repeat and violent offenders, and rescind the Faint Hope Clause, which grants the possibility of early parole to serious offenders.

Jobs are a priority for Mikael Swayze, a first time contender who has worked in previous NDP campaigns and is completing his PhD in political science.

"Our banks, the most profitable corporations in Canadian history," he maintains, "use tax credits for research into automation allowing them to fire tellers and close branches. When you introduce automation, you don't have to fire people by the thousands."

He attacks "defeatist" Liberal and Tory spending cut proposals. His party would increase the Canada Pension Plan where needed and reverse Unemployment Insurance cuts.

"You have to spend money to make money. It works in the Scandinavian countries."

Cobbold is "disappointed" by media accounts he feels put a racist spin on some "unfortunate" Reform comments.

"I know we are not a racist party," he says, observing that he is a member of a North York Committee on Community, Race and Ethnic Relations.

Cobbold retired from business management in 1995 to increase his involvement in the community and the Reform party. He wants to represent all Canadians. "Joblessness doesn't recognize color, race or creed."

A determined advocate of Reform's "fresh start" platform, he would reduce the size of government, saving $15 billion annually, he says and "create real jobs."

Families would take precedence with child care tax deductions of up to $5,000 per child for parents, including those who care for their youngsters at home.

In his Willowdale rounds, he is encountering too many jobless under 30 and over 50, he says.

Reform will balance the budget by March 31, 1999, he says. By the year 2000, the average family would receive $2,000 in tax relief.

Also running are Don Murray for the Natural Law Party, and Paul Coulbeck for the Canadian Action Party.

More election news
in next week's issue

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June 16, Afternoon	Integrating a Sense of one's Teaching through Narrative	Prof. A. Pomson	C
June 17, Morning	Integrative Learning, Part One: Classroom design and atmosphere; students' physical and emotional safety; use of music for relaxation and concentration	Baruch Rand	O
June 17, Afternoon	Work in small and mixed level skill groups	Dori Levine	C
June 18, Morning	Integrative Learning, Part Two: Guided and Unguided Visualization for Math, Spelling and Hebrew	Baruch Rand	O
June 18, Afternoon	Cognitive development of children as applied to General and Jewish Studies	Prof. A. Pomson	O
June 19, Morning	Multiple Intelligences, from Theory to Practice	Gail Baker	O
June 19, Afternoon	Multiple Intelligences, Curricular and Classroom Applications	Gail Baker	C
June 23, Morning	Integrated Arts Program, practical applications to General and Judaic Studies	Judith Leitner	O
June 23, Afternoon	Multiple Intelligences and Integrative Learning: Applications to the teaching of Chumash and other Judaic texts	Rachael Turkienicz	O
June 24, Morning	Integrated Arts Program: Sequencing and Development of Abstract Thinking	Judith Leitner	O
June 24, Afternoon	Moral and Ethical Teachings, through songs, movement and other kinesthetic activities	Rachael Turkienicz	O
June 25, Morning	Accelerated Learning: Brain Research and Learning; The Lozanov Method of Teaching Languages; Short Term and Long Term Memory Development	Baruch Rand	O
June 25, Afternoon	Teaching of Hebrew: Objectives and Sequence of Skills	Prof. A. Shulman	C
June 26, Morning	The Integrated Teacher: a religious and intellectual model for the North-American Jewish student	Prof. M. Lockshin	O
June 26, Afternoon	An Integrated Day in an Integrated School: Scheduling and Staffing issues	Gail Baker/B. Rand	C

All Open classes (O) are open to parents and teachers. Closed Classes (C) are for teachers only and the number of participants in them is limited.

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Morning sessions: 10 a.m. to 12 noon Afternoon sessions: 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Pre-registration required: call the Toronto Heschel School, at 635-1876 or York University, 736-5823

Yom Hazikaron/Yom Ha'atzmaut

Message of Jewish unity permeates assembly

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A Yom Hazikaron assembly at the Beth Tikvah Synagogue honored the memory of soldiers killed in the establishment and defence of Israel.

The capacity audience sat silently as haunting prayers, music, poetry, readings and speeches in Hebrew sprinkled with English, expressed sorrow at the loss of some of Israel's finest men and women.

Sponsored by the consulate general of Israel in Toronto, B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, Canadian Zionist Federation and UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, the message of Jewish unity permeated the program.

Tzippi Erez lit a memorial candle at the Yom Hazikaron assembly. [Cynthia Gasner photo]

Consul general Jehudi Kinar spoke of the soldiers who fell "in order that we and our children may live in a free country — a safe haven for the Jewish people in Israel.

"It is the shared grief expressed here today which demonstrates the unity of the Jewish people," he said.

He noted the irony of the event's being held on Mother's Day. In Israel, he said, many mothers have only memories.

"Let's hope that the 18,530 killed while serving the State of Israel will be the last victims in our efforts to obtain an everlasting peace."

The music that interspersed the ceremony included, *Cry To You, They Shall Beat Their Swords Into Plowshares, There are Flowers* and *Ha'Kotel*. Cantor Efraim Sapir chanted K'El Malch Rachamin and Kaddish was recited by Shimon Inbar.

Speaking in Hebrew and English, Rabbi Wayne Allen prayed that the memory of the fallen will "continue to inspire us to perform the deeds that will allow us to celebrate our freedom and independence in peace and tranquillity."

A memorial candle was lit by Tzippi Erez, whose father, Baruch Osherevitz, died in the War of Independence, whose uncle, Meir Ari, was killed in 1973, and whose husband, Lt. Colonel Oded Erez, died in 1975 during an army training maneuver.

"We need to remember that we have something that means more than anything else, at least to me, we have an independent state," she told *The CJN*.

Shula Ofir, the Habonim Dror and Na'amat shlichah, served as master of ceremonies.

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Beth Tzedec Congregation is seeking a Supervisor/Teacher with several years experience to implement their approved Pre-School Program ages 2-1/2 to 4 years of age, commencing September 1997. Judaic experience following the principles of the Conservative movement essential.

Reply in writing by June 2, 1997 to the : Executive Director, Beth Tzedec Congregation, 1700 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5P 3K3. We appreciate all those who apply but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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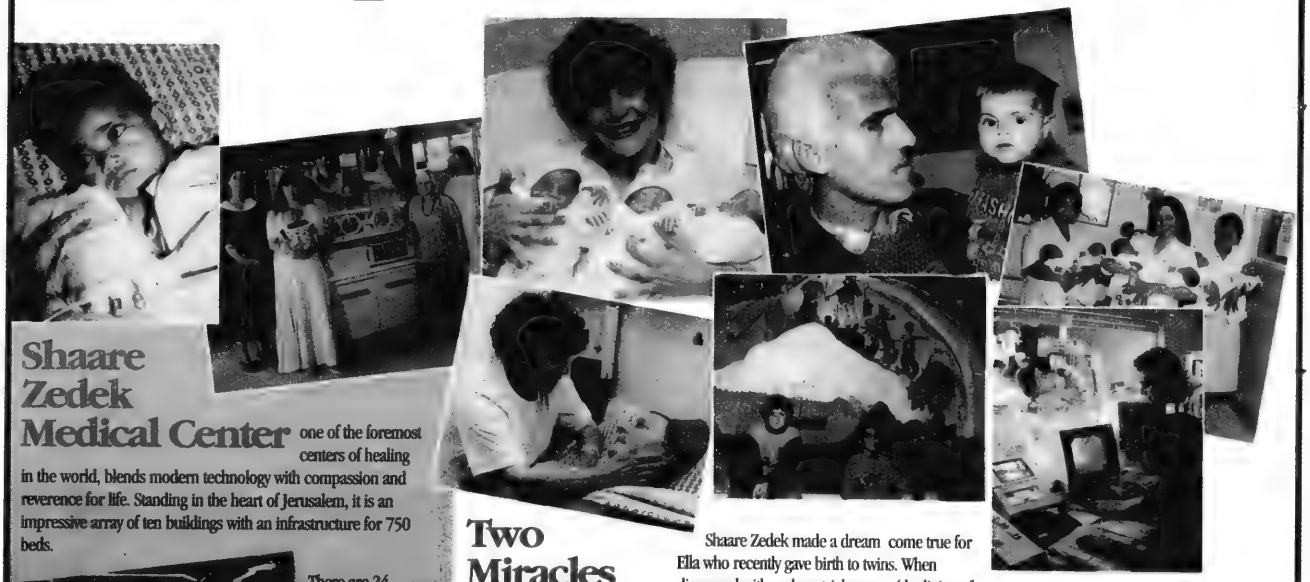
A Hospital With A Heart



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Abed Has His Arm Again

As ambulance sirens shrieked, one-year-old Abed was rushed to Shaare Zedek Medical Center, his right arm severed just below his shoulder. For ten precious hours, the limb had been without blood supply.

Abed's parents had placed him in an orange crate while picking citrus fruit - they wanted to keep him out of harm's way! A tractor ran over him and he was rushed to Shaare Zedek for emergency surgery.

A delicate procedure was carried out by microsurgeon, Dr. Binyamina Rosenberg who used a special surgical microscope.

Abed has already regained feeling in his arm and will soon be able to move it again. His parents offer constant thanks to Shaare Zedek for saving their young son from a life of hardship and discomfort.

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This type of cancer is normally treated by removing the uterus. As Ella had no children and was only 28 years old, a more conservative course of action was devised

Ella's cancer was removed with her uterus intact. The first miracle took place when doctors were positive that she was completely cured. The next good news - she was now able to consider pregnancy. After fertility treatments, Ella did, indeed, become pregnant and gave birth to two healthy babies.

Gali is Growing

"I work as an ambulance driver, and have contact with many hospitals. The level of care my grandson received at Shaare Zedek is extraordinary!"

These words of praise came from Joe, whose grandson, Gali, was recently treated at Shaare Zedek. Born eleven months ago with severe jaundice which hindered his development, the child was extremely malnourished and apathetic. He was referred to Shaare Zedek when he was nine months old -- very small for his age and hardly crawling.

Gali was diagnosed with neonatal sclerosing cholangitis - a progressive disorder of the intestines. After 16 days of treatment, he was sent home and will need ongoing treatments for his liver.

Gali comes to Shaare Zedek with his grandfather and feels at home in the Pediatric Day Center, quickly crawling over to greet his doctor. Joe is thrilled with Gali's progress, saying, *"We praise God for leading us to Shaare Zedek."*

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Service marked by low-key tone

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A low-key, almost informal tone marked this year's religious Zionist observance of Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut, held at Shaarei Shomayim congregation.

Nearly 1,000 people attended the event, sponsored by Bnei Akiva of Toronto, Emunah Women of Toronto, and Mizrachi Organization of Canada.

Rabbi Menachem Gopin, executive director of Mizrachi and co-chair of the evening along with Marsha Kapustin, compared the program's format to what happens when a death occurs.

"At the moment of death, all looks bleak. All we can and should do is to accept G-d's inscrutable will. It is only after a while that we can appreciate what [the person who has died has given them] and thank G-d for those gifts."

Similarly, he said, while at Yom Hazikaron we mourn for soldiers killed defending Israel and for innocent people killed by terrorists. "We praise them for giving us a morasha — a legacy of which to be proud."

After a moment of silence, Cantor Shlomo Sufrin sang the K'El Maleh Rachamim, and Rabbi Roni Barnea lit a memorial candle.

Rabbi Mark Dratch, spiritual leader of the host congregation, said that only those who appreciate the messianic potential of modern events [such as the establishment of the state of Israel] is worthy of redemption.

"There are two types of redemption," the rabbi said, "the redemption of the morning, when we can clearly see G-d's hand, and another one, of the night, when there are losses and death despite successes and victories."

When Jews accept the second kind, "it shows a partnership with G-d — a faith that He can be depended upon even in the night."

He urged the participants to have "more faith, more dedication, more insight. We know that our support of the Zionist state requires hard work, financial support and our prayers. And while we rejoice, and pray, we will have even more reason to rejoice and to pray."

A group from Bnei Akiva Youth gave a brief history of Zionism, including a description of the lesser known figures of Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Kalischer, who wrote and advocated on behalf of settlement in Israel in the 19th century; Rabbi Avraham Yitzchak Hacohen Kook, the first Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel; and Rabbi Meir Bar-Ian, who coined the phrase which has become the philosophy of the religious Zionist movement — *Eretz Yisroel, L'Am Yisroel al pi Torat Yisroel*: the land of Israel for the people of Israel according to the Torah of Israel."

The Bnei Akiva Choir, under the direction of Dr. Harvey Erlich, sang a selection of Hebrew songs, as did Cantor Sufrin. The Zemer Orchestra also took part.

Argentinian singer headlines Yom Ha'atzmaut festivities

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Up to 200 people enjoyed the Canadian debut of Alejandra Czarny, the popular singer from Buenos Aires, at the Winnipeg Jewish community's Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations held recently at Rosh Pina Synagogue.

She performed a series of songs in Yiddish, Hebrew and Ladino and led the audience in a sing-along of favorite Hebrew and Yiddish numbers.

Czarny, who is is fluent in five languages, grew up listening to Yiddish music and lullabies sung to her by her Polish-born father. (Her mother is Argentinian-born.) She has been performing for 10 years and recently released her first CD in Spanish.

Within the last year, several Argentinian families have settled in Winnipeg and Larry Hurtig, president of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC), welcomed them. He congratulated the WJCC on its outreach campaign to the Buenos Aires Jewish community (Hurtig was an integral part of that outreach) and noted that two more families have arrived within the past two weeks.

Another highlight of the evening was a new poem by Noach Witman, Winnipeg's premier Yiddishist, dedicated to Israel on the country's 49th birthday.

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Yom Hazikaron / Yom Ha'atzmaut

Dancing in the aisles

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — There was dancing in the aisles of the sanctuary of Beth Tzedec Congregation at a Yom Ha'atzmaut concert attended by some 1,000 people.

The concert, which featured Metzitzim Mehaetzba, an Israeli teen song and dance troupe from the Northern Galilee, capped an evening of festivities hosted by Beth Tzedec and sponsored by 25 Jewish groups.

The social hall, festooned with white and blue balloons and Israeli flags, provided entertainment for all three generations of community members who came to celebrate Israel's independence.

Children were entertained by DooDoo the Clown, while their parents and grandparents danced and sang along to Israeli music played by Yitzhak Argaman and his band.

There was an Israeli trade fair and art show and plenty of nosh-erei. People munched on falafel, hummus and pita bread and there was cotton candy for the young and young at heart.

While the mood was festive, the evening began on a note of sadness, as people remembered the fallen Jewish soldiers who gave their lives for the creation and survival of the state of Israel. Their memory was honored at a Yom Hazikaron service led by rabbis Baruch Frydman-Kohl and Roy Tanenbaum, just before the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations.

Sandra Brown, president of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, said she was thrilled to see so many different groups in the community come together for both the remembrance service and subsequent the celebration.

Israeli consul general Jehudi Kinar general, said it is difficult "to bridge Yom Ha'atzmaut and Yom Hazikaron."

To date 18,538 people "have been killed for the sake of having our own country," he said.

He included soldiers who have been victims of terror in the number of casualties, noting that this year alone 328 people "were killed for our freedom."

The concert, the highlight of the evening's events, also included performances by the United Synagogue Day School (USDS) Choir and the children's choir of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation.

The sponsors of the evening included B'nai Brith Canada, Beth Tzedec's men's club and sisterhood; Canadian Jewish Congress, Camp Ramah, Canadian Foundation for Masorti Judaism, Jewish Theological Society of Canada, the Lodzer Holocaust Centre, Canadian Zionist Federation, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, Mercaz-Canada, State of Israel Bonds, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, United Synagogue Youth, USDS, the Women's League for Conservative Judaism, as well as eight Conservative congregations: Adath Israel, Beit Rayim, Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am, Beth Emeth-Bais Yehuda, Beth Tzedec, Beth Radom, Beth Tikvah and Shaar Shalom.

Rabin honored in songs

By DAVID LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — The Jewish community here celebrated Israel's 49th birthday with Metzitzim Mehaetzba, an Israeli singing troupe whose members hail from the Upper Galilee in northern Israel.

Fresh from a performance in Toronto as part of their first Canadian tour, the group performed in Vancouver in conjunction with Partnership 2000, a program that is trying to create a living bridge between Israel and Jewish communities in the Diaspora.

The concert was also sponsored by the Canadian Zionist Federation, the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, the JCC and the Israeli Folk Dance Society.

The group, whose name means Peeping Fingers (on the map, the region of Israel where they come from resembles a finger), regaled the near-capacity audience at the Norman Rothstein Theatre with a number of up-tempo contemporary Israeli songs that had people singing and clapping along.

The troupe also performed a moving tribute to the late Yitzhak Rabin, as well as a medley of songs about Jerusalem.

They concluded with a medley of chassidic songs and a spirited version of *Hava Nagila*. The group then led the appreciative audience into the auditorium of the JCC for some Israeli folkdancing to help kick off the second part of Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations.

Metzitzim Mehaetzba are also scheduled to appear in Denver and San Francisco.

After the concert, a member of the troupe told *The CJN* that although Vancouver is a beautiful city, being in the Diaspora "gives us a strong sense of where we belong."

Israel's birthday celebrations continued the next day with a lecture by renowned Hebrew University professor Shlomo Avineri. And on June 1, the Jewish community will honor the reunification of the city of Jerusalem with its 11th annual Walk With Israel.

Teen troupe delivers message for peace

TORONTO — The spirited teens who make up the Israeli singing group Metzitzim Mehaetzba delivered on a promise to get their audience up and dancing.

Metzitzim Mehaetzba, the featured performers at a Yom Ha'atzmaut concert held at Beth Tzedec Congregation, dazzled the audience of 1,000 with both new and familiar Israeli tunes.

They delivered a strong message for peace, performing such songs as John Lennon's *Give Peace a Chance; Imagine*, a song written in memory of Yitzhak Rabin; and *Shir Ha Shalom*, the song Rabin sang at the peace rally before his assassination in 1995.

Ofer Gavish, the group's musical director, said the performance in Toronto was a dream come true. "My dream was to come back to Toronto," the city, which had been his home for two years when he was an aliyah shaliach from 1991 to 1993, before returning to Kibbutz Yiftah.

Being part of the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations made his return to Toronto extra-special, Gavish said, explaining that the group made a special stop here for the event, en route to Vancouver and Colorado.

All 11 members of the troupe of four boys and seven girls aged 17 to 19 come from the kibbutzim and villages in the vicinity of Kiryat Shmonah in the Northern Galilee. The Upper Galilee Regional Council sponsors the troupe, to promote social links among youth in the area.

— B.S.

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Campus-related awards given

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto's second annual awards night, held recently at a downtown campus café, was a dual celebration of student volunteerism and community involvement on local campuses.

JCS, the two-year-old umbrella organization for Toronto Jewish campus groups, is one of the priorities of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, said Sandy Brown, president of the latter organization.

JCS director Zac Kaye, who has headed the group since its inception, said the federation "took a courageous decision" and showed tremendous vision in creating a central agency. Toronto has one of the largest campus communities in North America, he noted.

It's also the worst funded, said Arthur Kruger, president of JCS, who nonetheless lauded the campus community as one of the most active ones in North America.

Late-day sunshine filled Sylvester's Loft Café at the University of Toronto (U of T) as 31 campus partner agencies representing a broad spectrum of the community were recognized for their contribution to campus life.

For U of T student Brandon Budd, becoming involved in Koach, a campus offshoot of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, opened new avenues. He and Koach staffer Adam Silver spoke briefly as part of the program.

Stan Till of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods, which supports Reform on Campus, presented JCS with a cheque to fund campus programming.

Study Israel, a consortium formed by Canadian representatives of Israeli universities, provides one of several Israel connections to the campus, "an important dimension," noted Kaye. Representative Mark Rubinstein of Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University commented on the mutual benefit of the partnership.

From left, Naomi Singer, Ida Jacobovici, Sara Jacobovici and Heidi Chaim are all smiles at Jewish Campus Services' awards night. The two students won the Jacobovici Family Award for Arts and Culture. [Frances Kraft photo]

Other partner agencies — too numerous to list — include United Jewish Appeal on Campus, Jewish National Fund on Campus, Jewish Vocational Services, Aish Hatorah, the Bernard Betel Centre, Friends of Yiddish, the Canadian Zionist Federation and the Israel Experience Centre.

The second segment of the evening, co-hosted by students Michal Kaye and Alicia Richler, honored individual students for outstanding contributions to campus life:

• Eyal Lewin, treasurer of Ryerson Hillel, received the Schwartz Levitsky Feldman Chai award for special involvement in Jewish campus life.

• York University students Naomi Singer and Heidi Chaim received the Jacobovici Family award for arts and culture. They organized a talent show earlier this year, raising $300 for Jewish Family & Child Service to send underprivileged children to summer camp.

• Miriam Gaum, who is graduating from Seneca College, received *The Canadian Jewish News* award for Jewish Campus Communications. Gaum, who was in the computer graphics imagery program, did the layout and graphic design for the Jewish student publication *Images*.

• Twin sisters Fran and Teri Rothenberg, of U of T and York respectively, each won a UJA Federation award, Fran for enhancing Jewish identity and Teri for chesed and social justice.

• Tilly Shames, a York University student involved in environmental issues, was presented with the Gropper Family award for outstanding leadership.

• Miriam Birnbaum, a York student, was given the Sidney Mendick memorial award celebrating the pluralism and diversity of Jewish life on Campus. The award was established in memory of Kaye's late uncle.

Four students were also honored by their peers for special contributions on their individual campuses: Ilana Segal, next year's co-president at Ryerson Hillel; Tammy Nisinov, outgoing president, Seneca Hillel; Ilan Gordon, who instituted programs designed to bring Israeli and Canadian students together at York; and Betina Kuzmarov, social action co-chair at University of Toronto's Jewish Student Union.

Two U of T students received endowed scholarships: Andrea Unikowsky was awarded the Emil Fackenheim scholarship; Ira Markus, the Max Rosen scholarship. Both students plan to study in Israel next year.

Tammy Nisinov was also recognized by Seneca College's student government for her work with Hillel. *See story in next week's paper.*

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From coast to coast

Human rights hearing opens for Doug Collins

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — The first day of the human rights hearing for *North Shore News* columnist Doug Collins began May 12, just as the city's Jewish community was gearing up for its annual Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations.

Collins appeared before the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal over a complaint filed by Michael Elterman, chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress' (CJC), Pacific region, three years ago.

The complaint was in response to a 1994 column Collins wrote for the *North Shore News*, which has a circulation of about 60,000. Entitled *Hollywood Propaganda*, the column, among other things, contended that the movie *Schindler's List* was propaganda and said the Holocaust was "the most effective propaganda exercise ever."

Doug Collins

Collins, long a source of controversy here, dubbed the film "Swindler's List," and suggested Hollywood fixates on the Holocaust because "the Jewish influence is the most powerful in Hollywood."

He also said the figure of six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust is "nonsense," saying he believes the figure to be "hundreds of thousands."

CJC's complaint is under Section 2 of the B.C. Human Rights Code, which prohibits the public expression of hate messages that are likely to expose a person, group or class to hatred or contempt.

Collins is the first person accused by the B.C. Human Rights Council of contravening the province's 1993 Human Rights Act.

If convicted by the tribunal, Collins faces a fine.

At the opening day of the hearing, which garnered national attention, Gregory Walsh of CJC contended that Collins uses his column to denounce Jews, and that his views "are likely to expose Jews to hatred because of their religion."

Walsh added that a reader of Collin's column "can only come to the conclusion that Jews are evil."

CJC is seeking a "cease and desist order" and would like to see Collins and the *North Shore News* "refrain from publishing articles that would expose Jews to hatred because of their race."

CJC says the freedom of speech and expression arguments used by Collins and the *North Shore News* amount to allowing people to be exposed to hatred.

A legal defence fund for Collins has reportedly raised over $65,000.

Four British Columbia organizations have been granted intervenor status and are slated to appear before the tribunal: the B.C. Press Council, the B. C. Civil Liberties Association, the B.C. Human Rights Coalition and the Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver.

Other organizations present at the hearing include the B.C. Human Rights Commission and the attorney general's office of British Columbia. The hearing continues until June 13.

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From coast to coast

Survivors share memories with high school students

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — Classrooms where young people listen to Holocaust survivors recount some of the most intimate and painful memories of their lives have become fairly common in Hamilton during the Student Symposium on the Holocaust, sponsored by the Jewish Federation's Holocaust Education Committee.

But Bev Lasky, a member of Hamilton's Holocaust Remembrance Committee, says the awareness that these encounters will become less frequent as survivors age creates a sense of urgency.

The symposium, which is completing its fourth year, was held on May 7 at McMaster University. Each year, a keynote address is presented to the entire group of 350 to 500 students, followed by the sharing of personal stories by Holocaust survivors.

Every year since the program's inception, the word of its impact has spread and this year attendance levels broke all previous records. The idea of a city-wide symposium for high school students originated with Lasky, who had heard about a similar format in Kitchener, where Holocaust survivors were meeting with groups of students and sharing their stories.

Distressed by the rise of Holocaust revisionism, Lasky was convinced that education was the single most effective way to combat ignorance about the Holocaust in the community at large.

This year, students from various high schools representing the city's three boards spent the first part of the morning listening to a keynote address by Casey Korstantje and Andrew Dreschel, investigative reporters for the *Hamilton Spectator* who wrote a series of articles last year about the activities of a Hamilton-based branch of the Iron Guard, a Romanian fascist group.

The reporters' message to the students was clear: Racism is not just something that happened somewhere else a long time ago. It exists in their own backyard and the quality of their society rests on their finding the courage to fight it in all of its forms whenever it arises.

Afterwards students broke off into small groups and spent an hour with survivors. Frank Junger, a child survivor of Auschwitz, spoke about how the life of a 12-year-old Jewish boy living in a quiet Transylvanian village was insidiously transformed through the degradation of ghettoization, the horrors of starvation and thirst, the agony of transports and the ultimate hell of daily life at Auschwitz. Students sat in respectful silence, listening intently as one horrific event after another was recalled.

Lasky never fails to feel a sense of satisfaction at the completion of a program.

"If these students will one day tell their grandchildren that the Holocaust really happened because they heard, touched and met someone who lived through it, then we've accomplished our goal."

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Jews may seek asylum here: Court

[cont'd. from page 1]

a requirement for immigration. In this case, the applicant clearly stated that she does not want to go to Israel."

McKeown said the IRB's finding was "patently unreasonable," and noted it is "important that potential nationality is not confused with actual nationality."

The ruling is two-pronged: it sets aside the IRB decision and answers a question put before it by Katkova's lawyer, Harvey Savage: "By virtue of Israel's Law of Return, should Israel be considered as a country of reference for all Jewish claimants who apply in Canada for Convention refugee status?"

McKeown's response stands in polar contrast to a 1995 Federal Court ruling that upheld the IRB's denial of refugee status because the claimant was Jewish, and thus eligible for immediate Israeli citizenship.

The judgment by Justice Marcel Joyal stated that Antonina Grygorian, who fled anti-Semitic persecution in Azerbaijan, had "ready and automatic right to another country's nationality," and that Canada's protection "is not a quick fix."

The decision outraged Jewish communal officials, who feared it would be used to justify a modern-day closed-door Canadian refugee policy aimed specifically at Jews.

It also divided the IRB on how to deal with Jewish refugee claimants. Over the past two years, there have been many board rulings granting refugee status to Jewish claimants. But some panels, as community officials had feared, still rely on the Grygorian case. In the Katkova case, panel members said they were bound by the precedent set in the Grygorian ruling.

For Jewish refugee advocates, perhaps the most reassuring aspect of McKeown's ruling rests in a single sentence: "In my view, there is nothing binding about [the Grygorian decision]."

Perry Romberg, national director of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS), called the ruling "good news. It puts a hechsher (stamp of approval) on what we've been saying: that Jews have a right to safe haven, other than Israel."

According to Savage, the decision goes further than any other in interpreting the Law of Return as it applies to refugee claims in Canada.

Savage feels McKeown's ruling "replaces" the findings in the Grygorian case, and he hopes that IRB panel members will find it "more compelling."

On the other hand, he cautioned, some IRB panels may still prefer to rely on the earlier decision.

Privately, some immigration lawyers are saying that the IRB must issue official guidelines to its 170 members on how to deal with demands for refugee status from Jewish claimants.

A year ago, John Frecker, deputy chair of the IRB, told *The CJN* the board only issues guidelines when courts arrive at divergent opinions on the same issue.

Frecker was out of the country and unavailable for comment last week.

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) last week called on the IRB to issue guidelines in order to clarify the matter, and urged the federal government not to appeal the Katkova decision to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Congress president Goldie Hershon praised the ruling as "the correct" interpretation of the Law of Return.

CJC says it will raise the issue with the minister of immigration following the federal election.

Anti-racists rally

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — An anti-racist noon-hour rally was held in Winnipeg May 12 outside the Manitoba Law Courts building to demand harsher and faster punishment for hate crimes.

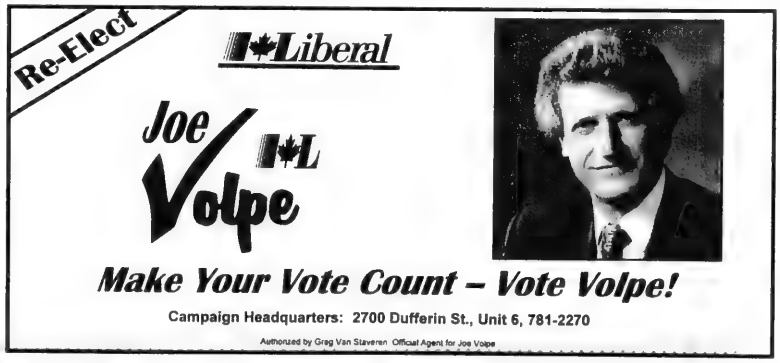
The rally was held to coincide with the bail hearing for one of four alleged white supremacists charged in the beating death of a Winnipeg man in 1991. Matt McKay, James Lisik, Robert Welsh and Garry Kuffner are charged with the beating death of Gordon Kuhtey, who was killed because he was walking alone in an area known to be frequented by homosexual men.

The rally, organized by the Western Anti-Racist Network, was originally intended to coincide with the start of the trial of the four accused. But the case was put over to Aug. 11.

About 100 people from different anti-racist and community groups joined in the protest, which was addressed by Winnipeg city councillor Glen Murray. The group carried placards, shouted anti-racist slogans and left behind some graffiti on a scales of justice statue.

BENQUESUS ELECTED

Jacques Benquesus of Toronto was elected president of the first International Board of Governors of the World Sephardic Educational Centre, Jerusalem (WSEC) at a recent meeting in Miami Beach. Benquesus is president of Or Haemet Sephardic School in Toronto and a leader in the city's Sephardic community. Elected secretary of the board was Sam Serruya, also of Toronto. Recently, a WSEC young adult chapter was established in Toronto, in addition to the existing one in Montreal. With chapters in 12 countries, the WSEC has sent over 15,000 Jewish youth to its Jerusalem centre since its founding 18 years ago. The organization will lead a campaign to expand its outreach programs in local communities and help purchase three buildings in Jerusalem for its programs.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Labor party endorses Palestinian statehood

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel's Labor party has decided to formally endorse the Palestinians' right to a state with limited sovereignty.

Labor officials agreed to add the measure to their platform during a party recent convention in Tel Aviv.

The decision came a year after the Labor party decided to drop opposition to a Palestinian state from its platform.

The recognition came with the limitation that the Palestinians could not establish an army or form military alliances with other countries. In addition, the measure said the Palestinians must give Israel's air force access to airspace over the self-rule areas.

In response, the Likud party issued a statement saying the move proved that Labor would succumb to Arab pressures in forthcoming negotiations on final-status issues, which is slated to include the question of Palestinian sovereignty.

The vote on the party platform, which will serve as the basis for Labor positions in the national elections scheduled for the year 2000, came a day after a stormy political showdown within the party.

Knesset member Ehud Barak, the leading contender for the party leadership in next month's primaries, at first objected to the explicit reference in the measure to a Palestinian state.

But the hawkish former Israel Defence Force chief of staff, apparently softened by a victory over outgoing party chair Shimon Peres, ultimately withdrew his objections.

At its opening session, the 3,500 Labor delegates overwhelmingly heeded Barak's call and voted to postpone until September a discussion of whether to appoint Peres to the new position of party president.

Barak, who opposed the proposal, said that bestowing the title on Peres would lead to divisions in the party and create confusion about who was really in charge.

The vote was viewed as a stinging defeat for Peres, who met with close colleagues to assess its aftermath.

He said he had no intention of quitting the Labor party or of taking his supporters to join a national unity government with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Peres added that he would cooperate with the winner of the June primaries, and that he planned to continue pursuing peace with the Palestinians.

Ne'eman acquitted

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A Tel Aviv court has acquitted former Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman of charges of perjury and obstruction of justice.

The court decision could pave the way for Ne'eman to return to that post. It also gave Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a way to remove current justice minister, Tzachi Hanegbi, who has been dogged by allegations of influence peddling in the appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general.

Ne'eman stepped down, when then-Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair launched a criminal investigation into allegations that he had obstructed court proceedings relating to the trial of Shas Knesset member Aryeh Deri.

The judges cleared Ne'eman, however, and said that inaccurate information he had conveyed in a court affidavit related to the Deri case was the result of human error.

Though state prosecutors last month decided not to indict Hanegbi for involvement in the Bar-On affair, they found improprieties in his handling of the appointment.

While Netanyahu welcomed Ne'eman's acquittal, it was not clear whether he planned to move to reinstate him.

Hanegbi refused to say whether he planned to step aside to let his predecessor take up the post again.

Officials from across the political spectrum welcomed the acquittal. One note of dissent, however, was voiced by Meretz leader Yossi Sarid.

Pointing to Ne'eman's attack on officials in the Justice Ministry following the decision to launch a criminal investigation against him, Sarid said Ne'eman should not be allowed to resume his former responsibilities.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Swiss fund to aid Holocaust survivors now open

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

BASEL, Switzerland — The special fund established by banks and businesses here for Holocaust survivors is now operative, according to the Swiss Bankers Association (SBA).

In an interview, SBA spokesperson Silvia Matile-Steiner placed its current value at $265 million.

The Swiss National Bank has contributed $100 million to the fund, while Switzerland's three major banks — Union Bank of Switzerland, Credit Suisse and the Swiss Bank Corporation — have donated a further $100 million.

The balance comes from additional Swiss banks ($20 million) and Swiss industry, including insurance companies ($45 million).

Creation of the fund, the outcome of negotiations between the SBA and the New York City-based World Jewish Congress, was announced several months ago.

Described as "an unprecedented breakthrough" by the World Jewish Congress, it is designed to "support persons in need who were persecuted for reasons of their race, religion or political views."

For all intents and purposes, it will benefit mainly Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union who were not eligible for restitution during the Communist era.

The fund is managed by a board headed by Rolf Bloch, president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Switzerland. Four of its seven members are Swiss nationals. Two are Israelis — Yosef Burg, former leader of the National Religious Party, and Avraham Hirshon, a member of the Knesset.

Elie Wiesel, the novelist and Nobel Prize laureate, was appointed honorary chair on May 1, but he resigned two weeks ago. A replacement has yet to be named.

Until recently, the SBA — which represents some 450 banks — resisted the idea of a compensation fund on the grounds that it was an admission of Swiss guilt and an intolerable pressure tactic by American Jews.

Swiss banks have been the objects of intense scrutiny and criticism. They have been accused of helping Nazi Germany finance its war effort by buying looted European gold and of treating Jewish bank deposit holders and their descendants unsympathetically and too legalistically after the war.

As a result of this controversy, which clearly damaged Switzerland's reputation abroad, the Swiss accepted a proposal by the World Jewish Congress for a special fund to alleviate the immediate needs of Holocaust survivors.

Initially, Swiss authorities were only prepared to finance it with monies from dormant bank accounts left behind by Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

But after the Union Bank of Switzerland was caught trying to shred wartime archives, Switzerland's three major banks took the initiative in setting up what has ballooned into a multi-million dollar fund.

Though a product of sustained coercion, the SBA puts a benign face on it. Georg Krayer, president of the SBA, claims it is a "grateful remembrance of the fact that Switzerland has been spared battles, occupation by foreign powers and racial persecution."

Krayer's subordinate, Matile-Steiner, said the Volcker Commission, as well as the three auditing firms retained by the SBA, will exhaustively study the issue of dormant accounts.

A joint venture of the SBA, the World Jewish Congress and the World Jewish Restitution Organization, the commission was established a year ago and is led by Paul Volcker, a former chair of the U.S. Federal Reserve.

Volcker, who has been given access to all relevant bank documents, is expected to submit a report next summer.

"We want truth and transparency, in the interest of all Holocaust victims and in the interest of the integrity of our banking system," said Matile-Steiner. "We will accept his findings as the truth."

The World Jewish Congress claims that Swiss banks hold at least $7 billion in unclaimed assets from Jews. But Matile-Steiner disputes that figure, saying that a SBA search has turned up no more than $40 million in dormant accounts.

"We don't know how much belongs to Holocaust victims and survivors."

In the past five decades, she said, Swiss banks have made two payments to Holocaust victims, their heirs, Swiss refugee organizations and Swiss Jewish groups: 16 million Swiss francs in 1946 and 9.5 million Swiss francs in 1962.

"Then there was a long pause," she noted. "No one asked any questions, neither the banks nor Jewish organizations, until about 1994. Everyone assumed the matter had ended."

In reply to queries from Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, she explained, the Swiss Federal Banking Commission asked the SBA to investigate. "By the beginning of 1995, we realized that the problem has not been solved."

She acknowledges that external pressure, especially from the World Jewish Congress, accelerated the process of accountability which the SBA has since embraced.

Matile-Steiner readily admits that Swiss banks, in the aftermath of World War II, showed a dearth of sensitivity in dealings with Jewish clients who had lived through the Holocaust. It was not uncommon for some banks to ask claimants for death certificates for relatives who had died in concentration camps. "We regret this lack of sensitivity," she said.

She is also sorry that guidelines for the handling of dormant accounts were not issued before 1995. Under the new rules, banks are required to maintain all account records until further notice, and disputes between banks and clients are mediated by an ombudsman who is supposed to be neutral and independent.

In the latest development, the SBA has expressed "unequivocable support" for disclosing the names of pre-1945 account holders.

The concept was recently proposed by British politician Greville Janner, a vice-president of the World Jewish Congress. He suggested that the publication of old Swiss bank legal notices could facilitate the search for dormant funds.

The issue, however, cannot be taken any further until it is discussed with the Volcker Commission, said Matile-Steiner.

In the furor over the behavior of Swiss banks during and after the war, the SBA has received hate mail. But Matile-Steiner downplays it. "We shouldn't overestimate this. We should concentrate on our work."

Rabbis launch program

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — The Orthodox rabbinical group that prompted recent outrage from just about every other Jewish religious group in the United States and Canada is now beginning a campaign to bring Reform and Conservative Jews into Orthodoxy.

The effort will involve staffing the Lower East Side offices of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada with volunteer rabbis who will respond to the flurry of phone calls and letters the group says it has received since last month, when it declared the Reform and Conservative movements "not Judaism."

The rabbis will help direct people to Orthodox synagogues and rabbis for counseling, said Rabbi Hersh Ginsberg, director of the organization, which claims more than 500 members and proudly describes itself as "right wing."

He said the group has received some 100 letters over the last month, some negative, but the majority were "extremely encouraging to us."

Dozens of Reform and Conservative Jews, he said, are "asking for help" to become Orthodox.

Rabbi Paul Golomb, executive director of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism, said he "can't disabuse people of their opinions created by their own definitions."

The chancellor of the Conservative movement's Jewish Theological Seminary, Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, declined comment.

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Coming to grips with air warfare

[Cont'd from page 1]

claim that they are not being aimed at civilians? During the 1991 Gulf War, Dinstein says, the Iraqis fired 42 missiles at Israel. All but a handful were fired toward Tel Aviv.

The Iraqis, Dinstein says, claimed that they were aiming at the Israel's Defence Ministry, which he calls a legitimate military target. But not one missile even came close to the ministry compound.

"This was indiscriminate bombing," Dinstein says. "You have to fire on military targets and ensure that the action achieves its purpose."

Rein Mullerson, a professor of international law at King's College in London, agrees. At TAU's Howard Gillman International Colloquium on Air and Missile Warfare, Mullerson argued that the Iraqi attacks on Tel Aviv and Riyadh were meant to terrorize civilians rather than destroy military targets.

"Expensive, inaccurate and highly destructive weapons will only produce [the] desired effect when hitting soft and unprotected large targets, such as civilians or civilian objects," Mullerson said.

That conclusion, however, would clearly favor the western nations, whose missiles are far more accurate than those in the Middle East. In the Gulf War, the U.S. Tomahawk missile had a reported accuracy of 85 percent, high enough, in Dinstein's view, to allow its limited use to destroy military targets in enemy cities such as Baghdad.

"What if one side has smart bombs and the other doesn't?" Dinstein asks. "Smart bombs might be too expensive, or one side can claim that why should it use smart bombs when the other side doesn't?"

Currently, Dinstein says, international law has not addressed the missile issue. In 1987, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Britain and the United States agreed on the guidelines of the transfer of equipment and technology related to missiles, known as the MCTR. This agreement addresses proliferation rather than the use of missiles in war.

So, the questions persist. What about the use of nonconventional warheads? The 1993 Convention on the Prohibition on the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and their Destruction, contains the unconditional ban on the use of chemical weapons. This would theoretically mean that a country struck by enemy chemical warheads could not retaliate in kind.

Nuclear weapons, however, appear to have legal sanction. In July 1986, the International Court of Justice at the Hague was asked about the allowance of nuclear weapons. The court's opinion was fuzzy, Dinstein says, but did not rule out their use.

The international court ruled that the conduct of nuclear war is related to the use of force enshrined in the United Nations Charter and that "the use of force that is proportionate under the law of self-defence, must, in order to be lawful, also meet the requirements of the law applicable in armed conflict."

The court added, "However, in view of the current state of international law, and of the elements of fact at its disposal, the court cannot conclude definitively whether the threat or use of nuclear weapons would be lawful or unlawful in an extreme circumstance of self-defense, in which the very survival of a state would be at stake."

Other issues include the legality of anti-missile defence. Could Israel, for example, pre-empt an enemy missile attack and claim it was acting in legitimate self-defence?

It's a question that U.S. officials debated several years ago when approving American funding for the Arrow anti-missile defence system, diplomatic sources recall.

The U.S. experts concluded that the Arrow, which attempts to intercept and destroy enemy missiles in the targeted country, does not pose any legal problems in international law.

But Israel and the United States are working on another missile system that some U.S. experts find problematic. This is the Boost Phased Intercept, in which an enemy missile is destroyed in the first stage of launch.

The result is that the missile debris is scattered on enemy territory. If the warhead of the destroyed missile is nonconventional then the results could be disastrous for the aggressor.

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Peace process dead?

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Is the peace process dead? The question is no longer theoretical since the breakdown of Israel's bilateral negotiations with the Palestine Authority (PA) two months ago. The talks collapsed as a result of two factors: Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to build a new Jewish neighborhood — Har Choma — in East Jerusalem and the subsequent Palestinian suicide bombing in Tel Aviv which claimed the lives of three women.

Last month, no less a personage than David Afek, head of the Israeli foreign ministry's political research centre, suggested that the peace process has in fact crumbled.

Last week, following an abortive attempt by President Ezer Weizman to restart the talks, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators met at the home of the U.S. ambassador to Israel to discuss the current situation.

But the two sides remained far apart, and the Palestinians said they regarded the encounter as merely a meeting rather than a fullscale resumption of negotiations.

The growing perception that the peace process is at an impasse is buttressed by the widespread belief that U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross cannot close the increasingly yawning gap between Israel and the PA.

Ross, who successfully brokered last January's Hebron agreement, has run into a brick wall in his effort to get the two sides talking again.

In an effort to rebuild trust in a process that has been repeatedly battered since the signing of the Declaration of Principles in September 1993, Ross has set his sights high.

He has tried to convince the PA to resume security cooperation with Israel, and conversely, to induce Israel to refrain from unilateral actions. At the same time, he has tried to kickstart final status talks, which are a year behind schedule, and to initiate discussions on implementing interim accords.

Ross believes that the present stalemate could trigger a violent explosion of the kind that almost wrecked the peace process last September, when, in reaction to the opening of an archeological tunnel exit in East Jerusalem, Palestinian rioters ran rampant and PA policemen and Israeli soldiers exchanged fire in a series of deadly clashes.

Despite the urgency of today's situation, Ross has been unable to devise a formula which would enable the Israelis and the Palestinians to return to the negotiating table.

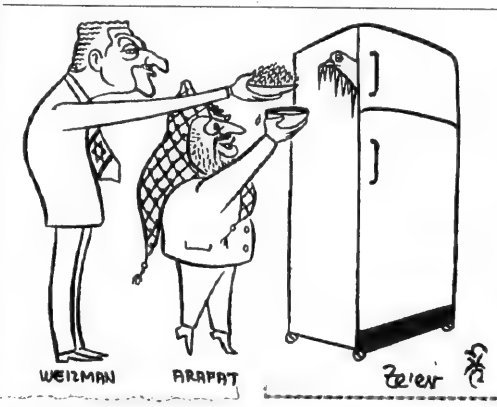
The deadlock is a classic case study in mutual frustration. Israel wants the PA to resume full security cooperation and to prevent terrorist attacks before negotiations are restored. But the PA is unwilling to meet Israel's demands unless it cancels the Har Choma project and stops expanding settlements in the West Bank.

Israel has rejected these conditions, but to soften the blow has eased the closure of the territories and offered the Palestinians a number of concessions. Israel appears ready to build Arab housing in eastern Jerusalem almost immediately and to return the identity cards of some 1,000 East Jerusalem Palestinians who've left the city.

As well, Israel has implied that it is amenable to complying with the final provisions of the Oslo 2 agreement by giving the Palestinians a "safe passage" route from Gaza to the West Bank and by letting the PA use an airport and construct a sea port in the Gaza Strip. Israel has even hinted that it may increase the size of its first deployment, so far not carried out, from Area C in the West Bank.

The Palestinians have not been receptive to Israel's proposals, largely because they leave intact Israel's sovereign claim to East Jerusalem. The PA, though, has agreed to conduct sporadic security cooperation with Israel. In April, the PA helped crack a Hamas cell in the Hebron area which had taken responsibility for the murder of 11 Israelis in the past 18 months.

But even this limited cooperation may not last if, as reported last week, Israel expands the municipal boundaries of East Jerusalem and decides to keep 60 percent of the West Bank in any final settlement with the Palestinians.



The Week in Israel

May 12

• Hezbollah gunmen attacked an army position in southern Lebanon. One Israeli soldier and three members of the South Lebanon Army were wounded.

May 13

• Israel's new ambassador to Jordan, Oded Eran, resigned his post after less than a week on the job. Eran complained that he had not been informed about a secret meeting between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and King Hussein the week before.

May 14

• Israel's High Court of Justice rejected petitions calling for a state inquiry into the Bar-On affair. The five-justice panel considered separate petitions demanding that the prime minister and justice minister be tried for breach of trust and fraud in connection with the short-lived appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general.

• Israeli, Palestinian and American officials met at the residence of U.S. Ambassador Martin Indyk to discuss possible ways to break the impasse in peace negotiations. *(Talks adjourned later in the week with Israeli and Palestinian views divergent as to their success.)*

May 15

• Turkey's foreign minister announced that joint naval exercises with Israel would be held this summer despite recent contradictory statements by Turkey's prime minister.

• Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres met with Yasser Arafat in the West Bank town of Ramallah. Peres told the Palestinian leader not to give up hope for an eventual Israeli-Palestinian peace.

• The Central Bureau of Statistics reported the cost of living index for the month of April rose by 0.7 percent. Annual inflation now stands at 10 percent.

May 16

• Fierce battles raged in south Lebanon Thursday night. IAF aircraft took part in the action followed by heavy IDF artillery bombardments of the area.

• Police have arrested a Palestinian police officer and a woman in connection with the murder of a Jerusalem Arab who sold land to Jews.

With files from the JTA

Israel & the Jewish World

Lag b'Omer: a call for mutual respect

By IRVING GREENBERG
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — In the Talmud, Lag b'Omer —the 33rd day of the counting of the Omer period — is a devastating reminder of a historic catastrophe caused by Jewish divisiveness.

Today, Jewry seems to be heading for a repeat of that disaster.

In a very short period, tens of thousands of Rabbi Akiva's students died. They died because "they did not treat each other with respect," says the Talmud.

What is the connection between lack of respect and loss?

Rabbi Akiva and some of his students proclaimed Simon Bar Kochba, the leader of the Bar Kochba revolt in Judea against Rome, to be the Messiah.

Other colleagues strongly opposed the Bar Kochba rebellion. Rabbi Yochanan Turta mocked Rabbi Akiva, saying, "Grass will grow from your cheeks [meaning, you will be long buried] and the Messiah will not yet have come."

What if the students had dialogued respectfully and learned from each other? Perhaps the messianists would have listened to the others; perhaps the two groups would have come up with a more sober strategy of resistance to the Romans.

Instead, there was a total revolt that brought a crushing defeat and 1,800 years in exile.

Assimilation and Christian proselytizing alike eroded Jewish communities in the first and second centuries. What if Rabbi Akiva's students and the rabbis, who differed widely in their approaches, had admitted that none of them had solved the problems of assimilation and cultural competition?

Using all the different approaches, together they might have reached the masses. Had they been more modest, more open, perhaps they could have overcome the enormous contempt and strident conflict between the scholars' circles and the unlearned people.

Instead, countless Jews were lost, as were many students of the great rabbi.

In this generation, we face a social catastrophe in the making.

The behavior of Orthodox, Conservative, Reconstructionist and Reform leadership is a classic repeat of "they did not treat each other with respect."

Since the 1960s, when North America opened up to Jews in an unprecedented fashion, there has been a "plague' of assimilation.

Instead of recognizing that no one was prepared for such openness and acceptance — and that all traditional systems, not just Judaism, were vulnerable — each group has locked in on its own needs and strengths and written off the others' concerns.

Reform responded to its growing constituency of intermarried with unconverted partners by recognizing as Jewish children born to a Jewish father and non-Jewish mother.

Orthodox objections were dismissed on the grounds that the Orthodox would not accept liberal converts anyway. Yet, Conservative Judaism's rabbinic leadership also rejected patrilineal descent.

In another expression of "lack of respect for each other," Reform's leaders concluded that the Conservative lay people had lower standards than their rabbis, that the lay people were ready to accept patrilineal Jews.

A plague of divorce swept the Jewish community.

Second marriages without benefit of a *get*, or religious divorce, threatened to create halachically unmarriageable children. To prevent illegitimacy, Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, one of the great Orthodox scholars of the century, ruled that Reform marriages were halachically invalid, thus requiring no *get* to end them.

However, the solution was based on lack of respect for the Reform rabbinate. It was easier to rule that Reform was an invalid religion than to validate Reform marriages.

Important Reform rabbis such as Rabbi Eugene Borowitz welcomed Rabbi Feinstein's solution, in order that they, in turn, would have full freedom of action. There would be no need to temper their behavior for the sake of Orthodox concerns.

Now the disrespect has boiled up. The Union of Orthodox Rabbis declared that "Reform and Conservative are not Judaism at all, but another religion."

While the mainstream Orthodox leadership disowned the statement, they also are angry at liberal rejections of tradition. Therefore, they did not make an unequivocal, positive statement that liberal movements are legitimate.

Neither theologically nor politically is any centrist Orthodox leader able or willing to publicly respect Reform and Conservative Judaism by asserting their legitimacy.

Now the leadership of the liberal movements has dropped all restraints of language. Jewish Theological Seminary Chancellor Rabbi Ismar Schorsch recently said that the chief rabbinate is "dysfunctional" and its religious courts are "without a scintilla of moral worth."

Reform leader Rabbi Eric Yoffie has described the Israeli rabbinate as "medieval," "extremist," "radical," and "fanatic," and "a disgrace to the Jewish people and its religion."

Rabbis Schorsch and Yoffie both know that they must deepen the spiritual life, education and observance levels of their constituents. They know that positive exposure and contact with the Orthodox community will upgrade liberal Jews in those areas in which Orthodoxy is strongest — learning, observance and community.

But by now, the anger and lack of respect is the overriding connection. Would anybody use such language use vis-a-vis Christians?

In fact, Rabbi Norman Lamm, president of Yeshiva University, and the Agudath Israel of America know that the Orthodox community is weakest in coping with new roles for women and in facing the challenge of social action. They know that Orthodoxy has a lot to learn from the liberal movements in many areas.

But right now, the levels of respect are so low that they cannot admit or even articulate such ideas.

Unless there is a major uprising by all Jews for unity, the Jewish people may be heading for a fundamental schism.

Only spotlighting the forces of divisiveness, generating strong internal pressures within each movement to take other groups into account, and increasing support for active dialogue and joint activity can arrest this slide toward alienation and separation.

This Lag b'Omer, every Jew should pause a moment in silent tribute to the memory of Rabbi Akiva's students who died untimely deaths. Then there should be a second moment of confession and repentance for the coming untimely death of Jewish unity.

***

Irving Greenberg is president of CLAL — The National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership.

CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Schizophrenia
In The Jewish Community

Researchers at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and other collaborating institutions are conducting a study to understand the biological cause of schizophrenia among Ashkenazi Jews. Both environmental and genetic factors are believed to play a role in determining who is susceptible to the disease. Although schizophrenia does not occur more frequently among the Jewish population, the fact that the Ashkenazi Jewish community evolved from a limited number of ancestors and that they tend to marry individuals from the same ethnic background provides unique opportunities for the genetic analysis.

Ashkenazi Jewish families with TWO or MORE LIVING SIBLINGS who have a diagnosis of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder are potentially eligible for inclusion in the study. Travel is not required.

For more information, please contact Dr. Ann Pulver or Gail Ullrich, MSW, toll-free at 1-888-289-4095 or via fax at 410-955-0644 or by mail at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, 1615 Thames Street, Suite 205, Baltimore, MD 21231.

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About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I was wondering whether gefilte fish is high in fat and calories?

A. Most people when making gefilte fish use a combination of whitefish, pike and pickerel along with approximately one egg per pound of fish. Therefore a three-ounce piece of gefilte fish (the size of a deck of cards), made with this mixture actually is low in fat and calories. It adds up to only 110 calories and 2.8 grams of fat. A tablespoon of horseradish tacks on only an additional six, fat free calories.

Q. I love strawberries. Now that they are coming into season I am wondering if they are a low calorie choice?

A. Strawberries are a wonderful low calorie choice. One cup contains only 45 calories and provides more than 100 percent of your daily requirements for vitamin C, along with a healthy dose of many other vitamins and minerals. Enjoy!

Q. I am trying to cut down on the amount of red meat that I serve my family, but we do enjoy it. Which cuts of beef would be the leanest choices?

A. Try such cuts as flank steak or chuck, trimmed of all visible fat. If using ground beef always buy extra lean.

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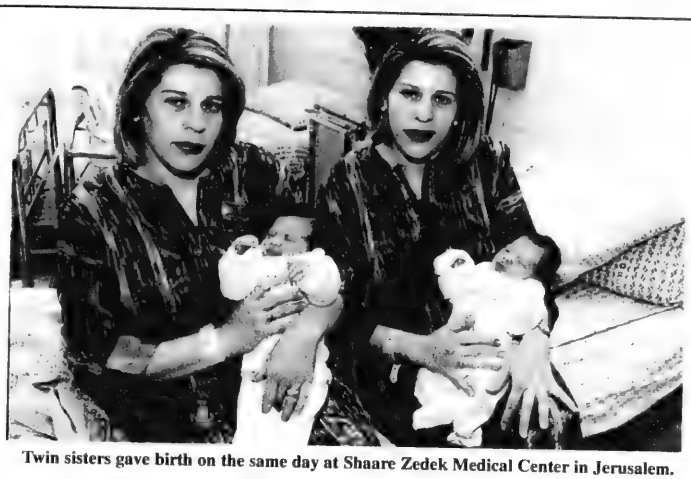

Twin sisters gave birth on the same day at Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem.

Twin sisters give birth on the same day

JERUSALEM — Visitors to maternity ward 7150 at Shaare Zedek Medical Center could be forgiven for rubbing their eyes and thinking that they were seeing double — two identical women leaning on pillows in adjacent beds, each holding a small baby.

The women are 27-year-old identical twins, and are pretty hard to tell apart. Revital underwent treatments and became pregnant after six years of hope, and Vered became pregnant without medical assistance around the same time. Revital was very closely monitored and came to Shaare Zedek last month for induced labor. Her twin sister accompanied her for moral support.

Revital was taken into the labor and delivery suites where the birth process commenced. While Vered waited eagerly outside the suites, her waters suddenly broke and she herself was wheeled in.

Even during the birth process, the twins showed remarkable symmetry and their babies registered similar reactions at the same time on their respective fetal monitors. The midwives and obstetricians said they had never experienced anything so strange, even taking into account the special bond between twins.

One sister gave birth in the late afternoon and the other a few hours later. And each gave birth to a healthy girl, the first child for both women.

Crohn's, colitis group ready to hit the streets

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Over 1,000 people of all ages are expected to participate in the second annual Heel 'n' Wheel-a-Thon for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada.

The day-long event will be held June 8 at Sunnybrook Park, near Leslie and Eglinton. Participants may choose between an 8-km walk and a 20-km ride, on anything from roller blades to bikes.

The walk will begin at 8:30 a.m., with the official opening at 9:30 a.m. The last participants are expected to leave the starting position no later than 2 p.m.

Day packed with special events

Mort Weisberg, chair of Heel 'n' Wheel-a-Thon, said the day will be packed with special events. Breakfast and lunch will be served; Shoppers Drug Mart is sponsoring a children's' play area, with a maze, face painting and a diaper-changing area; and there will be live entertainment, with bands and line dancing.

Honorary chair is Ontario Speaker of the House Chris Stockwell.

Weisberg hopes that proceeds from this year's program will well exceed last year's $88,000. "One person has already brought in over $4,000 in pledges," he said.

The Toronto Heel 'n' Wheel-a-Thon is one of 55 such events to take place across Canada to raise funds for inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). Weisberg estimates that between 200,000 and 300,000 people across Canada suffer from IBD, the collective term for such diseases as Crohn's or colitis.

While pre-registration is not required, "we would love to hear from you ahead of time," Weisberg said. To pre-register, or for more information, call 920-1212.

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Travel, Arts & Business

A showcase of award winners

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Transformation, an exceptional exhibition of Canadian craftsmanship marking the 20th anniversary of the Prix Saidye Bronfman Award is no ordinary show.

Transformation celebrates the works of Prix Saidye Bronfman Award winners from the last decade, including fibre artist Carole Sabiston; glass artist Lutz Haufschild; potter Harlan House; textile artist Dorothy Caldwell; fibre artist Susan Warner Keene; potter Walter Dexter; furniture designer and maker Michael C. Fortune; glass artist Daniel Crichton; bookbinder Louise Genest and ceramic artist Steven Heineman. It also features recipients honored in the first 10 years.

The Award is bestowed on Canadian craftspeople who are not only masters in their field but have contributed to the arts in Canada through teaching, publishing, exhibiting and involvement in their professional communities. It carries with it a $20,000 cash prize administered by the Canadian Crafts Council. In addition, the Canadian Museum of Civilization acquires works by winners for its permanent collection.

In the '20s and '30s, says Matthew Teitelbaum, chief curator of the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), the gallery was very much into crafts. But for many years after, there was a split between crafts and art. Now, in a return to the early trend, crafts are seen, Teitelbaum affirms, as "worthwhile and valuable conversation."

Alan Elder, curator of the exhibition, notes that "in many ways this is a homecoming."

Transformation has several meanings as familiar traditions find new expression and changes in attitude toward handmade objects are reflected. The substantial and thoughtful award also changes people's perception of crafts.

The 70 pieces displayed, encompass a variety of disciplines from pottery to stained glass to fibre art to bookbinding and each individual brings his/her view.

Potter Harlan House, whose exquisite porcelain with crackle glass vase can be seen, declares, "I am keenly interested in the element of time. It seems to me that much of what we have today is volatile like a firecracker, lovely to see, very impressive, loud — and gone. While that's fine as entertainment, our culture is more than that. I choose to make forms that will be as strong tomorrow as they are today."

Fibre artist Dorothy Caldwell says that the imagery of her work is inspired by tribal cultures, objects and symbols in which one can sense the power and mystery. One example is her intriguing work, The Snow is Almost Gone, an intricate batik hanging on handmade fabric.

Transformation is a display of finely honed skills and creativity with wide appeal plus a challenge and delight for craftspeople. Sponsored by Seagram, the exhibition runs at the Art Gallery of Ontario until Aug. 4 and will tour across Canada until September 1988.

Women artists late-bloomers

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Four Toronto-area women who began painting with water-colors as a hobby less than four years ago have blossomed into serious artists.

They'll be holding their first exhibition from May 23 to 25 at the historic Frederick Horseman Gallery in Unionville at 197 Main St.

Rosalie Seidelman, Myra Barook and Brenda Bornstein, who have formed a painting group called Wembley Studios, met through a water-color class given by Elaine Clarfield-Gitalis four years ago.

[Cont'd. on page 38]

From left Myra Barook, Susan Cohen, Rosalie Seidelman and Brenda Bornstein. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

LITERARY CALENDAR

• Harbourfront's reading series for June includes authors **Daphne Merkin** and **Josef Skvorecky**, June 25, York Quay Centre, 8 p.m. Merkin's latest book is *Dreaming of Hitler*, a compilation of essays; she "takes on the Holocaust in the shocking title essay." Czech-born Skvorecky, whom the *New York Times* has called "one of the pre-eminent writers of postwar Europe," recently published a long-awaited memoir, *Headed for the Blues*. 416-973-4000.

• Welsh-born writer and critic **Robert Adams**, who has a great popular following within the Jewish community of Montreal, lectures in Toronto on two books: *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* by Louis de Bernieres, May 21, 8 p.m.; and *A Fine Balance* by Rohinton Mistry, June 23, 8 p.m. Hart House Theatre, U. of T. $15 each. 416-978-8668.

• Toronto author **Dr. Vera Rabie-Azoory**, a psychologist, has released a book about "favoritism and the myth of equal parental love." *They Love You, They Love Me Not: The Truth About the Family Favorite and Sibling Rivalry* (HarperCollins, $25) is "especially helpful for parents in understanding and dealing with their concerns about how they perceive each of their children."

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Musical Events

• A **Phil Ochs** Song Night, organized by his sister Sonny, honors the late writer of late-1960s protest songs. Participants include guitar-maker **Grit Laskin**, social commentator **Rick Salutin** & musicians **David Wall**, **Ben Stein** and many others. May 24, Bloor St. United Church. Proceeds to the Woods Music & Dance Camp.

• **Beth Anne Cole** delivers an evening of mostly Yiddish songs. Mezzeta Cafe, 681 St. Clair Ave. W. Wed. May 28. Sets 9:15 & 10:30 p.m. Reservations 416-658-5687.

• An Evening with **Jacques Israelievitch**, concert master of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, features works by **Srul Irving Glick** and other renowned Jewish composers. May 28. Beth Tzedec, 1700 Bathurst St. Adults $18, patrons $100. 416-781-3511, ext. 10.

• Jewish Music Toronto presents the annual Zimriyah choral festival at which composer **Milton Barnes** conducts in the premiere performance of Sefarad. Admission by contribution. June 3, 8 p.m. Adath Israel, 37 Southbourne Ave.

• **Lachan**, the Toronto Jewish Chamber Choir, sings Jewish art liturgy and Jewish folksongs from the Renaissance to modern times, including a specially commissioned work by composer **Yefim Adler**. Studio Theatre, Ford Centre. $15. June 8. 416-872-2222.

Theatre & Comedy

• Markham Theatre's fall season opens Oct. 14 with **Alfred Uhry**'s acclaimed play *Driving Miss Daisy*, a touching story about an elderly Jewish widow and her friendship with her chauffeur in the southern United States. Other plays in the series are *Ain't Misbehavin'*, **Dave Broadfoot**'s *Old Enough to Say What I Want*, and *Supreme Dream*. Subscription info, 905-305-7469.

• Stage Centre Productions's 21st season features these plays: *Ten Little Indians*, *Ghosts*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *A Little Night Music*. Subscription info, 416-299-5557.

• Comedienne **Tsufit** performs at Oasis, 294 College St., Toronto, May 28, 8:30 p.m. Also at Yuk Yuks, June 1. 416-967-6425.

At the Galleries

• Dreams, Deliriums and Delusions: Willed Photographs, 1987-1997 presents a survey of photographic works by New York-based artist **Bill Jones**. Drawing upon the kabbalah and other medieval Jewish texts, Jones treats light as a visual metaphor for the presence of the sacred or supernatural, producing photographic images unaided by the camera. Koffler Gallery, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. The adjoining Loggia Gallery features works by Montreal artist Kevin Ei-ichi deForest. Admission free. To June 15. 416-636-1880, ext. 268.

• Two Sculptors, Inc. of New York presents Evolution /// Steel, a first solo exhibition of the work of designer **Jeffrey Rubinoff**, a 57-year-old native of London, Ont. who now lives on Hornby Island, B.C. 212-645-3584.

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Exhibit a first for women artists

[Cont'd. from page 37]

Susan Cohen joined the class and the group a year later.

The women said they all shared a mutual enthusiasm about watercolor and to maintain their inspiration between classes, they began painting with each other.

They've stopped taking classes, but they continue to get together weekly to paint and give each other encouragement and criticism, they said.

Seidelman and Barook are members of the Toronto Water Colour Society (TWCS), while Bornstein and Cohen are associate members, and they're all members of the Markham group of artists.

Seidelman and Barook currently have works in a TWCS exhibition at Earl Bales Park Community Centre that runs to the end of this month.

"All our work is accepted by juried shows. That's a real coup," Cohen said.

And when Seidelman won an honorable mention award at the TWCS show, the group members were all proud, Bornstein said.

Seidelman, a former Montrealer who runs Images Art Gallery for Inuit art with her husband, studied briefly at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts before becoming an X-ray technician. She continued to dabble in art while raising her daughters, now 17 and 22, she said.

Barook, the mother of two children in their 30s and a grandmother of two, grew up in Ottawa where she attended art college. She worked in different media before returning to water-color four years ago.

Bornstein, a part-time bookkeeper and a mother of three children, 21, 18 and 14, grew up in Toronto. She had taken many art courses — she even completed a five-year interior design course — before settling on water-color, she said. "I just fell in love with the medium."

Cohen, the mother of two children, 21 and 18, grew up among artists on a farm just outside of Montreal. She said she never studied art but saw that Seidelman, was having so much fun painting with water-colors that she too decided to enrol in the art class.

Cohen's work was accepted into a juried show at Markham and she was awarded a viewer's choice award though the TWCS. She has sold several paintings. Selling is a "real validation for me," she said. "Selling is like getting an award."

The women — they'll also be exhibiting at Edward's Gardens in July — said their families are very supportive. "All our husbands are extremely proud of our new careers," Bornstein said. "Our families are our best critics."

Fundraiser a cross-cultural mix

TORONTO — The Bloor JCC is hosting *Black, White & Yiddish*, a musical fundraiser set in a unique key. The evening is a cross-cultural celebration that combines the traditions of Broadway, opera, folk, spiritual and Yiddish music.

The performance stars Denise Williams, an accomplished soprano and alumnus of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and Tafelmusik, Susan Cuthbert, the lead female Christine in the original Toronto production of *Phantom of the Opera*, and Gloria Valentine, who amongst other things starred in *The Harry Harris Jewish Musical Hour.* Valentine conceived and created *Black, White & Yiddish.* Musical director is William Shookhoff, musical conductor for *Phantom of the Opera.*

Gloria Valentine

These three women, each from a different ethnic background, (hence the title) will perform songs ranging from high drama to hilarious comedy, from Gospel to Chassidic and everything in between.

All proceeds from the show will go to support the Bloor JCC. June 1, 7 p.m. 750 Spadina Ave. Tickets $15 or $20 at the door. For information call 924-6211.

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

A snake charmer in Marrakesh. [Bill Gladstone photo]

MARRAKESH JOURNAL

No matter where you go in Morocco, no matter what you do, you are never far from sites of importance to the country's rich Jewish past, which according to legend dates back more than 2,000 years to the days of the Second Temple.

In Marrakesh, the Petit-Taxi lets you off in Djemaa el Fnaa Square at dusk. Lined by nondescript old buildings and crowded with taxis, donkey-carts, locals, tourists and performers, the square's exotic midway atmosphere cannot fail to dazzle you.

Turn your head and acrobats form a human pyramid; jugglers exchange balls and brass rings; snake-charmers awaken curiously docile cobras with their mystical flutes; and African dancers gyrate to tribal rhythms. There are also Arabic storytellers, food vendors, musicians, occult herbalists, tattoo artists and (be warned) pickpockets.

Take a picture. Instantly you are besieged by outstretched palms, hats or tambourines: pay up or move on quickly. Guides attach themselves to you, determined to be hired. Fortune tellers and monkey-trainers solicit you. Five-year- old children tug at your sleeves for money.

Eventually, having soaked in as much local color as you need, you retreat to one of the rooftop cafes bordering the square, where for the price of a Coke (5 dirham or 85 cents) you may relax undisturbed and drink in the exhilirating view.

From below rises the hubbub of Djemaa el Fnaa, as it has for centuries. To the west the grand medieval Koutoubia Mosque towers against the sunset.

Eastward is the souk. Venturing by twilight into its maze of narrow alleys, you find leather goods, spices, jewellery, antiques, materials, Berber and Saharan carpets, and, surprisingly, a profusion of Judaic items: Magen Davids, menorahs, mezuzot, seder plates of silver and brass.

There are perhaps 400 Jews in Marrakesh, perhaps 6,000 in all Morocco, a French- and Arabic-speaking kingdom with some 28 million subjects. Most of the former 200,000-strong Jewish population made aliyah to Israel in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s; others migrated to France and Canada.

Thousands of Jews visit Morocco each year, frequenting good kosher restaurants like Le Sepharade, 31 Lottissement, Hassania, and Le Kasher in the Hotel Pullman (both supervised by the local Beth Din).

The next morning, seeking tranquility, you visit the Menara Pavilion, a huge manmade pond whose peaceful waters reflect the snow-capped peaks of the distant High Atlas Mountains. Next it's the Majorelle Gardens, a lush private plantation of coconut palms, banana trees and bougainvillea.

Outdoing both of these for sheer grandeur, however, is La Mamounia Hotel, the country's most deluxe address for tourists. Winston Churchill used to spend his winters here, painting.

After touring King Hassan II's Royal Palace with its myriad inlaid tiles and antiquated harem courtyard, you discover the Mellah, the former Jewish quarter, just beyond the palace gates. A guide takes you down the bustling narrow lane — rue de la Talmud Torah! — to the hidden Lazama Synagogue. Inside, the Jewish caretaker, old and blind, blesses you with the Torah scroll, then pleads for tzedakah. (The main synagogue, Beth El Kadosh, is situated across town in a neighborhood where some 40 Jewish families reside.)

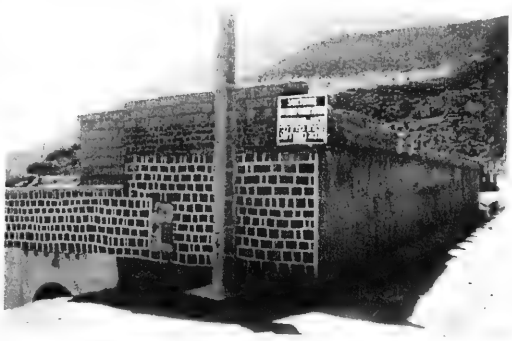
An hour's drive into the verdant Ourika Valley south of Marrakesh brings you to Asni and other Berber villages in the High Atlases. According to legend, the Berbers are Canaanites descended from Goliath the Philistine. In centuries past several isolated groups of Berbers, influenced by Jewish traders, converted to Judaism.

Partway back to Marrakesh, an elderly Jewish couple shows you inside an old synagogue that has become a shrine to Rabbi Solomon Ben Lahnech, an 18th-century rabbi who went out from Jerusalem on a holy mission and died here. Another tiny synagogue in the Ourika Valley commemorates Rabbi Chaim Ben Diwan, a revered holy man.

Encountering more Jewish history in Agadir and Tarroudont, you realize that wherever you go in Morocco and whatever you do, you will probably continue to come upon important Jewish sites like these, quite by chance.

Guidebook recommendation: *the Knopf Guide to Morocco.*

Bill Gladstone flew Montreal to Marrakesh via Royal Air Maroc and traveled in Morocco as the guest of the Moroccan National Tourist Office.



The synagogue in the Ourika Valley. [Bill Gladstone photo]

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Bank pressured to change pace of shekel's devalutation

Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM — The Bank of Israel has denied reports it intends to change the pace of the shekel's devaluation within the so-called diagonal mechanism.

The denial was issued following a report in the Hebrew daily *Ha'aretz* which alleged the central bank intends redrawing the axis around which all shekel trading revolves.

That axis, which describes the difference between Israel's inflation target and its major trading partners' expected inflation, is currently geared toward an annual six percent depreciation of the shekel in relation to the central bank's basket of major foreign currencies.

The Bank of Israel allows the shekel to appreciate or depreciate up to seven percent from the middle point of that axis, which graphically is a diagonal line running along a 12-month period. Since 1993, the central bank has set this middle line at 6 percent, but according to the report the bank intends reducing that figure to four percent.

The bank denies that but would not rule out a possible change to the diagonal mechanism at some point in the future.

The currencies used against the shekel in the mechanism are the U.S. dollar, Japanese yen, German mark, British pound and French franc.

There have been increasing calls from the Treasury and economists for the central bank to make changes to the mechanism, particularly since the dollar is continuing to gain strength against the shekel, causing the bank to purchase large sums of foreign currency.

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North York Mayor Mel Lastman tries his hand working a backhoe during the ground-breaking ceremonies for The Excellence, Tridel's final condominium at Skymark Place in North York, Ont. Leo DelZotto, executive vice-president of Tridel, stnnds close by. The 29-storey tower will have 191 suites with seven units per floor. [Doug Brown photo]

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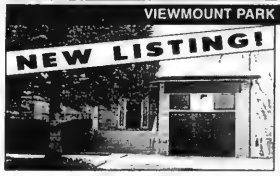

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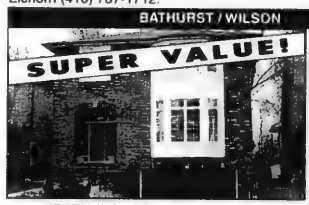

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(O.H. Sunday 2-4) Spacious, 3+ bdrm., side split; grand princ. rms; glorious ravine lot; great value. Great value; great potential. Jack Samuel.

GLEN CEDAR RD.
Stone front 4+ bdrm. centre hall; reno'd kit; super fam. rm. + w/o to deck; must be seen. David Lehberg.

BATHURST/STEELES
Reduced! Now $379,000. Spacious 4+ bdrm. home; formal LR+DR; fam. rm. on main; fin. l-lvl; well situated on the street. David Lehberg.

YORK DOWNS/BATHURST
$387,018. Choose from 2 brand new homes! Approx. 2000 sf + fin l-lvl; now complete. Marty Roth.

BATHURST MANOR IS HOT!
$269,900. Spac. 3 bdrm. bungalow with complete in-law ste; CAC;dble. drive; just move-in. F. Deitel.

SAVVY REALTY CORP.
(416) 932-2727

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST/YORK DOWNS
Reduced for quick sale! 2 storey, 3 bdrms 2 bths., 2 kits., gar., lge. lot, don't miss!

• • •

BATHURST/WILSON
2 bdrm. condo, & din. comb., w/out to bath, 2 bths., extras. SOLD

• • •

WILSON/OVERBROOK
Spac. 3 bdrm. bung., 2 bths., up-dated kit., fin. bsmnt., gar., steps to all.

• • •

WILSON/BATHURST
Store & 2 bdrm. apt., fully rented, A-1 location, ideal for many uses, great buy, don't miss!

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN (416) 633-7373

MILL ST. - BATHURST
Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms., 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!!
BATHURST - ANTIBES
2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, large wrap around balcony.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

COUNTRY LIVING IN THE CITY!
Old Thornhill. Renov. ranch bung., over 1/2 acre lot, Europ. style kit., hrdwd. flrs., sep. bsmt. entrance, walk to Oakbank Pond and Thornhill Village!!
ANNA BENCHIMOL
Century 21 Heritage Group Ltd.
905-764-7111

Gideon Waichenberg
Primrose & Townsgate Condominiums
North York & Thornhill Specialist
RE\MAX Venture Realty Corp. Realtor
416-520-5700

– Bathurst/Steeles - 43 Shenstone, 4 br., 4 wr,. fam rm. w/fireplace, fin. bsmt w/jacuzzi & sauna $379,900.
– Bathurst/Wilson - 3 br. bungalow, 50'x115', $229,900.

LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

- **BATHURST MANOR** - Just Listed - Triplex, $278,000. ensuite bthrm., 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd., dbl gar., excellent income.
- **HIGH PARK/RONCESVALLES** - 11 units. $520,000. Over 11% return. Excellent income.
- **BATHURST MANOR** - $195,000. 3 bd. semi-detached home, c/a, 3 bths (1 on main), fin. bsmt. apt. Must sell!

DENISE ABRAHAM
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle R.E.
416 - 485-2299

JUST LISTED Bathurst/Lawrence - $225K, Estate Sale! 3 Bdrm Bung., Fin. Bsmt., Attached Garage, 45'x120' Lot. Call Denise Abraham 485-2299

Lawrence W. Subway $269K! 3 Bdrm. + Den, central Air, Walk to Shops & Subway. Call Denise Abraham 485-2299

CONDO-GLENCAIRN W. SUBWAY Choice of 1-2-3 Bdrm, Fab View, Pool, Sauna, Parking, From $109K & Up. Call Denise Abraham 485-2299

BATHURST MANOR $265,000
3 bdrm. brick bung. on 52' x 115' lot, 2 baths, sep. ent. to fin. bsmt., white kit., 5 app., CAC, hrdwd. under brdlm., new roof, park 6 cars, near subway. Rebecca Moscoe, Sutton Group Admiral Realty (416) 739-7200.

BATHURST MANOR
3 bdrm. bung. on 52' x 115' lot, clean & well kept, CAC, bsmt. apt., quiet street, great starter home! Asking $279,900.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / BROOKE
Newly built 3 bdrm. backsplit on generous 45' x 130' lot, self-contained in-law suite, large kitchen. Close to all amenities.

• • •

GLENCAIRN / FOREST WOOD
5 bedroom executive home with huge family room & main floor library. Prestigious location.

• • •

COTTAGES! BELLE EWART!
Two separate side-by-side waterfront cottages, lots totalling 125' x 240', very quiet street, short walk to synagogue, motivated vendors! Buy one or both!

• • •

CLANTON PARK / EXCLUSIVE
Fully renovated 3 bedroom side-split on generous lot & quiet street, in-law suite, hardwood floors, CAC, shows beautifully! $349,900.

Call **Jacob Florans,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

Teefy Green Homes
NOW PREVIEWING

Just 12 luxury townhomes,
1 km. North of Hwy. 7, on Bathurst.

ONLY 4 LEFT!

– Some with double car garage
– Backing onto lush ravine
– Beside Richmond Hill Country Club & Golf Course
– Finished lower levels with walk out to ravine
– Approx. 2000 sq. ft. and up
– Priced from $249,500

Call **MARLON & CLARA GREEN**
CENTURY 21 HERITAGE GROUP LTD.
905-764-7111 or 905-707-5926
Sales Office located at 8909 Bathurst St. Mon.-Thurs. 3-8 pm., Sat. & Sun. 11-6 p.m.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

8 PLEX BATHURST/WILSON - GOOD OPPORTUNITY
Net income $44K, new roof, gas conv. Ruth Tracter* 226-1987

CASA LOMA AREA - 210 FT. LOT
2 stry, 4 bed, 5 bath, eat-in kit., fam. rm, fin. L.L. G. Mitchell** 488-2875

FANTASTIC CUSTOM RENOVATION $549K
Armour Hts 4+1 bdrm., best St. B. Westbrook*/P. Pollock* 226-1987

ARMOUR HEIGHTS – $459K
4 br., centre hall, renod, SOLD 2' lot! Patti Pollock* 226-1987

ARMOUR HEIGHTS FAB CAPE COD – $339K
Reno'd 3 bdrm., fam. rm/ing. pool. P. Pollock* 226-1987

JUST LISTED! CEDARVALE BEAUTY!
5 bdrm., large main fl., south lot. C. Kwinter** 488-2875

HAZELTON AVENUE - RARELY FOUND - $449K
Charming 1½ sty on 25' lot. P. Pollock* 226-1987

FAB HOME ON 40'X115' LOT! STEPS TO ALL!
Live in/add on/alter large kit. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

$149K - NEW LIST! DANFORTH
3 bdrm., private dr., gar., fin. bsmt., won't last! J. Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW RIDGE EXECUTIVE BUNGALOW
100'x250' one of a kind. Call Mark Cowan* 226-1987

GORDON RD. - 60'x172' CUSTOM 5000'
Res. 5 bdrm., w/ensuites. Anna Pollock* 226-1987

DESTINY ROSE HOMES & FOREST HILL R.E.
Presenting 6 custom built homes in North York. F. Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW VILLAGE PRIME LOCATION
Lot 70'x250' ravine view, table land ranch bung., reno. N. Davar* 226-1987

NEW LISTING - LESLIE/YORK MILLS
Executive 4 bdrm., 3000'.Anna Pollock* 226-1987

160'x127' - BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS - $589K
3 bdrm. & fam. rm. bung., suit office or live in. J. Lerner* 226-1987

LESLIE/YORK MILLS RENO BUNGALOW
Fab. 4 bdrm Poggenpohl kit. Anna Pollock* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/CUMMER LOTS! LOTS! LOTS!
3 lots on prime loc. $325,000-$368,000. J. Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW-SHEPPARD – 50'x120' - $318K
South lot, great street. Call Dina Maglietta* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

1ST AD! ATKINSON CENTRE
Custom blt. 4000 s.f. ma SOLD ed foyer. G. Mitchell** 488-2875

***NEW PRICE* – WILTSHIRE BIG LOT**
Great St., 4 br., $448,000. Marlene Olan 226-1987

PICTURE PERFECT - YONGE & SHEPPARD - $325K
Reno'd 2 stry det. , pr. dr. & gar.! C. Sniderman* 488-2875

ATKINSON/CLARK - $259K
3 br. det. fam. rm., 2-4 pc., 2 car pkg! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATTN: 1ST TIME BUYERS – $209,900
Atkinson & Clark, 3 br., Hurry! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ORILLIA-LAKEFRONT - BEAUTIFUL LOT!
Just north of Orillia, mins. to Rama, cottage street, 110'x202' lot! R. Trachter* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

31 ACRES IN UXBRIDGE – $399K
Century home + 14 horse stalls, 2 barns. J. Lerner*/S. Bobkin* 226-1987

COTTAGE IN GRAVENHURST ON BEACH
4 br., prime location! Breathtaking! J. Lerner* 226-1987

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Bath. Manor, 3 bdrms, 2 storey home with w/o bsmt, ravine lot, updated decor,quiet St.,move-in cond., $285K. 633-4960. **Open House:** Sunday, May 25th, 2pm-4pm, at 4 Overbrook Place

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Clark, Private Sale, 3 bdrm, 2 storey, det, huge eat-in kit, 2 1/2 bths, dble drive, steps to shul, TTC & shopping, $274.9K. Marty, 416-230-7166.

Thornhill, 3 bdrm, walk to shul, lot size 100' x 308',102 Arnold Ave,$675K,**Priv.** 905-884-3847.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

BATH./LAWRENCE
3 bdrm + br/study in bsmt, 2.5 baths, updated, fp, lge yard, grdn, across from park & playground, quiet, clean, walk to shuls. July 1 '97 - July/Aug. '98. $1300. + util. Refs req'd. 416-789-9504.

Bath./Wilson, 3 bdrm, newly renov,2 bath, gar, appls,fin bsmt, $1400+, nr. shuls,785-7770,evg

25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

Allenby, French immersion district, 4 bdrm home for family relocating to T.O., July. Please call 705-674-3463.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Finch, Savoy, comr, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bths, whirlpl, marble,extras galore. 736-8007

"The Savoy", Bath./Finch, lux. 2 bdrm, 5 appls, cac, cable, pkg, balc, pool, 24 hr. secur. **No agents.** 416-739-1588.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Townsgate, lux. 2 bdrm, pkg, locker, avail. immed. Please call 223-3566.

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp,spac. condo, furn, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc, pool, pkg. $950. inclusive, 416-444-4813.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

100 Canyon, lux. 3 bdrm, 2 baths, updated.638-4041, evgs.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Finch, 2 bdrms, 2 bths. underground pkg, beaut. area, contents also for sale 736-8730.

Bath./Shepp/Wilm, 1 bdrm bsmt apt for rent. 635-7349.

Bath./Wilson, 1 bdrm bsmt apt, newly renov, 4 pce bath, side entr, close to TTC & all amen, $600. inclus., no pets, n/smkr, avail June 1. 635-1885.

Bright, sunny 1 bdrm. apt. avail. for rent, Bath./Shepp. Call 635-5031.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE
Various Locations
Bachelors-4 bdrm. townhouses
PLEASE CALL:
Anforth Property Management
(416) 485-1193
Monday to Friday
Bus. Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Bath./Glencairn, lge. 1 bdrm. bsmt. apt., bright lge. kit, sep. entr., quiet neigh., pkg., on TTC line, close to shul, avail. June 1/97, non-smoker. 785-5385.

St. Clair/Wychwood North, 2 bdrm apt, liv rm, din rm, lndr rm. in duplex, backyard, gar,$945. 783-8431 or evg.905-886-5515.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Corporate Rentals & Relocating Service. Worldwide. Short/long-term, min 4 mos. 778-7600

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

LAKE SIMCOE
ISLAND GROVE/JACKSONS POINT
Fab 5 bdrm., 1½ baths, winterized, 100'x273' waterfront lot, all the extras, best loc. First time offered in 40 years. Act fast $349,800.
STEVEN SCHMEISER
905 - 889-2200
HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.

SANDRA ROTH (BOTNICK)
Associate Broker
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
782-0598/787-7151
Belle Ewart "SPECIALS"

Magnificent 104' Lakefront - dbl. lot, 4 bdrm-cottage, concrete breakfront, boathouse – **$469,000**
2 Adjacent Lakefronts - 62.5' each (total 125'), near shul, quiet street , motivated vendor- **$259,000 each**
Across from Lake - 3 bdrm. on 75' lot, well maintained. **$125,000**

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

4 bdrm, 2 baths, waterfront cottage at small Muskoka lake for mo. of July. 221-0253, evgs. or wknds.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Gravenhurst (Hwy. 169), 4 bdrms, waterfront, exclus. area, avail. for season. 416-630-2975

118 FURN. COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT

Belle Ewart, 3 bdrm, priv. dock on the lake, near shul. 905-764-8334.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boynton Beach, prestigious c.c., dec furn, 3 br, 2 ba, 2 cg, fam rm, enc patio, villa, golf/tennis, eq. avail. 561-364-5698.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

LAKE SIMCOE WATERFRONTS
LEFROY - 45 min. to Tor., 136' sandy btm., 2.5 acres forest, charming log cottage + 2 bdrm. guest cottage. Walk to synagogue. VRM $490K-$600K.
BIG BAY PT. - Exquisite 2 yr. old 3000 sf shingle sided home. State-of-art amenities, 4 bdrms., 3 bths., solarium, 3/4 acre on Bay. VRM $790K-960K.
PATTIE HARPER, *Sales Rep.*
416-213-7224
THE PRUDENTIAL ANDREWS REALTY GROUP

198 SPACE FOR LEASE

Duff./Lawr. plaza, 2000', pkg, 2 washrooms, reas .444-6137.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

ORILLIA AREA WATERFRONTS
Cottages, Lots, Vacation Homes
Lake Simcoe - Eight Mile Pt., Four Mile Pt., Moon Pt., Carthew Bay areas & Lake Couchiching. ***FREE*** knowledgeable info. on many listings in all price ranges. I have many satisfied purchasers, so call your Orillia Connection:
JOANNE JOHNSON, *Sales Rep.* **Remax Orillia Realty (1996) Ltd. 705 - 325-1373**

220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

Property Management: Established professional company provides discreet, reasonable & comprehensive management of income producing properties within Southern Ontario.Please call or fax for further information: **Bansley Property Management Inc.,** 3185 Bathurst St.,Suite 103, North York,Ont., Canada, M6A 2B2. Tel: (416) 781-6606 or fax:(416) 781-3270

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

MEDIA ENCORE
HALF PRICE BOOKS & MUSIC
OPEN YOUR OWN
Reuseable Book & CD Store
. . . With A Difference
• Turnkey Operation • High Profit Margin
FOR FRANCHISE INFORMATION
CALL 416-699-0646

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MOVIE PEOPLE
Busy Toronto extras agency seeks result-oriented sales agent/recruiter. All leads provided. Must love people & have a keen interest in the film & television industry. Sales exper. a must. Call 599-9834.

Book Store Manager. Unique used Book/CD store (Bathurst/Lawrence area) looking for mature, enthusiastic Manager. Book/CD retail exper. is essential. Please send résumé to: 1560 Bayview Ave., T.O., M4G-3B8, Attn: Steve.

Orthodox Jewish Girls School seeks to hire an exper. fundraiser. Good pay. Fax résumé to: 416-785-3478.

Part time shammas for Beth Jacob Synagogue, corner of Wilmington & Overbrook. Call anytime, 635-9694.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Former Y.I. Rabbi/Educator & Hillel Director looking for position in Ortho. Cong. &/or teaching position. Call 602-264-2735.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

MARLA'S DOMESTICS
RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
• **No Fee to Employer**
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

***Golden Care has qualified & exper. live-in/out help for seniors,HCA's RN's, cleaners. Bonded, refs. Good rates. 416-665-4229.**

Cleaning lady avail. from Mon.-Fri., refs. 780-9755.

Cleaning lady avail., refs. & exper. Call 246-9630, evgs.

Cleaning lady available, very honest, experienced with refs. Call Janet, 416-638-8313.

Cleaning lady with 3 yrs US exper. Alina, 746-9310.

Cleaning lady, mature, exper, honest,for days work.747-7543

EC Access Employ. Agency (filipino owned & operated) Low fee/nanny/housekeeper Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

Exper. lady seeks days work, babysitting/housekeeping, live-out. Call 244-3564.

Filipinas, Nannies/Housekeepers in Phillippines & Hong Kong seeking sponsors anywhere in Ontario. **No charge to employer.** Call Ontario Employment Agency, 699-6931.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Find The Caregiver Match For Your Lifestyle
We help you put the Pieces in Place!

Senior Lifestyle Solutions

Highly Qualified Companions, Homemakers, Health Care Aides, available now.

Part-time, Full-time, and Respite Care. We care, let us start helping you today, whether at home, in the hospital, or in a seniors home.

Book now OR arrange for a free consultation

905-886-1267

(Gov't of Ontario Licence No. 6172)

Cleaning lady avail. Mon.-Sun. at afford. rates. Call 656-5345.

Hskpng, 3 days/wk, or take care of elderly,exper. 245-0774.

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

High quality house cleaning Call Dora, 736-1179.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Exper. nanny, live-out, 3 days/wk to care for 3 yr. old boy & do light housework, refs. req'd. Call after 1 pm. 920-1774.

Looking for Jewish woman for cooking & keeping me company. 781-1611.

Looking for European nanny to take care of a 2 yr. old girl & a newborn on the way, light cleaning, full-time, live-out/in. York Mills/Leslie area. Call 447-6912 between 10:30 am & 9 pm

258 HEALTHCARE

HCA, live-out, home or inst., exper, refs. avail. 780-9755.

HCA with hospital, nursing home, private home exper., seeks steady position. Refs. & licensed. Call 604-3350.

259 SENIORS

Attend./Companion avail Eng/Yid/Heb, refs. Chaim 512-6525.

Lady to be companion/caregiver for elderly, FT/PT. 781-3041.

Mature, reliable lady with many years exp. & exc. refs. seeks job to care for elderly, FT/PTor babysitting. 256-7087.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

1 match can light a fire! At least 1engagement/mo.Bringing People Together 905-731-5204

Driver & car avail. for seniors. Appt's., etc., min. 24 hr. notice, reasonable. Leave name & no. 905-731-2815. No wheelchairs

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1350** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**. 483-4151

ENGAGEMENT!!! If *you'd* like to meet someone special, **A NEW CHANCE** Jewish Dating Service is the right place. Photos/bios,personal service, **FREE** Consultation. 416-398-3991.

DATING & ENGAGEMENT COUNSELLING SERVICES. Put the excitement back into dating! Covered on OHIP. Call Eric at 905-707-7921.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attr. affectionate prof. JF seeks gentle soulmate JM 40+, spiritual, bookish & into personal growth, communication & kids. Call 691-6270.

I have a beautiful brother, attr., gentle, 41, with a slight disability, who has dreams of meeting a caring,sensitive woman for long term relationship.691-6270

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJF, outgoing, professional, attractive, 35, would like to meet a SJM, professional, attractive, 35-40, who has a great sense of humour, appreciates a good cook, likes the outdoors, sports & travel, for relationship, leading to marriage. Photo if possible. Reply to: CJN Box 6925.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the appropriate CJN Box #.**

If you're a SJF who wouldn't need a dictionary to understand what either "lev - tov" or "guteh neshama" means...I'd like to hear from you. SJM, 35, 5'7", hoping to meet fit, fun, down to earth, active, traditional woman. CJN Box 6910.

JM, 49, looking for relationship leading to marriage & someone to have children with. Call Abe, 416-783-8382.

Let's explore the summer together! JF, enjoys many outdoor activities, walking, golfing, swimming,etc..looking foward to sharing with that special gentleman, 58-70. CJN Box 6915.

SJM. Ladies, my brother is 49, 5'6", green eyes, attr, passionate, loves the outdoors, spanish dancing & fireside dinners, looking for an attr, fun-loving, caring, fin. indep. female for long term relationship, leading to marriage. CJN Box 6922.

Woman of warmth, intelligence & spontaneity. Pretty, kind, fit, sensitive, 44, prof., well traveled, cultured, divorced, no dependents, seeks a suitable male with similar values & interests to cherish & share her life with. CJN Box 6926.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

For these ads, address your mail to:

Box # _____

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introduction to Theatre Classes, (ages 20+), Leah Posluns Theatre. Starts: May 27/97. For info. call: 636-1880, ext. 368.

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ellen & Mike Smith & Barbara & Edward Friedman are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, **Sari to Stephen.** Proud grandmother is Rose Friedman.

A. David & Donna Hirsh are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Dana to David,** son of **Nelson & Ruth Reuben.**

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!

Donation cards for all occasions

Phone: (416) 487-5246

This ad courtesy of "Canada Games Company Limited"

FINE, Jules - on April 16, 1997, late of 155 Kendal Ave., #401.
GOODMAN-ROBINSON, Freda - on April 17, 1997, late of 111 Wellington.
WINKLER, Edith - on April 17, 1997, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
ROTENBERG, Smerie - on April 18, 1997, late of 329 Eagle St.
GOLDBERG, Sarah - on April 19, 1997, late of 5 Old Sheppard Ave., #1202.
ROSSOFF, Bessie - on April 19, 1997, late of 10 Tangreen Crt., #1004.
SHELSON, Charlotte - on April 19, 1997, late of 53 Evanston Dr.
SHORE, Annie - on April 19, 1997, late of 17 Ladyslipper Crt.
BERK, Miriam - on April 20, 1997, late of 212 Goddard St.
HANDELMAN, Howard - on April 20, 1997, late of 15 Baif Blvd., #306.
KRASNOSHTEIN, Aleksandr - on April 20, 1997, late of 61 Green Bush Cres.
LASKY, Anne - on April 21, 1997, late of 6200 Bathurst St., #602.
ROHER, Anne - on April 21, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
EISENBAUM, Israel - on April 22, 1997, late of 53 Overbrook Pl.
FRIEDMAN, Louis - on April 22, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
GARAI, Aranka - on April 22, 1997, late of 4588 Bay Villa Ave.
MILLER, Hyman - on April 22, 1997, late of 5761 Honore De Balzac, #1107.
SCOLNICK, Harry - on April 23, 1997, late of 10 Shallmar Blvd., #117.
GARELICK, Clara - on April 24, 1997, late of 120 Shelborne Ave., #411.
MOSCOE, Alec - on April 24, 1997, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
WOLFISH, Irma - on April 24, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SILVER, Sam - on April 25, 1997, late of 167 High Bourne Rd.
SNITZER, Max - on April 25, 1997, late of 202 Strathearn Rd.
TENNEY, Irving - on April 25, 1997, late of 25 Ridelle Ave.
BRONSTEIN, Celia - on April 26, 1997, late of 34 Skyview Cres.
SIMON, Lillian - on April 27, 1997, late of 5 Fisherville Rd., #307.
WINSTOCK, Annie - on April 27, 1997, late of 3303 Don Mills Rd., #3003.
KURC, Paul - on April 30, 1997, late of 84 Combe Ave.
LEVENTHAL, Dr. Abraham - on April 30, 1997, late of 773 Spadina Rd.
SULLEY, Anita - on April 30, 1997, late of 5 Parkway Forest Dr., #114.
ELLISON, Manny - on May 1, 1997, late of 495 Wilson Ave. W.
REDHILL, Samuel - on May 1, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
GLICK, Ray - on May 2, 1997, late of 120 Elise Terrace.
GRUNWALD, Leslie - on May 2, 1997, late of 193 Wilson Ave., #221.
SMITHER, David - on May 2, 1997, late of 110 Erskine Ave., PH #2.
CLAPHAM, Eva - on May 5, 1997, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
FREEDMAN, Sonia - on May 5, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
STOCK, Gittel - on May 5, 1997, late of 17 St. Margarets Dr.
MANDEL, Bernard - on May 6, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
ZWEIG, Stephen - on May 6, 1997, late of 7 Barristers Crt.
LASMAN, Annie - on May 7, 1997, late of 414 St. Clements Ave.
STEIN, Rachel - on May 7, 1997, late of 23 Thorncliffe Pk. Dr., #503.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ADELE CITRON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 25th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Adath Shalom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
SHEILA ENDER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 25th, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

330 OBITUARIES

BINEVICH, Khana - on April 30, 1997, late of 153 Bradbeer Cres.
GIBBS, Bennie - on May 1, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
PALLMAN, Joseph - on May 1, 1997, late of 1020 McNicoll Ave.
ALTER, Roza - on May 2, 1997.
COOPERSMITH, Eva - on May 2, 1997, late of 9 Townsgate Dr.
GUSS, Jack - on May 2, 1997.
LAUFER, Frida - on May 3, 1997.
FISHER, Isabel - on May 5, 1997.
IANAKIEF, Brana - on May 5, 1997.
WEINSTEIN, Sylvia (Celia) - on May 5, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KELLER, Bella - on May 6, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MOSKOWICZ, Morris (Mortcha) - on May 7, 1997, late of 74 Alexis Blvd.
ZLOCHEWSKY, Ita - on May 7, 1997, late of 5444 Yonge St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

MILLER, Esther (Estella) - on May 8, 1997, late of 139 Clifton Ave.
SHERMAN, Louis - on May 8, 1997, late of 7300 Yonge St.
STANFORD, Simon - on May 8, 1997.
ARYEV, David - on May 9, 1997, late of 601 Clark Ave. W.
FURNAM, Betty - on May 9, 1997.
STERN, Irving - on May 9, 1997.
BRODECKIA, Malka - on May 10, 1997, late of 5 Fisherville Rd.
CHARLES, Norman - on May 10, 1997, late of 309 Rushton Rd.
GROBER, Sally - on May 10, 1997, late of 15 Canyon Ave.
MOSHE, Lea - on May 10, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
RAIBMON, Izzy - on May 10, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.
LEUCHTER, Bert Allan - on May 11, 1997, late of 1650 Sheppard Ave. E.
SHORE, Becky - on May 11, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Lillian Thelma Gelman ז"ל
(nee Gryfe)
will take place
Sunday, May 25th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
YMHA Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Manya Lipshitz ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 25th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
N.F.J.A. Section #19
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
Bess Goldberg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SOL MILLER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GENIA KICHLER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 25th, 10:45 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Warshawer Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAM NEWMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Clanton Park Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JOSEPH (*Joe*) GOLDMINTZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 25th, at 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

ALFRED ROZEIU ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 25th, 11:00 a.m.

Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Palmerston Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

MAX (*Red*) RUBIN ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 25th, 10:30 a.m.

Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Sunnyside Lodge Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

CLASSIFIED INDEX

Call 391-1836
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5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
28 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT-TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
123 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
125 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

Pitching the perfect script

By CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — It's not often that a documentary elicits gales of laughter, features 15 celebrity appearances and includes a recipe for hummus. Then again, *Pitch* isn't exactly your average film.

Created by Kenny Hotz and Spencer Rice, *Pitch* is the result of the two Jewish filmmakers' struggle to sell a feature script they had written, entitled *The Dawn*, a mob comedy about a Mafia don who goes into the hospital for a hernia operation and winds up receiving a sex change.

Following numerous rejections from Hollywood's top producers and agents, Hotz and Rice decided to document their thwarted and often comedic efforts.

"The story is the titanic struggle of David against Goliath," says Rice.

Schlepping 700 pounds of camera equipment to the Toronto International Film Festival, they began filming their attempts to sell *The Dawn*. Their antics included making a pitch to director Norman Jewison at a press conference, seeking the advice of film critic Roger Ebert, cornering actor Eric Stoltz on his way into a premiere and miraculously placing a copy of *The Dawn* into the hands of Al Pacino.

"We have inadvertently ruined any other filmmakers from documenting the film festival. I dived on Al Pacino coming out of an elevator," Hotz says jokingly.

After shooting *Pitch* in Toronto, they took their camera crew and their aggressive sales campaign on the road. Arriving in Los Angeles, they met with such Hollywood figures as Neil Simon, Arthur Hiller and Samuel Z. Arkoff and these interviews are documented in the film.

Yet despite 15 celebrity appearances, the genuine stars of *Pitch* are its creators. Having worked together for seven years, Hotz and Rice have co-directed and produced the successful films *It Don't Cost Nothin to Say Good Morning*, *Bloor Hawaii*, and the award-winning short *Something Anything*. They are working on a script for a new Fox TV sitcom.

"Partnership is tough. And I think we both have big egos which makes it tougher. But at some point you realize that the sum is better than the individual parts so you stay together," says Rice.

Yet despite having a symbiotic relationship, these struggling filmmakers couldn't be more different. Hotz, a photographer whose documentation of the Gulf War appears in four Canadian museums, possesses a self-deprecating sense of humor, whereas Rice, a graduate of the York University film program, is an extremely intense individual.

But it is the vivid contrast between these personalities that allows *Pitch* to examine a sometimes ruthless industry from a human perspective. Beneath the film's exposure of renegade sales tactics and celebrity shmoozing, Hotz and Rice demonstrate the genuine frustration, rejection and humiliation their partnership must weather in order to succeed in the highly competitive field of film.

"Anyone who's in the industry, I don't care how big they are now, were rejected at some point. And when you realize that that's the battle, it separates the men from the boys," says Rice.

Currently taking a break from pitching scripts and accosting celebrities, Hotz and Rice are waiting for a distribution deal, in order to release *Pitch* in theatres nationwide, an experience that might make for another unusual documentary.

PROGRAM HELPS YOUNG OLIM

Thanks to Sela, a new program sponsored in part by the Jewish Agency, hundreds of high-calibre students from the former Soviet Union are given the opportunity – and financial support – to make aliyah alone and study at top universities in Israel. [WZPS photo]

Neil Simon's Rewrites

Playwright chronicles success

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — If the word bittersweet has often been associated with phenomenal American playwright Neil Simon, one need only read his recent memoir *Rewrites* (Simon & Schuster, $34) to understand why.

In it, he shares a string of typically good-humored tales of his quick ascent up the ladder of theatrical success, from his days of writing for television in the late 1950s, through his first Broadway hit *Come Blow Your Horn* in 1960, to his enormously successful play *The Odd Couple* — the television spin-off of which has earned millions in royalties, not a penny of which he has ever seen.

Through his seemingly inexhaustible talent for fashioning likable, wise-cracking stage characters caught in the all-too-human vice of modern urban living, Simon has earned an exalted place in the top echelons of modern playwrights.

With 25 works to his credit, he has authored "more successful plays than anyone since Shakespeare," according to director Hal Prince. The list includes *Barefoot In The Park*, *The Gingerbread Lady*, *Last Of The Red Hot Lovers*, *The Sunshine Boys*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Biloxi Blues* and *Lost In Yonkers*, for which he won a Pulitzer prize in 1991.

Yet in the aptly-titled *Rewrites*, Simon acknowledges that almost none of it came easily. He describes recurrent bouts of laboring around the clock before opening night to fix some overwhelmingly intractable problem with a scene or — in the case of The Odd Couple — an entire act. "Some plays come easily," he writes, "some take time, and some feel as though you're pushing Noah's Ark, after the flood, up Mount Ararat, animals included."

Those who earn their living by writing may be reassured to learn that even a seasoned pro like Simon has sometimes faced writer's block, or at least the seeming inability to write himself out of a difficult situation.

As Walter Matthau, Art Carney and other members of the original *Odd Couple* cast rehearsed for its Boston try-out under the direction of Mike Nichols, it became apparent to all concerned that the third and final act wasn't working. Simon rewrote it in four days; the result was better, but not much.

Endless revisions later, the play opened: "As the curtain came down on a somewhat wobbly third act, we got a rousing reaction from that gracious and forgiving first preview audience."

Simon, who generally doesn't have much use for reviewers, credits Boston critic Elliot Norton for giving the simple advice that saved the play: "Why don't you bring back those Pigeon Sisters, who were so darned funny in the second act?"

Ultimately, *The Odd Couple* became the hottest ticket on Broadway, prompting Simon to ponder his extraordinary good fortune: "I had the most wonderful wife a man could want, two incredible children, the perfect dog, my health, and a sonic boom of a hit that would eventually reverberate around the world."

Simon's memoir ends with his sad description of his wife Joan's cancer and her death in the summer of 1973, an event as monumentally significant to his oeuvre as it has been to his life.

Just as he subsequently wrote *Chapter Two*, a play about the touchingly human perils of widowhood and remarriage, one expects that he will eventually produce a second instalment of his memoirs, filled with more revealing, funny —and occasionally bittersweet — tales of a life lived at the heart of New York's theatrical demimonde.

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Sports

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Corey Mincovitch wears his Jewish pride close to his heart. He sports tattoos of a magen David and a chai on his chest and of Moses and Samson, "the two strongest Jews," on his arms.

Taekwon-Do black belt seeks Maccabiah medal

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's a good thing Corey Mincovitch realized he needed some discipline when he enrolled in Kung Fu and Taekwon-Do classes back when he was 16. In his early years, he was admittedly a wild kid who didn't take direction from anyone.

At 5-foot-11, 240 pounds, it's best for all concerned that Mincovitch tamed those rowdy spirits and directed them where they can do some good. In July he'll do just that when he tangles with other Taekwon-Do fighters at the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

The competition's only heavyweight who lives up to the designation, Mincovitch is confident he'll bring home a medal, probably a gold. Most of the other scrappers are much smaller and because of the dearth of big men for him to compete against, Mincovitch will tangle with 184-pounders who'll also be considered heavyweights.

"The lighter guys will buzz around me for a while but when I get one kick in, they'll go down. I'm not concerned," he said matter-of-factly, as if discussing his lunch menu.

After checking the computerized database of the National Federation of Taekwon-Do and doing a rather unscientific guessing game of matching fighters to Jewish-sounding names, Mincovitch believes he's the second highest rated Jewish master in North America. Number 1 is a seventh dan black belt in California, but he's a lightweight.

Certified Microsoft systems engineer

Mincovitch is a fifth degree black belt who boasts 22-inch arms, a 55-inch chest and who can bench press 475 pounds. A certified Microsoft systems engineer, proving there's brains to go along with the brawn, Mincovitch holds the super-heavyweight Commonwealth Taekwon-Do title. To keep up his level of fitness and to be ready for Israel's steamy summertime heat, he's in the gym five days a week lifting weights. He follows that up with an hour-long Taekwon-Do workout.

Canada's national heavyweight champion, Mincovitch, 34, usually fights in recreational competitions, finishing first earlier this year in the John Park Tournament in Toronto. Since there were no Jewish opponents for him to compete against prior to qualifying for the team, Mincovitch had to show his wares at a Toronto-area Do-Jong (Taekwon-Do venue), fighting non-Jews.

A master "sensi," Mincovitch teaches the discipline at Harrison's Taekwon-Do in Richmond Hill and he's travelled to Korea to train with masters in the sport's home country.

Taekwon-Do is a martial art that stresses kicking in an offensive capacity, Mincovitch said. It takes its tolls on practitioners, even in friendly competitions. Fighters, who wear headgear and athletic supporters for protection, make full contact and knockouts are common with kicks to the head. In his storied career, Mincovitch has broken his leg, his jaw and lost some teeth.

Still, Mincovitch credits the discipline and hard work necessary for excellence in the sport with keeping him on the right side of the tracks. Instead of getting into trouble, he was in the gym from 5 to 8 p.m. working out and lifting weights.

It also proved an effective deterrent to the anti-Semitic bullies who picked on him as a youth. Once he learned how to defend himself and developed some size, they kept away, he says.

For Mincovitch, the Maccabiah promises to be a once-in-a-lifetime experience that links him to previous generations of his family and gives him a venue for his Jewish pride Two of his uncles represented Canada at the games. Sidney Charendoff brought home three of four gold medals in weightlifting from Games in the late 1950s and early '60s. Another uncle, Abe Cooper, played on the Canadian basketball team in the '60s.

A proud Jew who wears his allegiances close to his heart — he sports tattoos of a magen David and a chai on his chest, of Samson and Moses on his arms — Mincovitch said "I'm on pins and needles" in anticipation of the upcoming Israel experience.

* * *

Canada's Taekwon-Do team at the Maccabiah Games will be managed by Adam Koffler of Ontario. In addition to Mincovitch, the men's team includes Robert Bradley of Ontario, Raz Keshles and Robert Kurlender of Quebec. The one-athlete women's team consists of Michael Meroz of Manitoba.

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LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

F	I	B	S		C	A	R	S		R	O	A	S	T
O	B	I	T		A	L	A	N		A	D	L	E	R
E	N	G	E	D	I	S	P	A		J	E	R	R	Y
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The Inside Back

Films used as tool to fight prejudice

By CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — All people have the power within themselves to fight prejudice, some 150 participants in the recent Toronto Jewish Film Festival's student program learned.

Presented in association with the Edward Bronfman Family Foundation and the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI), the program at the Bloor Cinema featured three short films.

In the award-winning video *Untitled*, filmmaker Seth Kramer chronicles the counting and bottling of six million grains of rice, to illustrate the tragedy of the Holocaust and the significance of a statistic. Kramer was at the program to answer questions from the students.

The Israeli film *Second Watch*, which elicited the most student response, tells the story of Berkowitz, a soldier who, while guarding a desolate stretch of the Israeli-Jordanian border, befriends a Jordanian soldier through the exchange of a *Playboy* magazine and a canteen of water.

And the program's third film, Janet Perlman's animated short *Dinner for Two*, which featured two lizards fighting to devour the same insect, illustrates the nature of conflict and non-violent ways to resolve contentious issues.

"I think kids are very visual now ...They grew up with television and I think film has a great impact on them," says Helen Zukerman, president of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival.

Following the screenings, Felice Markowicz, associate director of the Toronto chapter of the NCBI, and Leola Sullivan, a high school teacher who is also a member of the NCBI, conducted a workshop that centred on conflict resolution skills.

"We're talking to students about what it means to overcome powerlessness,what are some of those things that you need to discover within yourself, something called your centre of power," says Sullivan.

Students were asked to form pairs and to gently push one another to recreate the feelings of intimidation and powerlessness that come from encountering discrimination.

Then, using visualization techniques, Sullivan and Markowicz taught students how to tap into the inner strength they possess that can be used to non-violently diffuse an incendiary situation.

Finally, students were instructed to gently push one another again, this time experiencing greater control of the situation through a reclaimed sense of their personal strength.

"I thought it was a non-aggressive, sort of defensive stance involving power," says Jeananne Goossen, a high school student from Jarvis Collegiate Institute.

Rather than simply prescribe group activities to combat racism, the workshop taught students a way to take charge of a conflict on a one-to-one basis.

"I think it's more about self-empowerment than it is about collectively doing something [to fight discrimination]. As an individual, you are powerful enough to do something," says Markowicz.

"A lot of young people know that we need to do something. It's just about giving them the tools to empower themselves," says Sullivan.

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WE SELL JENN-AIR FOR LESS

CRANBERRY-PEACH OATMEAL KUGEL

1 can whole cranberry sauce
1 16 oz can sliced peaches, drained
1/2 cup vegetable oil
2 cups uncooked oatmeal
3/4 cups flour
1 tsp cinnamon
1/4 cup brown sugar

Mix dry ingredients with oil. Grease 8-inch square pan. Spread half of dry ingredients mixture in pan. In separate bowl, mix drained peaches with cranberry sauce. Pour that mixture into the pan. Add remaining dry mixture. Bake uncovered at 350°F for 1 hour. Serve hot. Serves 6-8 people.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I am so distraught! No matter what I do or say, my mother is angry and unreasonable. She suffers from short-term memory loss, has emphysema and needs oxygen. She was admitted to hospital where she fell out of bed and broke her hip. They have restrained her.

I can't cope. When I visit her, she cries and begs me to take her home. I just can't.

BN

Dear BN,

This is a very difficult situation. You need support and help. Speak to the medical staff at the hospital to know what the long-range treatment plan is for your mother. If you have not met the social worker, ask to see her. She might recommend a "caregiver" support group or individual counselling to help you understand your mother's illness and the limits of your responsibility.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal

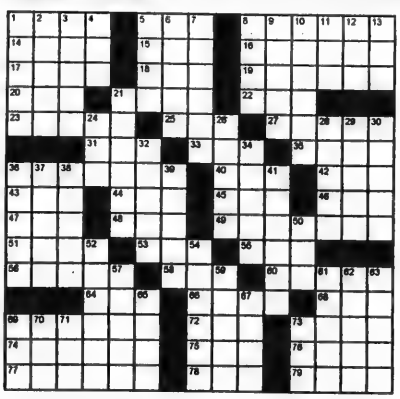
DELINQUENT SPRAYER

Israeli police arrested a young boy last week on suspicion of having sprayed tear gas into the eyes of two Palestinian boys. The incident is alleged to have happened as Jews protested roadwork by Palestinians on Hebron's main street which runs alongside the Jewish enclave in the heart of the city. [RNS/Reuters]

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Writer Sholem
5. Man of great faith
8. Israeli bronze medalist
14. Perlman
15. Shema ender
16. Guide of fire
17. King and queen
18. Syrian ancient homeland?
19. Kosher meat producer
20. Jonas Salk's Org.?
21. Long time
22. Reason for shiva
23. Abram's brother
25. Israeli coin
27. "Our __", Birmingham
31. Chazzer house
33. Mems (Eng.)
35. Life or Knowledge
36. Haggai or Micah
40. Got yall
42. Kuntsler org.?
43. Rim
44. Ashdod to Jericho
45. Shofar source?
46. __ Aviv
47. Fruit drink
48. Cable network
49. Genealogists
51. Nebbish?
53. Affirmative
55. Arafat's gang
56. Transport to Dachau
58. Lamed (Eng.)
60. Amen
64. Words under a chupah
66. Plague
68. __ Carte
69. Israel's progeny
72. El Al posting
73. Spring (Heb)
74. Says Kol Nidre
75. Mt Hermon activity
76. Adam's apple
77. Hate
78. Koppel
79. Garden

Down

1. Four (Heb)
2. Prayer starts, "Hear O"
3. Tu B'sheval need?
4. Owns
5. Rickles specialty
6. Gribbenis ingredient
7. Malamud casually
8. Hurried
9. David Frye schtick
10. Brass conductor
11. 551
12. Sea Scrolls holder
13. Exist
21. Hatikvah
24. Egyptian snake
26. Einstein
28. Emulate Abba Eban
29. Artist Max
30. Monty Hall specialties
32. Budinsky (Yid)
34. Like Mohel's tool
36. Garden
37. Never on shabbat
38. Jan Peerce specialty
39. Zero Mostel role
41. Duke of Edom
50. Jonathan Pollard?
52. Almighty
54. Simeon to brothers
57. Tekiah and Teruah
59. Potato pancake
61. Saul's successor
62. Cohanim?
63. Noah's messenger
65. Jerualem to Tel-Aviv (dir)
67. Entebbe rescue
69. David to Solomon
70. Enjoyed the Seder
71. Never
73. Fortas, casually

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

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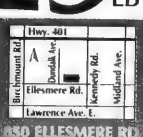

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Government names 11th alleged Nazi war criminal. *Page 3*

Theodore Bikel to give gala performance for Beit Halochem. *Page 14*

Stuart Razin, Mr. Beth Tikvah, retiring after 22 years. *Page 15*

Arts

Poetry anthology rich in vivid images *Page 40*

Health

Cancer research centre in Montreal should give patients quicker access to drugs. *Page 44*

Sports

Israeli soccer has improved by leaps and bounds. *Page 50*

Index

Greater Toronto Area 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
Jewish Life 12
What's New 16
Yiddish Corner 18
Coast to Coast 23
On Campus 24
International 33
Fashion 36
Travel, Arts & Business 38
Health 44
Classified 45
Sports 50
Crossword 51
Dear Susan 51

Shabbat: Bechukotai
Candlelighting: 8:30
Iyar 23, 5757
Havdalah: 9:35

MK 'uprising' threatened

Right-wingers reject compromise on Har Choma

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's denials that he would compromise on Har Choma were largely disbelieved by a group of right-wing MKs, who issued warnings on Monday that moves to appease the Palestinians, Egyptians and Americans will mean the end of his government.

Some MKs in the group called the Land of Israel Front said they had concrete information that a decision had already been taken in the Prime Minister's Office and there would be no outright halt to construction to save Netanyahu's face and attempt to stave off an uprising within the coalition.

However, they said, there would be a work stoppage, which would be attributed to technical difficulties, or a de facto equal division of the housing between Jews and Arabs.

These theories circulating among Front members were hotly denied by those close to Netanyahu, who said construction for Arabs will not be begun at sites on Har Choma itself.

This did little to calm the anxieties of those on the right. The suspicion is he has made pledges to the Egyptians and the Americans as a payment for agreement to hold the Sharm el-Sheikh summit.

Officially, however, the front sought to put a positive spin on things and issued a statement urging Netanyahu "not to give in to pressure."

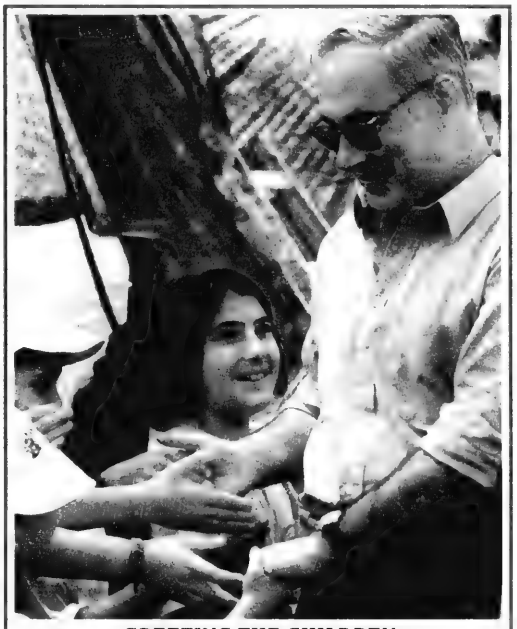
The statement spoke of the front members "strengthening Netanyahu's steadfast resolve."

Nevertheless, unequivocal warnings were sounded: Any backtracking from the present position on Har Choma, even if coated with a variety of pretexts, will lead the group to leave the coalition and bring the government down.

The front, headed by Gesher MK Michael Kleiner, is said to include some 20 MKs from all coalition factions, and its members believe it is likely to attract the support of others who are not formally associated with it, including that of several Likud ministers.

"It will simply not be possible for us to betray our consciences and continue to support a government if it betrays the most basic and sacred promise it made to the voters

Continued on page 34



GREETING THE CHILDREN
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is greeted by Jewish children at a Jordan Valley settlement during a visit to the area last week. He rejected a U.S. survey that said a quarter of homes in Jewish settlements are vacant. *[Reuter/RNS photo]*

Liberals heading for victory

By DAVID TARAS
Special to The CJN

When Canadians go to the polls on June 2, they will elect a second Liberal government led by Jean Chrétien. The Liberals' victory will be based largely on rock-solid support in Ontario, but also on an ability to draw significant support in every region of the country. In electing the Liberals, voters will overlook a chain of broken promises ("jobs, jobs, jobs") and a prime minister whose performance on national unity has been less than inspiring.

Still, the Liberals with their cautious search for the middle ground, for the political centre, for policies that will offend the fewest voters seem to be the most in tune with the electorate. In his own folksy way, Chrétien radiates an old-fashioned sense of balance and public service — and it's stability that most Canadians seem to desire.

But what keeps the Liberals afloat are the other options.

Election '97
Analysis

Most Canadians are not yet willing to hitch a ride on the Reform bandwagon. With roots in Social Credit, in the politics of Prairie protest and in Bible-belt evangelical Protestantism, Reform has had difficulty reaching voters outside of its western base. Preston Manning's now well-known blue denim shirt doesn't seem to wear as well once he leaves the West.

More important perhaps is that the wave of voter anger, whose crest Reform rode during the 1993 election, now seems to have petered out. Most voters seem indifferent, more turned off than angry. And the issues that propelled Reform during the 1993 election — fighting the deficit, controlling government spending and getting tough on crime — have been taken away by the Liberals. It's hard to find room to the political right of Paul Martin Jr. without appearing to be too extreme, too close to the edge of the political spectrum.

In fact, Manning has been left with only one card to play — the rejection of "distinct society"

Continued on page 32

INSIDE

An interview with Bloc Quebecois leader Gilles Duceppe.
Please see page 11.

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Water, water everywhere... — please see page 34

The News in Brief

CANADA

Secular Jews Meet

WINDSOR — The North American Federation of Secular Humanistic Jews held its annual conference and convention last week at the University of Windsor.

New Generations

TORONTO — The New Israel Fund of Canada is relaunching its New Generations program for young Jewish people in their 20s and 30s.

The group will sponsor local education and outreach programs in addition to offering opportunities to participate in the fund's work in Israel. For details, call Talya Rotem-Assaf at 416-781-4322.

Closing Luncheon

KINGSTON — The Queen Esther chapter of Kingston Hadassah-WIZO is presenting a luncheon on June 1 to close its annual Youth Aliyah/Youth Services campaign. Guest speaker will be Hadassah national president Patricia Alpert.

All donations to the campaign will be designated to perpetuate the memory of Ethel Abramsky by dedicating the music department at the Ben Yakir Youth Village near Hadera in Israel. For information, call 613-389-6515.

ISRAEL

Guess Who?

JERUSALEM — The Israeli known for his ability to bend spoons using his mind believes he has what it takes to make peace between Israel and Syria.

To that end, psychic Uri Geller has said he is considering running for the Knesset in the next general elections in the year 2000.

Aqaba Landings

JERUSALEM — Israeli planes will soon be allowed to land at the Jordanian port city of Aqaba.

Jordan and Israel have been discussing the possibility of expanding the existing Aqaba airport to also serve the nearby southern Israeli resort town of Eilat.

Sharansky Vs.Deep Blue

JERUSALEM — Natan Sharansky is going to try his luck next month against Deep Blue, the IBM computer that defeated world chess champion Gary Kasparov in a six-game match earlier this month.

Arab Culture Month

JERUSALEM — A large book fair and heritage exhibition are two of the events taking place during Arab Culture Month, which kicked off on Sunday.

The book fair, which is featuring books from Israel and Arab countries, will run through June 6. The heritage exhibition, displaying thousands of items of clothing, pottery and housewares, will close on May 31.

WORLD

Deportation Ordered

NEW YORK — A U.S. immigration judge has ordered the deportation of a Pennsylvania man who served as an armed Nazi SS guard during World War II.

Nikolaus Schiffer, 78, worked at several concentration camps as a member of the SS Death's Head Battalions. He will be deported to Romania.

U.N. Ambassador

WASHINGTON — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, appointed his top political adviser, Dore Gold, to become Israel's ambassador to the United Nations last week.

U.S. Aid To Israel

WASHINGTON — The era of federal fiscal responsibility has collided with the Middle East peace process to result in a likely cut in U.S. foreign aid to both Israel and Egypt.

Under an emerging U.S. plan, $50 million from each country would be redirected to a newly created Middle East fund for "peace and stability."

Jordan would be the primary beneficiary of the fund, as a sign of appreciation for its warmer peace with Israel, according to U.S. and Israeli sources.

The cut in Israel's $3 billion in aid could be offset by additional military spending for the Jewish state.

Holocaust Memorial

BUENOS AIRES — Uruguayan security officials are investigating an arson attack against a Holocaust memorial in the capital of Montevideo.

A letter left at the site by a group calling itself the Eastern Special Command said, "All Jews must leave Uruguay at once or they will be exterminated."

Rabbi Witty To Be Honored

NEW YORK — The Council for Jewish Education will honor Rabbi Yitzhak Witty, executive director emeritus of the Board of Jewish Education in Toronto, with the newly established Distinguished Service Award in June.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday May 26, 1972

HIJACKER WANTS TO CONVERT TO JUDAISM

Therese "Tirza" Halaseh, the female terrorist wounded in the Israeli recapture of the hijacked Sabena airliner, says she wants to convert to Judaism.

"Now that I have been given Jewish blood [through transfusion], I want to become Jewish. I have always liked Jews...Even in the Fatha they said I was partial to the Jews," she told the Central Command officer Aluf Rehavam Ze'vi, who visited her and the wounded passengers at the Sheba Hospital.

The 18-year-old woman, who literally held the lives of 100 people in her hands for nearly 24 hours, talked freely in Hebrew. The rabbinate indicated the conversion would be difficult, if not impossible.

ONE IN 12 TAY-SACHS CARRIERS, STUDY SHOWS

One out of every 12 Jews in Metro Toronto is a carrier of Tay-Sachs disease, according to tests conducted on 2,500 people by Dr. Alex Losden, a Toronto researcher.

"We've found a greater proportion of Tay-Sachs carriers in the Toronto area than anywhere else in North America," Dr. Losden said of the disease which almost totally cripples children before killing them about five years after birth.

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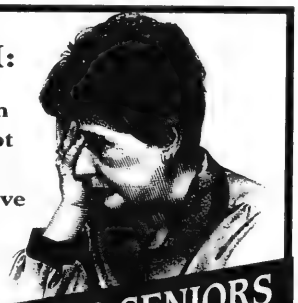

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The Canadian Jewish news

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 6 (2,852)

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Court names 11th alleged war criminal

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An alleged former concentration camp guard in Latvia is the 11th man facing deportation from Canada for involvement in war crimes.

Documents filed in Federal Court last week claim that Eduards Podins, 78, lied to immigration and citizenship officials when he failed to disclose his wartime collaboration with German forces.

The documents allege Podins served as a member of the Latvian Auxiliary Police from 1941-43 and as a concentration camp guard at the Valmiera Replacement Prison.

Podins, a resident of Burnaby, B.C., a suburb of Vancouver, is contesting the allegations, according to Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit.

Further documentation detailing the government case against Podins will be filed next week, Vickery added.

Podins is the 11th of 12 alleged Nazi war criminals to have received citizenship-revocation or deportation notices. Two of the 12, Antanas Kenstavicius and Josef Nemsila, died in the early stages of their cases. The 12th man has yet to be named.

Anger, outrage mark anti-Nazi rally

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Anger and outrage marked a community rally last week to press for continued action against Nazi war criminals living in Canada.

The Jewish community owes it to the victims of the Holocaust not to let the issue rest and not to allow their killers to live tranquil lives, said Nazi-hunter Efraim Zuroff.

The Jewish community must push the Canadian government, which historically has lacked the political will to act against war criminals, into bringing these perpetrators to justice, he said.

Speaking to about 300 people at the North York City Hall Chambers, Zuroff said the Canadian government has known about war criminals who immigrated to Canada since war's end but has done done almost nothing about it.

In 1949, Canadian Jewish Congress presented the RCMP with affidavit evidence implicating Antanas Kenstavicius in the murder of civilians in Lithuania. As a member of the 12th Lithuanian Police Battalion, which killed more than 50,000 Jews, Kenstavicius participated in the murder of Jews in the Byelorussian city of Slutsk. The unit went on a killing rampage that shocked even the local German commander, who requested that the unit not be sent to his area again.

Despite receiving 10 affidavits attesting to Kenstavicius's role in the killings, law enforcement officials did nothing about the case for decades, Zuroff said. (Kenstavicius died recently in British Columbia on the first day of his deportation hearing.)

Zuroff, head of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Jerusalem office, said the Allies knew of Nazi atrocities early in the war. In the Moscow Declaration of November 1943, they pledged to bring war criminals to justice. Yet only a few years later, Western nations opened their doors to the perpetrators of murder.

Discounting the notion that it was because they were only "small cogs" or "small fish," Zuroff pointed out it was these men who actually pulled the trigger in the murder of Jews. In Latvia, members of the Arajs Kommando lined up Jews in front of open trenches and shot them. Later, Communists and Gypsies were killed in the same manner. Afterwards, the killers were given rations of vodka and snacks.

"It was these people who carried out the Holocaust. Without their zealous participation none of this would have happened," he said.

Tracing the history of Canada's meagre efforts to bring war criminals to justice, Zuroff said Judge Jules Deschenes, who in 1986 investigated war criminals living in Canada, declined to seek information in Eastern Europe even though that is where the vast majority of war criminals came from.

Efraim Zuroff

He noted that Peter Kremer, former head of Canada's war crimes unit, wrote that a decision was made to pursue cases for which documentary evidence was available in the west.

"Without the proper information...is it any wonder that so many cases were closed?" Zuroff asked.

Earlier, North York Mayor Mel Lastman delivered an emotional address, calling Canada's treatment of Nazi war criminals "a record of shame...They have been letting Nazi war criminals get away with murder."

Whether it was "reluctance, incompetence or cowardice, up to now Ottawa has done nothing," he said.

The rally was sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress and the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

* * *

Meanwhile, a small group of Jewish students has begun circulating a petition calling for a renewed government effort to bring war criminals to justice.

For more information, call 905-881-9703 or 514-737-9408.

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York's still a leader in scholarly work

The teachers' strike at York University, thankfully, has been resolved. It occupied a great deal of attention in the Greater Toronto Area and rightfully so, given the number of students whose lives were affected.

As in most union/management disputes that drag on, with the press regularly shining spotlights onto the disputants, the substance of the disagreement is often submerged in emotion.

This dispute was no different.

Forgotten by some members of the public, as a result of the disputants' frequent expressions of mutual distrust and rancor, is the fact that York University is an excellent university.

As an example, we point to some of the outstanding scholarship and teaching that takes place at the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University.

The past year has seen the publication of four significant but completely different scholarly works by members of the program's faculty:

• *The Israeli-American Connection: Its Roots in the Yishuv, 1914-1945,* by Michael Brown, the director of the centre, Wayne State University Press.

• *Rashbam's Commentary on Exodus, An Annotated Translation,* edited and translated by Martin Lockshin, Scholars Press.

• *Multiculturalism, Jews and Identities in Canada,* edited by Howard Adelman and John H. Simpson, Magnus Press.

• *The Philistines in Transition, A History from ca. 1000-730 BCE,* by Carl S. Ehrlich, E.J. Brill Publishers.

The range in the subject matter of these texts is quite impressive. I shall comment briefly only on Brown's opus.

The Israeli-American Connection: Its Roots in the Yishuv, 1914-1945 is an interesting and imaginative work.

Brown demonstrates that the current multifaceted relationship between Israel and the United States is not simply the sedimented residue from the geopolitical backwash of the Cold War. Rather, he points out persuasively that there are deep structural reasons for the relationship based on shared political philosophy and cultural affinity.

He traces the development of this special relationship through the "American experiences of six of the foremost leaders of Jewish Palestine...during the years that the framework for statehood and to a large degree, for the new Hebrew-speaking society was erected."

The leaders on whom he focuses are Vladimir Jabotinsky, Chaim Nahman Bialik, Berl Katznelson, Henrietta Szold, Golda Meir and David Ben-Gurion.

"Although it has not been much noticed by observers and analysts." Brown writes, "it was [the] contacts between the leaders of the yishuv and Americans in the prewar decades which laid the groundwork for the America-Israel alliance of more recent times."

Each of these six individuals contributed profoundly to the establishment of the state of Israel. They truly can be called "giants" of Israel's early history. Yet it is very likely that only Meir and Ben-Gurion are familiar to the young North American reader.

In brief, meticulously researched chapters, Brown chronicles the amazing and even, gripping lives. He uniquely captures the "role" of America in their lives and their respective roles in the life of Israel.

Brown summarizes his thesis at the text's very conclusion: "Whatever, their intentions, then, there can be no doubt that these six leaders and their compatriots oriented the yishuv, and eventually the state into which it developed, in the direction of America. As a group...they advanced significantly the development of links in the fields of finance, labor, politics, literature, journalism, public health, education, social welfare, and business, in fact in most important fields of human endeavor except religion, which remained largely impervious to American influences. After 1948, those intricate, manifold connections served as the Israeli foundation of the America-Israel alliance, which developed and deepened under the tutelage of Ben-Gurion...and of Golda Meir..."

In an age when Jewishness, Judaism and "connection" to Israel appear to becoming less and less relevant to the evolving generations of North American Jewry, Brown's book is potentially a very important teaching instrument.

But that is hardly unexpected from a person who has dedicated his life to teaching, and now, to teaching teachers.

The Israeli-American Connection: Its Roots in the Yishuv, 1914-1945 is a very worthwhile read.

Election Airings

At least to Jacques Parizeau, the irony must have been ever so delicious.

In mid-campaign during the referendum two years ago, he was forced by desperate colleagues to call in Lucien Bouchard to rescue the separatist cause from the certain defeat to which it appeared headed.

Bouchard's intervention was pivotal. The charismatic leader raised the emotional level of the campaign and blew fresh, reviving wind into the limp, Parizeau-held separatist sails.

Last week, it was Parizeau being summoned by Gilles Duceppe's desperate colleagues to rescue the Bloc's campaign from the certain demise to which it appears headed.

The irony must have seemed even richer to the former premier in light of the fact that only two weeks earlier Duceppe was publicly critical of Parizeau's referendum campaign tactics and of his views concerning the propriety of unilaterally declaring Quebec independent.

The fact that the Bloc leader should seek help in rallying the separatist vote from someone whose integrity he has publicly questioned is a cutting reminder to federalists of the " moral haziness" surrounding the good faith of the people who offer themselves as Canadians' future partners.

Bible Contest winners

MONTREAL — Winners in the Canadian National Bible Contest, held here last month, were:

Grades 5-6: First: Yehuda Leib Huberman (Vancouver Hebrew Academy); Second (tie): Jeremy Levick (United Synagogue Day School, Toronto); Sholom Naumann (Eitz Chaim, Toronto); Saar Warner (Associated Hebrew Day Schools, Toronto); Hattan Yisrael: Shmuel Breuer (Eitz Chaim, Toronto).

English Division: First: Benjamin Strauss (Downtown Jewish Community School, Toronto); Second: Chava Schwebel (Beth Tikvah, Toronto); Third: Jordan Cox (Temple Israel, Ottawa).

Grades 7-8: First: Batya Breslow (Eitz Chaim, Toronto); Second: Shai Gellman (Netivot Hatorah, Toronto); Third: Shoshana Winter (Netivot Hatorah, Toronto); Hattan Yisrael: Aviad Tapuchi (Eitz Chaim, Toronto).

Grades 9-13: First: Laura Erdman (Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto); Second: Tsiporah Kapustin (Ulpanat Orot, Toronto); Third: Carolyn Gehr (Herzlia Snowdon, Montreal); Hattan Yisrael: Netanel Gemara (Yeshivat Or Chaim, Toronto).

Laura Erdman and Batya Breslow will represent Canada at the 1998 International Bible Contest in Jerusalem.

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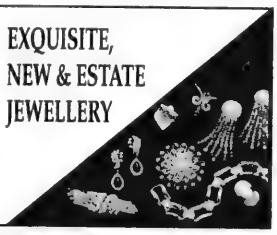

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Greater Toronto Area

Holocaust stamps to be shredded

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada Post Corp. will destroy millions of its much-praised but unsold Holocaust stamps.

The stamps will be shredded in a "high-security" operation, says spokesperson Tim McGurrin.

McGurrin wouldn't say how many stamps will be destroyed, or when. The 45-cent issue was introduced in November, 1995 on the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II and the 57th anniversary of Kristallnacht.

Canada Post printed 15 million Holocaust stamps. On their last day of sale to the public — May 8, 1996 — two-thirds of them, or about 10 million, remained unsold.

Canada Post then teamed up with its Israeli counterpart to issue a "showcard" — a limited cover issue of two Holocaust stamps from both countries — for collectors at a philatelic exhibit in Toronto last May.

Canada's Holocaust stamp: millions will be destroyed.

No sales figures of the showcards are available. But according to Al Dickstein, past president of the Canadian Association for Israeli Philatelists, showcards are sold only to a limited number of collectors.

Millions of the stamps are currently warehoused and are no longer for sale, either to collectors or the public. McGurrin said they have not been earmarked for destruction yet, "but it will happen."

He explained that destruction of unsold stamps is routine.

More important, he said, is the awareness of the Holocaust the stamps created. "They went a long way toward that, and we were very pleased with the issue," McGurrin said.

Searching for Bayefsky's mural

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Call it the case of the missing mural.

Or, how does a 15 x 11 foot painting disappear?

It's a question renowned Judaic artist Aba Bayefsky has been asking for years, ever since one of his large-scale works mysteriously vanished.

Entitled *Out of Bondage*, the outsized mural was commissioned in the early 1960s by architect Martin Mendelow in memory of his father, Hyman. For several years, it hung in the lobby of the now-defunct Beth-El Synagogue on Don Mills Road. In 1970, Beth-El merged with Temple Emanu-El on Old Colony Road, and that's where the trail begins.

Mendelow says temple officials never found an appropriate spot for the mural, and it stayed wrapped and crated in the basement. When he became president of the northern branch of the Jewish Community Centre in the mid-1980s, he arranged for the piece to be transferred to the then newly-opened Lipa Green Building, and that's where the trail ends — and the plot thickens.

Mendelow believes the mural was stored somewhere in the building. But according to Gerry Fisher, who was in charge of the building's management in and around 1984, the painting was rejected by an official of a community agency.

Fisher, now director of human resources development for UJA/Federation of Greater Toronto, says the mural was then taken back to Temple Emanu-El.

Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld, who's been spiritual leader of the temple since 1968, says he's "absolutely certain" the painting was never returned to his synagogue.

And Randy Feldman, the temple's administrative coordinator, says the painting is not stored in the building.

Mendelow says he's considered reclaiming ownership of the mural for display in a building he's designed. But first he has to find it.

Bayefsky says the work was in acrylic colors and had Talmudic text in it, but "more than that I don't remember."

Mendelow says the painting's disappearance has caused him a lot of heartache over the years.

"It's an astounding piece of art," he told *The CJN*. "This is a sad story of neglect."

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Greater Toronto Area

Key issues hindering peace process: Katsav

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel is facing a critical time in its history as it continues to pursue peace in the face of Palestinian demands that could put the Jewish state in danger, a tribute dinner in honor of Sara Pachter was told last week.

While Israel and the Palestinians have no alternative but to continue the peace process, vast distances separate the parties on three key issues, said Moshe Katsav, Israel's deputy prime minister.

Palestinian demands for a "right of return" to areas of pre-1967 Israel, their insistence on a division of Jerusalem and their call for self-determination are points of disagreement between the two, Katsav said.

Speaking at a State of Israel Bonds Women's Division dinner held at the Holy Blossom Temple, Katsav said there is wide consensus in Israel against dividing the holy city. "Jerusalem should remain the undivided capital of the Jewish people forever," he said.

Moshe Katsav, Deputy Prime Minister of Israel (centre), was the keynote speaker at a State of Israel Bonds, Women's Division dinner honoring Sara Pachter (left). At right is event co-chair Renee Bernbaum. [Tom Sandler photo]

Addressing the Palestinian demand to return to cities inside the "green line," within the borders of Israel before the Six Day War, Katsav said that would put Israel in danger of destruction. "We must prevent that or else it could be a national disaster."

Likewise, granting the Palestinians self-determination would be a danger to both Israel and the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan. Jordan is already 70 to 80 percent Palestinian and if Yasser Arafat becomes president of a West Bank entity, he could provide East Bank Palestinians the political and military support needed to create a Palestinian state on both banks of the Jordan River, he warned.

Referring to Iran, the land of his birth, Katsav said Israel once had good relations with Iran but that changed overnight when the Shah was overthrown. That's why Israel needs guarantees to guard against developments that could endanger the Jewish state.

If Israel's Arab neighbors believe it is weak and vulnerable, they might attempt to destroy it, he added.

Ending on an upbeat note, Katsav, who has held the Labor and Transport portfolios in a 20-year career as a member of the Knesset, reminded the audience that Israel will begin celebrating its 50th anniversary beginning at Chanukah (December 1997). He urged Canadian Jews to visit Israel, pointing out that while two million Canadians travel abroad each year, only 60,000 visit Israel. And of that number, only 30 percent are Jews.

As the evening's festivities wound on, speaker after speaker praised Pachter for her role in bringing visitors to Israel. Over the past 36 years, working for the Fisher Fremont Travel Agency, she has led 132 tours to Israel. Friends, colleagues and family paid tribute to her indomitable energy, her zest for life and her commitment to the Jewish state.

Her son, artist Charles Pachter, pointed out that "this woman called Intrepid" led her first tour to Israel in 1959. "Not for her the role of a sit at home Jewish June Cleaver."

Sara, he said, is "loyal to the land...Put simply, she loves the place."

Her longtime friend, Ida Fienberg, called Sara the "queen" of Israel travel agents. "She has the zest and energy of a teenager...She's gracious, relaxed and a natural hostess."

Renee Bernbaum, co-chair of the tribute dinner, said Sara had helped create a bond between the Jewish people and the Land of Israel. She showed her personal solidarity with the Jewish state by visiting it during the Yom Kippur War and then during the Gulf War.

She has been involved with Israel Bonds since its inception in Toronto. The first Israel Bond was sold in her home, she added.

Pachter responded to the accolades with her well-noted good humor, pointing out that by no means did she intend to end her career. She's already planning for 1999, she said.

She first visited Israel in 1959 when her husband of 60 years, Harry (it only feels like 61, she told him), led a B'nai Brith delegation to a convention in Israel. It was so poorly organized she believed "I could do better with my arms tied behind my back."

In six weeks, she sold out a BOAC charter, with travellers paying $895 for a three-week trip to Israel.

"After that, it was a cinch."

She joined Fisher Fremont in 1962. Prior to that, she worked as a volunteer, relying on her widespread contacts in the Jewish community.

Pachter, whose community activities included volunteer work with Bonds, United Jewish Appeal, UNICEF, the Canadian Council of Christian and Jews and the Holy Blossom Sisterhood, concluded by reminding the guests that "we need Israel much more than Israel needs us."

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Cultural, religious differences noted surrounding death

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Rabbi Barry Schneider

TORONTO — It is essential for caregivers in the social services to understand the cultural and religious differences found in today's diverse communities.

These differences were addressed at the King's College's 15th International Conference on Death and Bereavement, which took place recently at the University of Western Ontario.

More than 450 caregivers and 49 speakers from Europe, Asia, Africa, South America and North America attended the three-day meeting whose theme was delivering care in a multicultural setting.

"Since individuals make decisions not only on the basis of facts immediately before them, but more fundamentally on the basis of their value systems, it is impossible to communicate effectively with, or deliver care to others, without knowing and appreciating their culture and traditions," said Dr. John Morgan, conference chair and coordinator of King's College Centre for Education About Death and Bereavement.

The program included sessions on the Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, Muslim and other religions, as well as on the Japanese, Indian and Portuguese cultures, and gender, gay and lesbian, and AIDS issues.

Several sessions were devoted to the specific needs of Jews.

Rabbi Barry Schneider of Beth Emeth-Bais Yehuda Synagogue, who has served as staff chaplain at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre for 16 years, said his goal is "normalization: to normalize the activities of patients and veterans who were active in the community before being hospitalized."

The hospital, he said, helps improve the spiritual and physical well-being of patients, caregivers, family members, staff and the community. He stressed the importance of bringing the community into hospital programs.

With a new synagogue at Sunnybrook, volunteer groups, family members and hospital staff participate in Sabbath and holiday services.

"The patients don't feel isolated when children and adults participate in their services."

He noted that more than 150 people — spouses, other family members, volunteers and children of volunteers — participated in the hospital's Passover seder.

He noted that there are 37 Jewish veterans living at Sunnybrook and one 98-year-old is a veteran of World War I.

Sunnybrook's synagogue has become a place of worship, study and social gathering for the Jewish community, he said. "We invite the community, encourage caregivers, their children and grandchildren into the synagogue. Those hospitalized enjoy seeing the community and they feel that they are part of it."

Other presenters who addressed Jewish issues included Rabbi Daniel Roberts, spiritual leader of Temple Emanu El in Cleveland, who examined the motivations that give meaning to life for the Jew, including life after death and the struggle to live.

Diane Korman, a hospice nurse practising in Moreland Hills, Ohio, spoke on Approaches to Caring for Jewish Hospice Patients.

Located in London, Ont., King's College has offered credit and non-credit courses, as well as one- and three-day symposia dealing with death, dying and bereavement in North America. The purpose of the centre is to provide education for King's College and the wider community, to foster scholarly activities and to develop links with international educational and health support groups.

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More than a slogan

Democracy is more than a rallying cry at a town hall debate, more than a slogan at an all-candidates meeting and more than a lyric in an inspirational hymnal.

It is the defining context of our life together as human beings in one society, much like air is to breathing, or water is to swimming. It is, simply, the most precious aspect of our Canadian way of life.

A philosopher once wrote that democracy must be moral before it is political. By that he meant it must at all times be underpinned by the immutability of its central core value: the inherent dignity, worth and importance of every individual human being. The highest manifestations of democracy are in its unwavering loyalty to the principles of one person one vote, and to the rule of law.

It is true to say that the essence of democracy is process not outcome and the chief obligation therefore, is *that we vote, not how we vote*. The cynic will decline to vote and justify his decision on democracy's failures, blind to the fact that his attitude is its greatest failure. Democracy abhors that kind of cynicism, the kind that ridicules, immobilizes and ultimately alienates. Democracy requires commitment to its core value and responsibility to ensure the inviolability of its process.

However, we do not make light of or deny the importance of outcome as well.

Indeed, in next week's federal election, the outcome will have far-reaching implications for all Canadians. Despite the fact that many pollsters and pundits have cited job creation and the economy as Canadians' preferred election issues, we believe the single most compelling issue in this election is national unity.

The government we elect on June 2 will be the one which will deal with the result of the next referendum in Quebec. The House of Commons will be the one in which the very existence of Canada as a country will be debated and ultimately decided. This is not simply editorial hyperbole.

The separatists in Quebec know where they want to go and how to get there. The federalists in Canada on the other hand know only "where" they want to travel but not "how" to get there.

This election then, is more about "how" than it is about "where."

The 1997 federal election campaign has given us an unsmudged picture of the differences in how each of the major parties "travels" generally through the political landscape, but not specifically how they would arrive at a strong, federally united country.

Therefore, when we vote next week, we must ask ourselves the following questions: How can we best achieve a united country? Who are the true federalists? Who looks for and finds commonalities rather than differences? Who seeks to build rather than to destroy? Who are the most reliable?

We are at a crossroads in Canadian history. Of that there is no doubt. We must act by all lawful, democratic means to resist those who would break up our country. Canada is too precious to dismiss as a vision and a dream that ended, undefended, on the eve of the second millennium.

Democracy is indeed more than a slogan. And the people who are most faithful to it will abjure the ways of the cynic who avoids casting a ballot or who ridicules those who do. The people who are truly most faithful to democracy will vote on June 2 and will urge their friends and family to do so as well.

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Dry Bones
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AN ANTI-TERRORIST SECURITY ZONE IN THE COUNTRY NEXT DOOR?
...AND ARAB FEARS OF REGIONAL DOMINATION?!
SOMETIMES I LOOK IN A MIRROR AND IT SEEMS LIKE THE FACE LOOKING BACK IS...
...TURKEY?!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

May 26, 1882 the first of the Jewish immigrants fleeing pogroms in Russia reached Winnipeg.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Objects to Conservative use of Halachah sanction

In Frances Kraft's May 15 article regarding sexism in the Conservative movement, Rabbi Adina Lewittes is quoted as saying that "while Conservative Judaism uses a halachic framework, the movement accepts the notion of halachic pluralism." The article further discusses women's having more rights due to the growing women's movement in our society, as well as a Conservative congregation's changing its religious policy, in part, due to a petition of congregants.

I must protest and state that to put the term Halachah in the same sentence as Conservative Judaism is an oxymoron. The religion, as defined by the Halachah in the Shulchan Aruch, the Mishnah Berura, and the Mishnah Torah of Maimonides, is basically a dictatorial religion which requires that the women must be separate from the men and may not perform religious functions in front of men. The Conservative movement has changed these laws for themselves. To couch these changes under the umbrella of Halachah is contrary to the religion.

If non-Orthodox Jews choose to make their religion more appealing to women, G-d bless them. But it is against Halachah, and please do not justify or try to legitimize these changes under the guise of Halachah.

Bernard Rubin
Toronto

The positive side of Israeli culture

Re: *CJN*'s Hebrew column by Gidi Koren.

I too was in Israel at about the same time you were. Yet, how different our experiences.

News: When in Israel, as well as here, I read *Ha'aretz* — politics, financial news, sports, marvelous editorials and lots of cultural news, local and international. Translations of writers from all countries appear in *Ha'aretz*, material I cannot find in any Canadian newspaper.

Theatre: Israeli theatre ranks with London and Broadway. Have you seen *Kfar, Tikkun Hatzot, Yehudi Bahoshech, V'Yomar V'Yelech*? The list is long of outstanding first-class productions that are exported to various European festivals.

The bookstores are full of books by local talented writers in every sphere. I read five to six novels or autobiographies annually by Israeli writers in Hebrew and they are excellent.

Did you see Israeli films of the last five years? Some outstanding accomplishments.

Rigoletto: Have you seen the Israeli production?

It is my opinion that you, as a columnist, should at least be fair and present the positive alongside the negative.

Nahum Ravel
Montreal

Did my aunt and uncle survive

My sister, brother-in-law and myself have planned a family reunion for June of this year and it will be the first time that my father (Heinz Korn) and his four first cousins will be together in the same place again since 1938. Dad and his cousins were all born in Breslau, Germany, and fortunately they all survived the war.

One cousin (Ilse Korn) was sponsored by a couple of Catholic spinsters in England in 1938 and has lived there ever since. Unfortunately, her parents were unable to make it to England before the war started and they are thought to have died in Auschwitz at the end of 1943.

I am looking for information about Erich Korn and Lisbeth Scherbel.

Michael Korn
Scarborough
416-282-0427

Manning knows what makes us angry

Preston Manning says he thinks Paul Bernardo should have been executed for his crimes. And he has promised a referendum on the issue of capital punishment. Would he also like to execute David Milgard and Guy-Paul Morin? These innocent men were wrongfully convicted and might have been executed if Canada still made use of capital punishment.

As usual, Manning is very good at bringing out what makes us angry, but not very good at figuring out sensible alternatives.

Douglas Murray
Brampton

Students need social centres on campus

Your piece "Crisis on Campus" and Alan Dershowitz' book *The Vanishing American Jew* raise great concerns about our next generation. You detail the absence of suitable meeting places for Jewish students on campuses, while Dershowitz writes about the disturbingly high rate of intermarriage.

Many students would welcome attractive, dynamic centres planned by and for the students themselves to assist with problems of university life.

Why must we bother? Simply because it is our fervent, deep seated wish that our children will marry in the faith.

Harvey Webber
Sydney, N.S.

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

JIAS history mirrors that of turbulent century

By HINDY NOSEK-ABELSON

This year marks the 75th anniversary of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS) of Canada. A review of the history of JIAS affords the observer a snapshot of a turbulent 20th century. It therefore seems fitting as we prepare to enter the new millennium, to examine the symbiotic relationship between Jewish history and JIAS, and to publish a *Community Heritage Book* to mark the occasion.

At the beginning of the 20th century, Canada boasted a Jewish population of 10,000. For their Eastern European landsmen living in the Pale of Settlement, however, life had become unbearable. Trade barriers, denial of credit and heavy taxation were demoralizing the population. Church-sponsored anti-Semitism, blood-libels and scapegoat politics that bordered on fanaticism culminated in the Kishinev pogrom of 1903.

Pogroms that followed in 1918 and 1919 saw some 50,000 Jewish men, women and children massacred, sparking the largest exodus of Jews since the Spanish Inquisition — so much so, that despite a stringent immigration policy in Canada, according to JIAS records, the Jewish population swelled to over 100,000 after World War I.

War orphans from Europe. [Photo courtesy Ontario Jewish Archives]

To facilitate the entry of a beleaguered European Jewry, Canadian Jews had to combat restrictive immigration quotas which listed three categories for countries of origin — preferred, non-preferred and other. Most Jews came from non-preferred countries.

By 1919, the question of immigration was at the top of the community's list of priorities. At the first plenary assembly of a newly established Canadian Jewish Congress in Montreal, a resolution calling for the creation of a central Canadian bureau for Jewish immigration was passed. It was further resolved that a Jewish Immigrant Aid Society office be opened in Quebec, and on Aug. 30, 1922, JIAS was legally incorporated, with a $600 donation that covered its initial operating expenses. The Jewish Immigrant Aid Society of Canada was headquartered in Montreal and branches were established and agents dispatched to ports and railroad stations across the country wherever Jews settled.

In 1922, when 202 Jewish immigrants were slated for deportation from the port of St. John, officials from JIAS rushed to the rescue. As a result of their intervention, 193 were allowed into the country and only nine deported.

Some of the grateful newcomers wrote to JIAS. Following is a portion of one letter translated from Yiddish: "No words nor phrases can describe the feeling of the freed... the doors of Canada were about to be closed... and we were to be deported back to Europe with nothing to greet us there but suffering... Accept the only means with which we can thank you, that is, our blessings, from the depths of our hearts."

To protect new immigrants from hucksters and con artists, JIAS greeted them with handouts printed in Yiddish and English: "Don't give any money to anyone. Be careful of your tickets. The Jewish Immigrant Aid Society will help you free of charge with everything you need. Apply to our men in the Immigration Building. The address of our branches are as follows: 725 Notre Dame St. W., Montreal; 399 Spadina Ave., Toronto; 213 Selkirk Ave., Winnipeg."

No sooner had one group of Jews been rescued than another crisis emerged. By the mid to late '20s, ominous clouds again appeared over Europe with the rapid rise of the Nazi party.

In Canada, the Great Depression of the 1930s brought rigorous new immigration laws which stipulated that no one other than British subjects, U.S. citizens and a few privileged nationals were allowed entry. The timing could not have been worse for the Jews.

On Jan. 30, 1933, Hitler was appointed chancellor. In March 1933, an urgent telegram arrived from Paris, pleading with JIAS to convince Canadian authorities to admit German refugees. Every appeal landed on deaf ears. "The only hope for admission is to apply on a case by case basis," the minister of immigration advised. JIAS frantically began tracing Canadian relatives for German Jews, and German relatives for Canadian Jews. They prepared documentation for Canadian sponsors as well as for German Jews visiting Canada, who were terrified to return.

The Nuremberg Laws passed on Sept. 15, 1935, legally disenfranchised Jews. Their only chance of escape was emigration or death. In 1936, a JIAS delegation met with Canadian immigration authorities to request the admission of 100 Jewish families — with a promise to disperse them throughout the country. Anti-refugee forces created a clamor and the request was refused. Instead, the authorities permitted JIAS to assist only in the cases of German Jews who could bring capital in with them and where relatives were in a financial position to receive them. So, at a time when emigration from Germany was still possible, the doors to Canada were shut.

Holocaust survivors arriving in Halifax. [Photo courtesy Ontario Jewish Archives]

By the end of 1937, 140,000 Jews had fled Germany. Of these, 11,005 — a tiny fraction of Canada's total immigration figure — were admitted to Canada.

"Every movement to open the gates of Canada to refugees met with an anti-Semitic campaign," a JIAS representative reported. "This is a cause for pain... to the Jewish community... which has seen its own flesh and blood persecuted, shamed and decimated."

The outbreak of the war brought immigration to a standstill. As the Holocaust raged, Canadian advocates for Jewish immigration could save no one. JIAS, however, busied itself making plans for the mass migration that would come at the end of the war. Canadian Jewish Congress and JIAS became the lobbyists for a post-war rescue, while United Relief Agencies took on the responsibility of financing refugees and programs. A nation-wide list of European relatives was organized in preparation for a post-war search.

Rescue, resettlement and rehabilitation became the theme of JIAS' post-Holocaust efforts. As the war drew to an end, JIAS and Congress prevailed on the federal government to revise its closed door policy and records show that the government agreed to "participate in the rescue and resettlement of displaced persons from the emergency camps of post-war Europe."

In 1947, the War Orphans Project initiated in 1942 finally came to fruition. A trickle of survivors were admitted when JIAS helped immigrants from displaced persons camps in Europe to resettle across Canada. After the establishment of the State of Israel, the gates of Canada finally opened.

While the birth of a Jewish state was a joyous occasion, the climate became threatening to the Jewish populations of Arab countries. Large numbers emigrated to Israel from Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, Iran and Iraq. Like their Ashkenazi counterparts, they were forced to evacuate homes they had lived in for centuries and try to make a life in an alien climate. With the assistance of JIAS, many settled in Canada, where the traditions and culture they brought with them brought a renewed vitality to Canadian Jewish life.

Ten years ago, with the collapse of the Communist Bloc, the most recent mass exodus of Jews began as Russian Jews emigrated. Hungry for a taste of freedom and following in the footsteps of past migrations, some went to Israel, others to the United States, Canada, Western Europe and Australia.

Today JIAS is receiving and resettling Jewish immigrants in more than a dozen communities across Canada. Whether they come from Brazil, Argentina, Chile, South Africa, Poland, Russia, Hungary, Romania, the Czech Republic, the Balkans, North Africa or the Middle East, whether they come for economic or political reasons, they all share the same struggles — to survive, to adjust and to create a better Jewish life for themselves and their children.

Moroccan immigrants arriving in Canada. [Photo courtesy Ontario Jewish Archives]

In 1922, JIAS was founded to assist Jewish immigrants. In 1997, it is stronger than ever, helping immigrants with a vast array of programs, resettlement options, adjustment counselling, immigration consultation, financial assistance, English as Second Language (ESL) classes, employment counseling, job shadowing co-op programs in co-operation with Jewish Vocational Service, medical services, summer day camp subsidies, youth groups, after school programs, education scholarships, family to family programs, Judaica classes and more.

In 1950, at the age of three, I arrived in Halifax with my parents and boarded a train for Winnipeg. Their spirit had been broken by the war. We had no money, few belongings, fewer skills and not a word of English. JIAS helped get us on our feet. I remember the struggles of my parents and, while I have become solidly enmeshed in Canadian life, whenever I see immigrants, I empathize.

To celebrate their accomplishments of the last 75 years and to make certain that immigrants continue to get the assistance they deserve, proceeds from the 75th anniversary festivities will go toward education scholarships, day camp bursaries and employment retraining program. The JIAS *Community Heritage Book* and the Oct. 27 gala concert at the North York Recital Hall starring Theresa Tova, Mark Skazinetsky, Igor Gefter and Ralph Benmergui will help make these services possible.

With text and photos, the *Heritage Book* will take us on a visual journey of the history of the community. It will celebrate the diversity, the struggle and the triumphs of all of our immigrants' roots and give visual affirmation to the ties that bind us to the past. After all, a people who still remember their departure from Egypt aren't likely to forget their own immigrant roots.

Anyone interested in presenting their family, business or organization history can call Barbara Stupp at the JIAS office 416-630-6481.

Opinions

Israel at 49 – Am Yisrael Chai

By Nava Press in Jerusalem

The fireworks exploded from the top of the Sheraton Hotel. The night sky was colored by the green, purple, gold, red and of course, blue and white sparkling lights. It was May 11 and I was out celebrating Israel's 49th birthday.

Israel's 49-year independence is in itself a great feat. But the number of people that filled the streets to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut is what really impressed me.

The main streets in downtown Jerusalem: Jaffa Road, King George, and Keren Hayesod, were closed to traffic. The steady flow of people armed with shaving cream, hair spray, silly string and plastic hammers took the place of the noisy cars and buses.

Candy floss, candy apples, corn on the cob and balloons were sold by vendors lining the streets. Israeli flags were everywhere: hanging from lampposts, rooftops, balconies. Even the cars have a special flag that attaches to the windows. Jerusalem, and in fact all of Israel, was cloaked in blue and white.

This was the biggest birthday party I have ever attended. And the reason for the whole affair was important to all Jews: a celebration for the independence of our homeland.

My night started with dinner at Amigos, a restaurant on Rechov Yoel Solomon. Yoel Solomon Street intersects with the main promenade, Ben Yehuda Street, which is right in the centre of the action.

While my friend Ahron and I ate, we watched the flow of people passing by. There were children with their parents, couples – old and young, teenagers, Israelis and tourists, religious and secular — everyone was out celebrating.

Some people walked by swinging their inflatable hammers and bopping other people on the head. Others passed by singing songs for Israel, including the song *Am Yisrael Chai*. And some people just went with the flow.

But everyone was happy. Everyone was celebrating the State of Israel.

After dinner, we walked down Rechov Yoel Solomon to the park behind the Sheraton. There we sat on the grass with hundreds of other people watching local musicians perform on stage. A man selling helium balloons in the shapes of Disney characters made his way through the crowd.

At approximately 10:30 p.m., the bands stopped playing and our attention was directed to the roof of the Sheraton Hotel where the fireworks display showered fire-lights over the park making everything look magical.

Ahron and I decided not to stay for the next band. Instead, we wanted to check out the other celebrations taking place throughout the city.

We walked up Jaffa Road to City Hall. As we got closer to City Hall, we could hear lively Israeli music. Here was rikudiyah, Israeli dancing.

Although I learned Israeli dancing while I was at Hebrew day school in Toronto and during my summers at Young Judaea camps, I was unfamiliar with these dances. They were far more complex with moves that made the tango look easy. Nonetheless, it was exciting to watch this group of energetic people performing.

There were group, couples' and line dancing. Everyone was welcome to join in. For some of the more popular dances, those of us watching were pushed back to give the dancers more room.

It was nearing one in the morning, and although this is far from late during Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations, I was exhausted.

Because the main roads were closed to cars and buses, the only way back to my aunt's place where I was staying, was by foot.

We walked down Jaffa Road to Ben Yehuda. The number of people still in the streets emphasized that the party was still going on.

Even on my aunt's street, in the normally quiet Katamon area of Jerusalem, people congregated in groups marking the special day.

I had shaving cream in my hair, hair spray on my clothes and a sore head from being hit by the hammers. But none of that mattered. This was the best birthday party I have ever been to. Even better than the Yom Ha'atzmaut I celebrated in Tel Aviv in 1994.

And I'm even more happy that this year, I was able to celebrate Israel's 49 years of independence in the capital city, Jerusalem.

I look forward to another Yom Ha'atzmaut in Israel.

I will be living in Jerusalem for the summer and it is from here that my next three columns will be written.

Continuity requires imput from youth

By Justin Korda in Montreal

Last year I attended the World Jewish Congress (WJC) convention in Jerusalem. At the conference, Edgar Bronfman, president of WJC, made the issue of student activism and student inclusion in the organized Jewish community a top priority. He emphasized the importance of this issue in several ways, demonstrating his sincere care for the survival of the Jewish people.

Bronfman demanded that the adult delegates at the convention invite students to sit at their tables during meals and listen to the needs expressed by the students. He also managed to fit in a special meeting with the student delegates, despite his packed schedule. By the end of the convention, it was obvious, and comforting, that this leader of the Jewish community truly understood that without real input from the young, Jewish continuity would be in peril.

The Jewish world today is in a position where its current leaders cannot have the jurisdiction to make the decisions that will affect tomorrow's leaders, for if they make these decisions without the input of tomorrow's leaders, failure is inevitable. Although this may seem uncomplimentary, it is not so in the slightest.

Today's Jewish leaders built up a strong and vibrant worldwide Jewish community out of the ashes of Europe, in order to ensure that their children and grandchildren would not face further Jewish destruction. Today's leaders can be commended on a job that truly could not have been done better. They have built a Jewish community that is strong, alleviating many of the outside threats that have existed against international Jewry throughout history. This strength, however, is the source of the newest factor threatening the Jewish people.

And as a result of normalization of Jewry into the international community, more and more Jews find themselves asking why Judaism is important at all? Unfortunately, they are not finding answers.

There is, however, a light at the end of the tunnel — if one chooses to open one's eyes and see it. There are Jewish students today who for some miraculous reason actually do care. These students should be handed part of the responsibility of keeping the Jewish people alive, for the students of today are the leaders of tomorrow. These students are personally in touch with the spiritual and physical needs of their generation. They must be given the resources and the power to satisfy these needs. Without the input of today's students in shaping the future Jewish community, today's leaders, I'm sorry to say, don't stand a chance of succeeding.

It is not enough for students to simply be invited to sit on community committees as token youth in order to ease the conscience of the community's leadership. The students must be heard and their opinions should be applied, for they are the ones who know what the future Jewish community will require. Although the planning of events and programs by the organized Jewish community and the attempt that is being made to get students involved are appreciated, it will become apparent that this effort is futile if the "planning for" as opposed to "planning with" approach continues.

Today's students must also be bold in demanding change and this change should be accepted, even welcomed. Students cannot shy away from putting forth their needs and the organized community should be eager to respond, realizing that satisfying these needs will be the assurance that Jewish vibrancy will continue.

The ultimate purpose of the organized Jewish community is to protect the existence of present Jewry and to ensure its continuation in the future. This purpose, however, sometimes becomes clouded by personal agendas, political leanings and procedural differences. This cloudiness is counterproductive and very costly. Fortunately, there are many leaders and organizations that believe this and conduct their work accordingly. I only hope that the rest of the community follows with this leap in ideology, making this joint effort of today's and tomorrow's leaders the mainstream. Time, however, is of the essence, and the longer it takes for this change to occur, the dimmer the light gets at the end of the tunnel.

Bronfman is one leader who truly understands this, as he proved when he promised us students that if we find an ingredient that can positively impact on the struggle for Jewish continuity, the resources, funds and support to make the idea a reality will be made available. Apparently though, this is one of those things that is easier said than done, as it seems that Bronfman's promise has not been endorsed by many segments of the organized Jewish community.

The protection and survival of the Jewish people in the future depend on new factors that the Jewish people have never before faced. These factors predominantly involve the fulfilment of the needs of today's Jewish youth. I beg today's organized community to use the human resources that they have created, namely, the concerned Jewish students. These students are ready, able and available to be heard. They have to be listened to.

Tiger's success raises race question

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Among the many fascinating aspects of the Tiger Woods phenomenon is the recurring question of his "race." He objects to being called a black — not because he is ashamed of it, quite the contrary — but because he is also of Asian-Native-American-Indian-and-Caucasian ancestry. Of course, in the North American context, the perception that he is black is predominant: he looks the part, and the prejudices we have acquired over the centuries are transferred automatically to someone who even remotely resembles the young golfer.

His own denial of the racial ascription, however, is something that deserves emphasis. For it points out that the entire subject of race — targeted a little over 100 years ago as a subject for serious study — is scientifically of dubious standing, if it has any standing at all. From time to time, certain academics come along who try to bolster the importance of so-called racial differences with particular types of research: calling one race more intelligent than another or exhibiting other distinctions that don't particularly matter. But since we do like our prejudice, black, white, Asian and Caucasian are expressions that will be with us for a little while longer. Meanwhile, the prominence of Tiger Woods has given a lot of disadvantaged youngsters hope that they too might reach for fame and fortune, but it takes someone as extraordinary as this young man to reach the heights.

Part of the fascination with Tiger's success has to do with the sport in which he excels. We have come to accept the excellence of non-white athletes everywhere except in golf. There, private clubs still discriminate and non-whites are rarely seen (some of them won't let a Jew in either). This is not to say that blacks will suddenly find ready entry into some of our exclusive golf clubs — it will take a while before that happens.

Meanwhile, it is fair to say that every minority has shepped naches from the young golfer's phenomenal success. I think most Jews have greeted his achievement with special pleasure, for many of us remember what prejudice does to the one on whom it is visited.

Censuses still insist on asking us questions about color, background, religion and other matters that should play no role in the rational consciousness. We are told that this is important for statistics. Of course, one can assemble data on anything, but the very asking gives the respondent the impression that it is important for the nation.

Obviously, the government has to ask our age, for it must calculate when Old Age and Canada Pension payments fall due. But I think it would send a powerful message to everyone if religion and race were removed from public snooping and were thereby declared irrelevant to common concerns, although that won't eliminate prejudice and we'll still need human rights codes and their protection.

Meanwhile, our speech often betrays how we think. It bothers me no end that from time to time, I hear a Jew make derogatory jokes about blacks. Jokes often reveal the racism behind them, and it behooves us to guard our speech even as we must guard our hearts. Racial prejudice is not only bad or wrong, it is also un-Jewish.

Election '97

BQ leader Gilles Duceppe

By ELIAS LEVY
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — *After June 2, the Bloc Québécois intends to continue to actively promote the idea of Quebec sovereignty in the federal political arena, party leader Gilles Duceppe told the* Canadian Jewish News *in an interview. The man who, until recently, was head of the official Opposition in Ottawa, also gave us his thoughts on other topics.*

As in every federal election, *The CJN* sought interviews with the leaders of the major parties. Only Gilles Duceppe agreed. The NDP specifically called to say Alexa McDonough would not be available because of health reasons and scheduling difficulties. The other three parties were simply unavailable.

CJN: *What will be the chief priorities of the Bloc Québécois delegation elected on June 2?*
Gilles Duceppe: We firmly intend to continue to defend specific issues where Quebec's interests are at stake and to actively promote our sovereigntist plan. These two items go hand in hand because the political option we are proposing has concrete implications for everyday life in areas involving the interests of the Québécois.

CJN: *You seem to be obsessed with the thorny question of Quebec sovereignty. However, the most recent polls show clearly that that option is losing ground in Quebec. Since 1980, the sovereigntists have been defeated twice. Yet you persist. If the Yes vote wins the next referendum by a very narrow margin, how will you confer legitimacy to a result that is not unanimous?*
G.D.: It is not good to put too much faith in polls. At the beginning of the last referendum campaign, the polls predicted that the Yes side would get only 40 percent of the votes. One thing is certain: We have no illusions about the results of the next referendum. The sovereigntist camp will certainly not receive 80 percent of the votes. I believe it is the rules of democracy that must take precedence. As soon as the Yes side wins, we must immediately open negotiations with Canada and negotiate in the interests of both nations. That is how things happen in a democracy. We had the reverse situation in 1995 and we respected the result. Quebec is still part of Canada; we continue to pay our taxes to Ottawa.

I am convinced that we will succeed in reaching a new agreement with Canadians. They are also tired of all the discussions. The partnership we are proposing is, without doubt, the best solution for two nations who have known each other for a long time, who have never truly settled their differences and who have for the first time the opportunity to get to know each other again and to share things in a free and voluntary way. That is the modern path we are proposing to English Canada.

The sovereigntists were not the ones who invented that concept. I remember that the former secretary general of the United Nations, Boutros Boutros-Ghali declared in Montreal in May 1992 that there are two trends in the modern world: one that encourages peoples and nations to build a sovereign country, and another that prompts countries to create broadly based economic organizations such as the common markets of NAFTA. The latter is the way of the future.

I do not see why it would pose such a big problem to Canadians to have a sovereign nation called Quebec living side by side with them, as does their American neighbor to the south.

CJN: *Won't sovereignty have disastrous repercussions on the economy of Quebec?*
G.D.: I want to remind you that there are countries that are much less stable than Quebec, and they are not shunned by Canadian and foreign investors. Take for example the Bombardier investments in Northern Ireland. We have also just signed free trade agreements with Mexico and the State of Israel. Isn't there greater socio-political stability in Quebec than in Mexico? And you will surely agree that the political situation in Quebec is much more stable than the one currently existing in Israel. I am not at all thrilled by what is happening in Israel, but the statement seems obvious to me.

Would you advise businesspeople not to invest in Israel because there is a political problem which, I believe, is much more acute than the one in Quebec? You would not say that, I am convinced. Then why say that it is dangerous to invest in Quebec?

CJN: *Will the rights of minorities be protected and respected within the framework of a sovereign Quebec? Isn't the sovereigntists' position somewhat vague on that subject?*
G.D.: Our position on that subject is not at all vague. For us, all those who live in Quebec, no matter what their origin and their language, are full-fledged members of the Québécois nation. That position was explicitly reiterated in the agreement signed by the three parties supporting the sovereigntist option before the last referendum.

For us, the collective rights of the anglophone minority that controls its own education network — from elementary level to university — and its own social institutions are an immutable given. Those rights will be guaranteed in the constitution of a sovereign Quebec. Moreover, we have also reached specific agreements with certain cultural communities, including the Jewish community, especially about schools... The contribution of anglophones to Quebec society is a richness that we must preserve at all cost.

CJN: *Since the last referendum, relations between the leaders of the movement for independence and the cultural communities of Quebec seem to be deteriorating, especially because of Jacques Parizeau's words about minorities. In your opinion, what is the current state of those relations?*
G.D.: We are working very hard to rebuild bridges with the cultural communities. However, in daily life, relations seem to me to be very good... The sovereigntists have made a great deal of effort on relations with cultural groups. We are very conscious that that rapprochement will not mean a large increase in sympathy for sovereignty. However, we believe it is necessary. It is a question of working together on those values we have in common and the causes that we can defend jointly.

CJN: *Does the Bloc Québécois support Canada's foreign policy in the Middle East? What will be the diplomatic position of an independent Quebec with respect to the Israeli-Arab conflict?*
G.D.: The Bloc supported the peace accords between the Palestinian Authority and the State of Israel. Like many other political parties, we do not agree with Israeli settlement of the territories. I believe our position on that subject is quite close to that of a significant portion of Israeli public opinion, which objects to the policy of settlement. We believe it would be much better to put all one's energy into the peace process. Our position also reflects that of the Israeli Labor party.

As for the Mideast foreign policy of a sovereign Quebec, it would be for the party which forms the government of the new independent state to define the broad orientation of that policy. I myself think that we would be linked by the broad, common values that unite Quebec and Israel, namely a democratic state concerned with the respect of all its citizens. We are both people who should understand each other well. The Québécois are fighting to have a country. I am persuaded that Israelis will understand us well; they have already been there.

Gilles Duceppe

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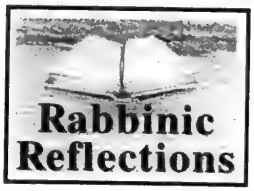

Halachah designed to aid Jewish people

By RABBI Y. BENAMOU and GARY DOLOVITCH

Parshas Bechukosai, which closes the book of Vayikra, begins with the following words (Lev. 33:3): *"Im Bechukosai telechu,"* (If you will walk in My decrees).

The parshah tells us that if the Jewish people choose to "walk" in G-d's decrees, observe His commandments, and perform them, there is the promise of great reward. There is also, however, the threat of very severe punishment if the Jewish people choose a different path. Both the promise of blessing and the threat of curse are tied inextricably to walking in G-d's decrees — to following his Halachah.

What then is Halachah? Rabbi Henry Hoschander describes it this way: "Briefly, it is the myriad of rules and regulations, biblical and post-biblical, rabbinic exegesis and responsa, stretching from the dawn of the Jewish faith to the present, designed to aid and abet the Jew in his magnificent struggle for spiritual self-fulfilment and Divine realization…Halachah is simply living Judaism, the faith which every Jew must profess, the principles by which he must be guided, and the practices in which he must walk."

This definition stresses that Halachah is a "living Judaism." This means that it is as binding on today's generation as on past generations. It also means that the laws are binding in their entirety.

The term Halachah is often translated as "Jewish law." Such translation, however, leads potentially to confusing Halachah (Jewish law) with civil law.

Modern civil law is seen as having no legitimate role outside the public domain. Civil law-making authorities are seen by many as having no right to legislate on what are believed to be purely private moral choice issues. Then prime minister Pierre Trudeau summed up this viewpoint when he uttered the famous line that Parliament had no business in the bedrooms of the nation.

Halachah, by contrast, is very concerned with what goes on in the bedrooms of the Jewish people. And not only in their bedrooms, but in their homes and at their dinner tables as well. Halachah is concerned with and addresses each and every aspect of a Jewish person's life. The Torah makes clear that G-d cares deeply about everything a person does. There are no areas outside HaShem's jurisdiction.

Thus, Halachah has to be understood as describing and defining the right way to live as a Jewish person in all areas, both "public" and "private." Its root being *holech* meaning "to walk," Jewish "law," G-d's commandments, set out the path that the Jew must travel in life.

Now that we know what the Halachah is, we must go the next step and try to find out what it asks of us. Again, comparison to the civil framework is helpful.

Civil law and the secular ethic are directed at making good citizens. Good citizens care about their neighbors and the world in which they live. They do not commit crimes. They are careful that their actions will not injure others, even accidentally. They vote. They pay taxes. They care about the environment. They volunteer. They try to be good people.

Unquestionably, Jewish law demands that Jews be good citizens. But it also demands more. G-d, through his commandments, through the Halachah, demands from each and every Jew that he or she strive to be holy. Being a good person and living up to a very high standard of behavior is only one very important part of that.

Holiness comes through the sanctification of the physical act in this world: We sanctify those acts by adding an element of G-dliness to everything we do. As Jews, as part of a holy nation, we are expected to imbue our everyday actions — how we eat, what we eat, how we mark time, and even how we make love with our spouses — with holiness. In the words of Rabbi Henry Hoschander, "The pre-eminent function of Halachah is to guide man toward this goal."

Once we accept that Halachah is part of every aspect of a person's life, it becomes obvious that understanding the broad principles can only be the beginning, because sanctifying all that we do requires an understanding of how to put these principles into daily, continual practice. We must learn so that we can perform.

Although following a halachic way of life imposes many obligations, it gives much more than it demands. Anyone who has practised Judaism faithfully can attest to the sense of satisfaction and connectedness to G-d which it provides. Although its practice does not promise and does not always deliver an overwhelming feeling of joy in the same way as, perhaps, hearing a majestic symphony might (although the symphony too is from G-d), it gives something much more. It connects a person directly to the very revelation at Sinai and puts him or her on the path to G-dliness. The Halachah is G-d's gift to the Jewish people. May we all work faithfully to merit its rewards.

Rabbi Benamou is the spiritual leader of the Herzlia Adas Yerushun Synagogue in Winnipeg.

CANADIAN NATIONAL BIBLE CONTEST WINNERS

Prize winners in the 1997 Canadian National Bible Contest are shown with Shlomo Shimon, (top left), executive director of the Jewish Education Council of Montreal, which organized the event. A total of 160 students from across Canada competed in this year's contest, held in Montreal last month. For a list of the winners, see page 4.

Jewish Life

Following the paper trail

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

After years of doing family tree research, I have amassed hundreds of documents, articles, papers, photographs and illustrations relating to my ancestors and relatives, dating from roughly 1808 to the present.

Besides the expected assortment of civil records and census lists, my carefully-organized boxes of files contain passenger lists, wills, notices of bankruptcy, tax assessment rolls, naturalizations, school records, old letters and other unique items that each open a window onto the past.

One such treasure beckoned from the pages of the yizkor or memorial book for Konin, Poland: a drawing of the rabbi who married my great-great-grandparents, Raphael and Rudescz Glicenstein, in 1846. Another is a rare photo of the house at 19 Eden Place in Toronto's Bathurst-Queen neighborhood that my great-grandfather, Harris Glickstein, purchased about 1914, shortly after arriving in Canada.

Alas, the house was demolished about 40 years ago. Although evidently no one in my family possessed a photo of it, one materialized quite by chance, courtesy of a former neighbor of my great-grandfather whom I encountered at a meeting of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada.

As this incident suggests, one can learn or acquire much in regard to family history from living sources. As veteran genealogists will advise, your best first step is to interview parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, relatives, even former neighbors – generally the older the better.

Since it's guaranteed that your subjects won't be around forever, don't wait to start your investigations. The most common regret expressed by experienced researchers is that they didn't act soon enough to interview senior relatives who could have provided valuable details of family history or solved lingering mysteries.

Still, living memory has a rather shallow horizon that can usually be measured in decades. The next logical step is to follow the paper trail that your ancestors left behind, which might easily go back centuries.

Records were kept of life-cycle events for most Jews who lived in this and the previous century. The name of each of your ancestors was probably penned many times into Jewish communal pinkassim, synagogue record books and civic registers. It's your job as a genealogist to uncover whatever documentary evidence exists of their passage through the world.

To choose one illustrative example, I've uncovered numerous documents related to the life of my great-grandfather's brother, Nathan.

Even though I had done extensive family interviews, I had never heard of Nathan until I listened to a taped conversation that my brother had fortuitously conducted with my grandfather (since deceased) about 20 years ago. Here are some items subsequently found:

• 1859: Polish-language birth record from Konin shows Nathan as son of Rafael Glicenstein, a combmaker aged 40, and his wife Rudescz née Hahn, aged 28.

• 1888 (July 10): Record of the Burial Society of the United Synagogue, London, England, for unnamed child, the "abortion of Nathan Glechenstein."

• 1888 (July 13): Burial Society record showing death of Eva Glichtenstein, age 29, due to "effects of parturition," the wife of "Nathan son of Raphael" (in Hebrew).

• 1891: British census shows Nathan Glick, 28 (sic), widower, a tailor, born in Russia-Poland, living with his brother Morris Glickstein and assorted other family members.

• 1896: Civic marriage document showing Nathan Glitzstone, 30, a tailor, the son of Raphael Glitzstone, deceased, of Liverpool, marrying Rosa Delepa, formerly Bernstein, 25, the divorced wife of Abraham Delepa.

Various Canadian sources, including a 1943 tombstone, provide more details. Thus, from knowing nothing of my great-great-uncle, I've recovered a bare outline of his life story, seemingly plucked from the ether of time.

Like his brothers Harris and Morris, Nathan has many descendants in Toronto. They include great-grandson Randy Starkman, award-winning sports writer for the *Toronto Star*, and great-grandson Russell Gillman, whose wife Vera is the assistant general manager of *The Canadian Jewish News*.

Following a paper trail can ultimately lead you to living relatives and make you realize the deep familial bonds that unite the Jewish people all over the world.

* * *

Priestly DNA: The next meeting of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada features Prof. Karl Skorecki, speaking on Genetic Archeology: The Y-Chromosome of Jewish Priests. June 4, Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, Toronto. Talk starts 8 p.m.

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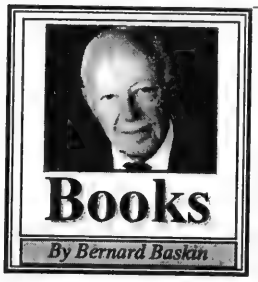

Anti-Semitism's origins

The Crucified Jew
by Dan Cohn-Sherbok
(Eerdmans Pub., paper, $18)

The origins and persistence of anti-Semitism remain a mystery. For many scholars the primary causes are religious. The teaching that Jews killed Jesus made the perpetrators not only hateful, but also terrifying. After all, a people with super-human powers could "murder" God.

It is no wonder that images of Jews as evil and satanic were encouraged by the early Church fathers. The Crusades exploited the inflammatory doctrine to demonize Jews. Zealous crusaders on their way to the Holy Land burned and pillaged Jewish communities. Luther carried the pernicious mess into the Reformation and the idea of the Jew as a primordial sinner became part of the catechism taught to children.

It was this religious anti-Semitism, often mixed with mystical overtones, that eventually found a welcome haven in the secular, demented thinking of Hitler.

Shortly after the war, the great Protestant historian James Parkes stated flatly: "In our day and within our own civilization, more than six million deliberate murders are the consequence of teaching about Jews for which the Christian Church is ultimately responsible, and of an attitude toward Judaism that is not only maintained by all the Christian Churches, but has its ultimate resting place in the teaching of the New Testament itself."

Yosef Yerushalami however, a well known Israeli scholar, has argued that if genocide had been latent in Christian teaching, an attempt at extermination would have come about in the Middle Ages when the church held real power to enforce its beliefs.

The focus of this book on the underlying Christian religious hostility to Judaism and the Jewish people is proper and reasonable, but the author acknowleges that the causes of anti-Semitism are complex and numerous: political, social, psychological, cultural and economic.

The author touches on anti-Semitism in North America, especially on the part of blacks. "According to recent research, 37 percent of blacks, as opposed to 20 percent of whites practise some forms of anti-Semitism. It is unclear what steps Jews can take to mitigate this widespread hostility in the black community." Once staunch allies in the battle against hatred, what each group needs from the other is a strong dose of sensitivity and understanding of their respective fears and needs and the importance of working together against the bigotry directed at both.

Dr. Cohn-Sherbok teaches Jewish theology in a British university and is the author of many books on Jewish subjects. He is not without hopes as he recognizes attempts among various Christians and Christian groups to find ways to transcend the legacy of anti-Semitism. "It is vital that both Christians and Jews affirm that they are heirs of a fearful tradition. It is only through this realization, and through the recognition that both traditions emerge from a common source, that harmony can be achieved."

This survey of the persecution of Jews from ancient times to the present is easy to read, well-balanced and comprehensive.

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Adath Israel Synagogue Congregational Choir

The 70-voice Choir consisting of Children, Teens, Adults and Professionals, under the direction of **Cantor A.Eliezer Kirshblum**, will officiate at the Musaf Service on **Shabbat Mevarchim, May 31st.**
The children's choir is celebrating its 20th Anniversary.
"Adath Israel Congregation - One Family"

Theodore Bikel concert to aid Beit Halochem

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Film star, theatre and concert performer, Theodore Bikel, known for his many diverse roles, will return to Toronto June 2 for an exclusive gala concert at the Ford Centre for Performing Arts in support of Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel (Canada), Beit Halochem.

Special guests Raoul, Klezmer à la Québécois, will also be featured. Composed of four Montreal musicians who first met at Quebec City's Laval University, the band's klezmer music has captivated audiences at some of Montreal's most popular night spots.

Bikel, who was directed by Sir Laurence Olivier in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and Peter Ustinov in *The Love of Four Colonels*, has starred in some 35 films including *The Russians Are Coming, My Fair Lady* and *The Defiant Ones*, for which he received an Academy Award nomination.

Last year on a cross country tour, Bikel appeared in Toronto as Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*, a role he has performed 1,002 times.

Tevye and Zorba, he said in an interview from his home in Connecticut, are his two favorite roles, adding that while Tevye and Zorba are both older men of ethnic backgrounds, the similarities end there.

Bikel has starred in many dramatic TV shows. His performance in the television docudrama *Harris Newmark's Los Angeles* won him an Emmy Award for his memorable portrayal of Newmark, a German Jew who was a pioneer in the 19th century. The show depicts the life of Jews who settled in the U.S. West.

Born in Vienna, Bikel and his family left for Palestine when he was 13. He describes the country of

Theodore Bikel

his youth as "a very interesting place where no one locked their door." Living in Tel Aviv, he attended an agricultural school and went to work on Kibbutz Kfar Hamaccabi near Haifa. He soon learned that he had no talent for agriculture.

He joined the Habimah Theatre at 19 and a year later, co-founded the Israel Chamber Theatre. He went on to study at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London, graduated with honors and appeared in several West End plays.

In the United States, his memorable stage performances included *Tonight in Samarkand* and *The Sound of Music*, in which he created the role of Baron von Trapp.

An accomplished concert artist and raconteur who performs more than 60 concerts each year, he has recorded some 20 albums.

Bikel, who has been active in professional associations such as the Actors' Equity Association, is currently president of the Associated Actors and Artists of America. He also has a deep commitment to the Jewish community.

"I have always been involved in the Jewish community, culturally, linguistically, ethnically and politically," he says.

He serves as a senior vice-president of the American Jewish Congress and he is active in keeping Yiddish alive, "both as an artist and a Jew." He supports numerous projects to preserve Yiddish books and to see that they are read.

"You have to work at being Jewish just as you have to work at being a human being — it does not come as a birthright alone."

He believes that just being born Jewish doesn't make you a Jew. "It takes trips to the bookshelves because you have to look back if you want to look forward."

He believes that "any muscle that isn't used atrophies and that holds true for the Jewish muscle or any cultural muscle."

Recently, Bikel completed a two-month run in Florida of *Sholom Aleichem Lives*, based on that writer's short stories. Adapted to English with music, the first half of the show is about music and humor in the shtetl. The second half tells of what happens when the music and humor come to America. He says he hopes to take the show on tour.

In his concert in Toronto, Bikel will perform a program of international songs including Yiddish and Israeli music as well as classic Broadway and folk melodies.

Beit Halochem is a rehabilitation and sports facility for disabled veterans with four locations in Israel: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa and Nahariya. Each facility is designed to meet the needs — physical, psychological and social — of the more than 47,000 disabled war veterans in Israel today. All funds raised from this concert will go to purchase medical, rehabilitation and sports equipment for the Beit Halochem centres.

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Greater Toronto Area

Razin leaving Beth Tikvah after 22 years

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Stuart Razin

TORONTO — After 22 years, the man some people know as Mr. Beth Tikvah is retiring from his position as director of fundraising and director of adult-centred activities at the Bayview Avenue congregation.

Stuart Razin, 56, will be honored at a gala tribute dinner June 19 and at Shabbat morning services two days later. Guest speaker for both occasions will be Rabbi Irving (Yitz) Greenberg, president and co-founder of CLAL, The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership. The two men have known each other since 1959, when Razin was a student in the first class the rabbi taught at Yeshiva University's Yeshiva College.

A native of Chelsea, Mass., where his late father was ritual director of their synagogue, Razin spent a dozen years working for three synagogues in succession before leaving the United States to join Beth Tikvah as director of education and youth.

As chair of the Toronto principals supplementary school council, he started the first English Bible contest for supplementary schools. At the time Beth Tikvah had the largest supplementary school, based on number of students and number of hours. A Hebrew high school also fell under Razin's aegis, and he inaugurated Tikvat Hayim, a Hebrew school for children with learning disabilities.

What drew Razin and his wife Marsha to Beth Tikvah originally was the then eight-year-old congregation's traditionalism, "pioneering spirit" and sense of membership involvement — exemplified to him by the presence of 24 people seated around the table at his initial interview.

"It was a very exciting atmosphere. We felt ultimately it would be the right thing, to build with the synagogue."

With a foot in the door of both Orthodox and Conservative movements (Marsha is head of Social Studies at the Bnei Akiva high schools), the Razins enjoyed Beth Tikvah's focus on "just trying to build a Jewish community. It didn't matter whether your children went to Hebrew school or day school...We've been here to help people grow in their Jewishness."

The Razins and their three children were welcomed warmly by the congregation and they became known for reciprocating a personal interest.

Razin has "really gone out of his way to know and show his caring for each of the members. He has an encyclopedic knowledge of families — who does what, and names of different people," said Ken Krupat, 31, a former student of Razin's who went on to become youth director at Beth Tikvah and more recently served as the shul's co-director of adult education.

Razin has "definitely had a very good and very wonderful influence on me," said Krupat.

A variety of awards on his office wall testify to the influence he's had in different capacities at Beth Tikvah.

In the 1980s Razin's career took a new turn when he became executive director and played a major role in the growth of the synagogue from 600 families in 1980 to 1200 in 1990.

Past synagogue president Irwin Fefergrad described Razin as "dedicated and committed. There was nothing he would refuse to do, as long as it advanced the cause of Judaism, even in a remote way. He's a great guy. He made my presidency an absolute joy and pleasure."

For Razin, Beth Tikvah hasn't been just a place to work. He likened it to having another child, but "it just so happened it was 1,000 families."

Second generation conference

TORONTO — Toronto's second conference for children of Holocaust survivors will take place Sunday, June 8 at the Lipa Green Building (4600 Bathurst St.)

Entitled Generation to Generation: The Legacy Continues, the day-long conference will feature individual workshops on issues facing children of survivors.

Speakers will include U.S. private investigator Steve Rambam, who personally found over 100 alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada; author Ken Vegotsky; Elaine Todres, president of the Baycrest Foundation; and Paul Litwack, described as a "capability improvement coach."

Registration is $65. For details, call 416-631-5689.

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What's New

By Miriam Hernan

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 2, is deadline for June 12 issue and Monday, June 9, is deadline for June 19. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, May 29

PEACE, WAR AND LOVE

Lecture by **Rabbi Avraham Greenbaum**, founder of Azamra Institute, direct from Israel, 8 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. 537-2671.

Sunday, June 1

HABONIM BREAKFAST

Congregation Habonim talk on Aleph to Tav: The Mystical Meaning of the Hebrew Alphabet, **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. Breakfast and lecture $6.

FASHION SHOW

Adath Sholom Sisterhood Spring into Summer fashion showing, noon to 3 p.m., at The Tzatz Collection, 2512½ Yonge St., $10.

GARAGE SALE

New and used articles — furniture, bicycles, toys, household items, clothing, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Netivot Hatorah School, 18 Atkinson Ave., Thornhill.

EDUCATION CONFERENCE

ChaYil and Canadian Friends of P'Tach conference at Baycrest Terrace on Special Education for Jewish Children. **Rabbi Yaakov Bender**, **Judy Zimlichman**, **Carol Goldman**, **Rabbi Yitchak Feigenbaum**, **Elaine Rubinoff.** Information **Sarita Frasko** 789-1145 or **Devorah Feinstat** 905-770-4333.

CHARITY GARAGE SALE

Na'amat Club Dafna garage sale, 9 a.m., Bayview-Steeles area. All proceeds go to child care. 905-889-6600.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

All welcome to listen and tell at Beit Habonim, 7:30 p.m. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

GIANT GARAGE SALE

Orah Chapter, Jewish Women International, garage sale, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 443 Mullen Dr., Thornhill.

ANNUAL MEETING

Adath Israel Congregation annual general meeting, 9:45 a.m.

BAZAAR

Shaar Shalom Sisterhood annual giant bazaar, 10 a.m. at synagogue. New and nearly new merchandise, clothing, jeans, household items, toys, linens.

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Shoshana Chapter, Hadassah-WIZO, garage sale, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., 16 Holsworthy Cres. (Don Mills-Steeles) Clothing, household items, books, children's items.

Monday, June 2

THEODORE BIKEL

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel (Canada) presents **Theodore Bikel** with Quebecois klezmer band Raoul, 7:30 p.m., Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. Box office 872-2222 or 488-7649.

JIAS ANNUAL MEETING

Jewish Immigrant Aid Services-Toronto celebrates its 75th anniversary 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre . Hebrew, Russian and Yiddish songs by folksinger **Aelita.**

Tuesday, June 3

ZIMRIYA CHORAL FESTIVAL

Jewish Music Toronto Zimriya choral festival 8 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue. **Milton Barnes** conducts the massed choirs in premiere performance of *Sefarad*, commissioned for the festival. **Ron Graner** 658-3610.

ORT GOLF TOURNAMENT

At Sleepy Hollow Golf Club, $165 for golf, lunch, dinner, prizes. 787-0339.

HATE HURTS

Adath Israel Synagogue Sisterhood talk on hate-mongering and the legal challenges it poses, **Karen Mock**, League for Human Rights, B'nai Brith, and **Jamie Klukach**, Crown Attorney's general office, 8 p.m. **Marcy** 441-3339

JUSTICES' SERIES

Beth Tzedec Congregation series 7:30 p.m.,**Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 4

RELIGIOUS PLURALISM

Rabbinical Assembly, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism,

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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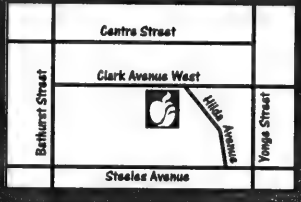

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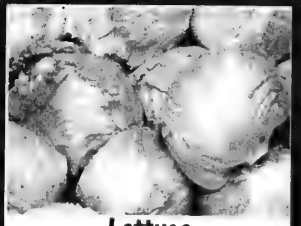
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

Mercaz-Canada, Canadian Foundation of Masorti Judaism present **Rabbi David Lieber** speaking on Jerusalem, Religious Pluralism and the Struggle for the Soul of Israel, 8 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

EVENING OF SONG

Temple Har Zion features Ne'imot Singers under the direction of **Cantor Benjamin Maissner** in a program of Jewish, Hebrew, Ladino and new Israeli songs, 8 p.m. $10 adults, $7 students. 905-889-2252.

GENETIC ARCHAEOLOGY

At Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada **Dr. Karl Sorecki**, Rambam Medical Centre, Haifa, speaks on Genetic Archaeology: The Y Chromosome of Jewish Priests, 7:45 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. $5

WOMEN'S LEARNING

Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Federation Women's Campaign's A Celebration of Women's Learning, **Naomi H. Rosenblatt** speaks on Faith Over Circumstance, 8 p.m., Chapters Book Store, 110 Bloor St. W. 3rd floor. $20. RSVP 635-2883, ext. 174.

ART EXPERIENCE

Noar Chapter, Hadassah-WIZO Art Day, $75 lunch and transportation included. Proceeds to Youth Aliyah. **Audrey Steinhauer** 391-0744 or **Beaulah Esakov** 441-4588.

SHOW, SHARE AND QVELL

At Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles closing meeting members show textile pieces they have made as well as work made for Rosh Hashanah challenge, 8 p.m., National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto section, 4700 Bathurst St. **Rona** 905-764-3620 or **Janet** 225-2002.

PRE-SHAVUOT LECTURE

Rabbi Barry Schneider lecture on the meaning of Shavuot, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement group visits the Jewish Communities of China: From Kaifeng to Shanghai exhibit at Beth Tzedec Museum. Meet at Beth Tzedec 1 p.m.

ADULT EDUCATION LECTURE

Pride of Israel Synagogue lecture series continues with The Death of a Child: Aaron, His Sons, and Silence, 7:45 p.m.

Thursday, June 5

FAMILY IN CRISIS

Canadian Friends of the Shalom Hartman Institute's The Jewish Family in Crisis symposium concludes with What is a Family? Stereotypes, Reality and Halachah with **Rabbi Mark Dratch,** 8 p.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. 596-6959.

YOUTH DRAMA TROUPE

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am youth drama troupe presents *You're Such a Mensch Charlie Brown,* 7:30 p.m. Adults $5, children, seniors $3. Tickets at door. **Ilana Blum** 905-884-6033.

And What Else Is New

THE LEGACY CONTINUES

Generation to Generation: The Legacy Continues conference for children of Holocaust survivors, Sunday, June 8, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building. Workshops and speakers **Elaine Todres, Paul Litwack, Ken Vegotsky, Steven Rambam, Bernie Farber**. Sponsored by Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation. $65. Register. 631-5689.

RABBI HERTZBERG

Beth Tzedec Congregation Joseph Kerzner Annual Endowed Lecture with **Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg,** Bronfman Visiting Professor of Humanities, New York University, May 31, Shabbat service, 8:45 a.m., pulpit lecture, One Hundred Years of Zionism; Sunday, June 1, Men's Club Breakfast, Our Challenge: The Future of Diaspora Jewry, breakfast 9:30 a.m., lecture 10.

PASSED OVER

Jewish Theatre Projects directed by **Jodi Miller** in conjunction with Leah Posluns Theatre and Bathurst Jewish Centre, presents *Passed Over* exploring what it means to be Jewish in a non-Jewish world, Sunday, June 1, 2:30 p.m. at Leah Polsuns and Sunday, June 8, 1:15 p.m. at The Poor Alex, 269 Brunswick Ave. $10. Ticketmaster 870-8000 or at door. Performances are part of International Ripple Effect Festival Festival information 588-8580.

LISHMA AWARDS

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning Lishma awards to honor students who have completed 120 hours of study with Kolel, Sunday, June 8, 7:30 p.m., Temple Sinai. **Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut** will teach and present a gift to each student. 905-709-1900.

RETIREMENT DINNER

Beth Tikvah Synagogue Tribute Retirement Dinner honoring **Stuart Razin**, director of adult-centered activities and fundraising, after 22 years of dedicated service, Thursday, June 19, 6:30 p.m. Speaker **Rabbi Irving (Yitz) Greenberg**. Guests $62.50. RSVP 221-3433.

Shabbat morning services June 21, sermon by Rabbi Greenberg, music composed and conducted by **Srul Irving Glick** to honor Razin.

ADULT THEATRE COURSE

Eight-week Introduction to Theatre for Adults course in a relaxing and fun environment through games, exercises, improvisations, Leah Posluns Theatre studio. No experience necessary. 636-1880, ext. 368.

SINGLES HIKE

Temple Sinai hike to Bruce Trail for singles 30-55 organized by Hike Ontario leaders, Sunday, June 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Members $18, non-members $20. Register 487-4161.

LEARN HEBREW

Learn Hebrew in an ulpan atmosphere offered by Canadian Zionist Federation. Summer session begins in June. Conversational Hebrew, beginners, intermediate, eight classes, morning or evening. Crash course in Hebrew reading with introduction to writing, three Sundays, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Register. **Barbara** 633-3988.

YOUTH RAFFLE

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am youth raffle — furnished custom-built doll's house,Wonderland passes, balloon bouquet gift certificates, Comedywood passes, restaurant gift certificates, draw June 5. Tickets at synagogue. **Ilana Blum**, Youth director, 905-884-6033.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Power of Kabbalah lecture Tuesdays, June 3 and 24, 7 p.m.

Rosh Chodesh Sivan, lecture, meditation, dinner, Thursday, June 5, 8 p.m.

ART WORKSHOPS

Artist **Tutzi Haspel Seguin** offers free monthly art workshops in her studio, 43 Camberwell Rd., starting June 4, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Voluntary donation to organization of your choice would be appreciated. 783-0781.

EVERYONE HAS A NAME

Students of Parkside High School present *Everyone has a Name,* an award-winning Holocaust play written and directed by 17-year-old students, **Alana Vertlieb** and **Niduk Wijayasingha**, Sunday, June 8, 7:30 p.m., Factory Theatre, 125 Bathurst St. $5. Reserve. 504-9971.

AN APOLOGY

The item regarding State of Israel Bonds New Leadership Achievement Award presented to Roots Canada co-founders **Michael Budman** and **Don Green** was inadvertently placed under the wrong date in the May 15 column. (correct date was May 22) *The CJN* went to press before a correction could be made. We regret the error.

MEDICAL ETHICS

Baycrest Centre public forum and symposium, Controversies in Medical Ethics: Jewish and Secular Perspectives, **Dr. Abraham Steinberg**, Shaare Zedek Medical Centre, Jerusalem; **David Novak**, chair, Judaic Studies, University of Toronto, and moderator **Dr. Michael Gordon**, Baycrest, Thursday, June 5, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Baycrest Hospital. one-day symposium same subject and speakers, Friday, June 6, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wagman Centre.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dance June 1; free blood pressure June 3; bingo Tuesdays; shuffleboard Mondays and Wednesdays; *Forever Plaid* June 4; Casino Niagara June 16; Oscardo factory June 25; Catskills Raleigh Hotel July 21-27; *Jolson* at Royal Alexandra Theatre Aug. 28; upcoming trips to be announced. 395-7881.

Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave., spring lecture series, Sharing Perspectives, Tuesdays at 2 p.m.: June 3, **Dr. Geila Bar-David**, The Many Sides of Caring; June 10, **Rosalie Moscoe**, Coping With Stress in the '90s; June 17, **Prof. Leo Davids**, Changes in the Jewish Family. **Marlene White** or **Karen Hen**, 785-1511.

LZA Seniors Club: Stage West for *Shirley Valentine* June 25; Stratford to see *Camelot* Sept. 3. Tickets at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Kingston trip July 15; boat cruise Aug. 5; Ottawa Aug. 17-20; eight-day deluxe trip to Catskills Homowak Hotel early September. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskill trip to Raleigh and Tamarak Hotels Aug. 1-10. **Helen 635-6343.**

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

The Meaning and Observance of Shavuot, **Rabbi Irwin Beigel**, Thursday, May 29, 1 p.m.

Literary Luncheon, **Selma Sage** reviews *A Letter from Vienna* by **Claudia Cornwall**, Monday, June 2, 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Register at Information Desk.

Good Vision: **Uzi Grunvald** of Lenscrafters adjusts your glasses free, Tuesday, June 3, 12:15 p.m.

Low Vision Support group, **Carol Kalchnik**, CNIB, Tuesday, June 3, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Fitness class, **Hanna Weil**, Tuesdays, June 3, 10, 17, 24, 9-10 a.m. members $4, non-members $12.

Health Fair, Food for Thought, Thursday, June 5, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. June 4 is Jerusalem Day party. **Anna.**

Movie *Ship Ahoy* Sunday, June 1, 2:15 p.m.

Singer **Marat Margutov** performs Wednesday, June 4, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

The Moon in June Cafe, evening of music and stories, **Brian Katz, Oliver Schroer, Dorothy Lichtblau, Amah Harris, Alec Gelcer** and **Kalalu Percussion Ensemble,** Thursday, May 29, 8 p.m. $10.

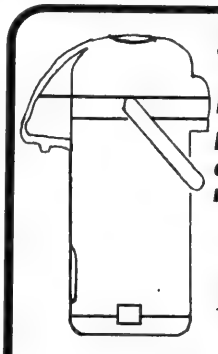
Seniors Club program followed by tea on the roof (weather permitting), Thursday, June 5, 2 p.m. **Judy**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., 636-1800.

Senior Adult Services Department day in the country, Thursday, July 3. Tour St. Marie among the Hurons in Midland and afternoon cruise on Georgian Bay.

Full day in Orillia, Tuesday, Aug. 5. Sir Sam Steele Art Gallery, *The Pirates of Penzance* at Historic Opera House, **Yvonne** ext. 259.



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מען זוכט כּמדר צו אַנטדעקן נייע וועלטן

פון אַלעק סילווער

אירפוּאַקסנדיק איז אַ קליין פּוילישׁ־ייִדיש שטעטל, איז דער באַגריף „ענע" וועלט געקומען זייער פרי אין מיין לעבן. דער אויס־דרוק „ענע" וועלט איז געוואָרן כּמעט טאָג־טעגלעך אין ייִדישן לעבן. איז עמעצער געשטאַרבן, פלעגט מען זאָגן: „ער איז שוין אויף ענער וועלט". (בלוּט ביי רביים אין צדיקים האָט מען געזאָגט די ווערטער: „עולם הבא"). האָט זיך ווער צעקלאַפּט אַדער געקראָגן אַ וויטיק אין קערפּער, האָט ער זיך דערשׂראָקן און גע־מיינט, אז: „ער גייט שוין אויטעק אויף ענער וועלט". האָט מען געוואָלט באַצייכענען עפּעס אַ מרשעת, האָט מען גענאָגט: „ער איז אַ מכשפה פון ענער וועלט". איז ווער געווען קראַנק און שלעכט אויסגעזען, האָט מען אויף אים אַנגעוויזן, אז: „ער זעט אויס ווי איינער פון ענער וועלט". כאָטש קיינער האָט נאָך נישט געהאַט געזען „אַ גאַסט" פון ענער וועלט. ביי אונדז אויפן הויף האָט געוואוינט אַ פאַרפאַלק, וואָס האָט זיך שטענדיק געקריגט און גע־שאָלטן. איר באַליבטע קללה צום מאָן איז געווען: „כּזאָל דאָך נאָר האָבן אויף ענער וועלט". זיינען די קינדער געווען אַ ביסל צו שטיפערייש אַדער אַנגעטאָן דער מאַמען צארנט, פלעגט זי זיי פאַר־וואַרפן: „איר ווילט מיך שיקן אויף ענער וועלט".

אַזוי איז די באַציכענונג פון אַ „ענער" וועלט מיטגענאַנגען אין לעבן און מיר זיינען געווען בּיי דער מסקנא, אז עס זיינען פאַ־ראַן נאָר צוויי וועלטן: „דיי" וועלט און „ענע" וועלט. און פאַר אַזאַ יידּ וי איך איז דאָס געווען געווג. אָבער נישט אַלע זיינען צו־פרידן מיט דער איינשטעלונג און דאָס איז די סיבה פון מיין שרייבן.

איך וועט מסתמא זיכער געדענקען, אז אומגעפער מיט אַ האַלב יאָר צוריק האָט זיך פאַרשפּרייט די נייַעס, אז מען האָט גע־פונען אַ נייַע וועלט אויפן פלאַנעט מאַרס. די פרעסע האָט זיך צע־שריבן, די טעלעוויזיע און ראַדיאָ האָבן זיך צעהילכט: „מען האָט געפונען אַ נייַע וועלט אויפן מאַרס". וי האָט מען גענאָגט בּיי אונדז אין שטעטל: „אַ גרויסע גדולה האָט זיי געטראָפן!"

עס איז באַקאַנט, אז שוין יאָרן מיט יאָרן זוכן וויסנשאַפטס־מענטשן נייַע וועלטן אין די רויטמען אָרום אונדזער פלאַנעט „ערד". מען פאַרשט די שטערן און מזלות, וואָס ריגלען אונדז אָרום; מען שיקט אַרויס אין חלל קלאַנג־סיגנאַלן און מען דערוואַרט אַן ענט־פער. אָבער ביז איצט — גאָרנישט.

מיט אַ היפּש ביסל יאָרן צוריק האָט מען געפונען, דוכט זיך אין אַנטאַרקטיקע, אַ „שטיין" אַדער אַ בראָכטיל פון אַ „מעטע־אָר", וואָס קומט פון אַן אַנדערער וועלט. לויט דער מיינונג פון די „מבינים" קומט עס פון רויטן פלאַנעט מאַרס. מען האָט דעם „שטיין" שטודירט און שטודירט פאַר צענדליקער יאָרן. מען האָט אויף אים געקוקט מיט אַ שפּאָקטיוו און מיט נאָך שטאַרקערע פאַרגרעסער־גלעזער. מען האָט גענוצט כּמעטש אופן אויבערפלאַך פון „שטיין" אַ לאַנגן, דינעם „דים", גראָב ווי אַ מענטשלעכע האָר.

שטודירנדיק דאָס דאָזיקע „פעדעמל" האָבן זיי אַרויסגעלערנט, אז אויפן מאַרס איז אַמאָל געווען, אַדער ס'איז נאָך דאָרט דא, אַ לעבן לויט אונדזער נוסח. פאַרשטענדלעך, אז קיין פאַזיטיוון פרוּאו האָבן זיי נישט. דאָך איז בּיי זיי געווען אַ גרויסע פריידּ: זיי האָבן געפונען נאָך אַ וועלט. פאַר אונדז יידן וועט דאָס מיינען, אז מיר האָבן „דיי" וועלט, „ענע" וועלט און נאָך אַ וועלט. פרעג איך אייך: צו וואָס דאַרף אַ יידּ האָבן אַזוי פיל וועלטן?

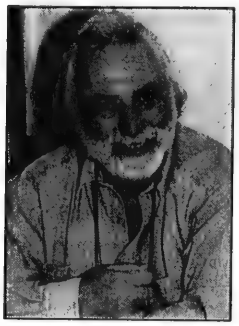
וען מיר זאָלן אפילו וועלן צוגעבן, אז זייער טעאָריע איז ריכטיק, טאָ וואָס איז די גרויסע מציאה? וען דער אייבערשטער וואָלט געוואָלט מיר זאָלן זיך קענען אפּגעבן „שלום עליכם", וואָלט ער אונדז צוגערוקט אַ ביסעלע נענטער — אַ פאַר טויזנט מייל. ווי עס איז אַצט וועט נאָך זיכער געזיערט התּדערטער יאָרן בּיז מיר וועלן דערגרייכן די נייַע וועלט. און ס'איז אַ גרויסער ספק, אויב מיר וועלן זי אמאָל דערגרייכן. אויב די נייַע וועלט זאָל זיך אַרויס־ווייזן צו זיין אַ „שפּיגל" פון אונדזער וועלט, איז מחזל טובֿ! מיר האָבן גענוג בלוט־פאַרגיסונג, וועלט־מלחמות, קליינע מלחמות, ראַסיזם, אַנטיסעמיטיזם און אַנדערע אימען אויף אונדזער וועלט. מיר דאַרפן נישט קיין נייע. ספּעציעל דאָס יידישע פאָלק האָט שוין אויבערגענוג פון די אַלע „גוטע זאַכן".

וען מיין צייט וועט קומען, וועל איך זיך צופרידנשטעלן מיט דער יידישער „ענער" וועלט. דאָרטן וועל איך זיכער האָבן אַ מניַ צום דאָזיקן, עטלעכע „הענס" צו מאַכן אַ „פאַקער" און האָבן מיט וועמען צו כאַפּן אַ שמועס אין יידיש.

Community Matters

GOLDHAR TO CHAIR 1998 UJA FEDERATION CAMPAIGN

Leo Goldhar is the leader of UJA Federation's 1998 campaign and the new Chairman - a successful real estate developer - is marshalling all his influence to develop an asset with a value that cannot be measured in dollars — our children.



Leo Goldhar

"In today's Jewish world, tomorrow's rewards depend on the welfare of our children," explains Goldhar, who intends to speak forcefully about how UJA Federation donations assist children here at home, in Israel and around the world.

Goldhar, the founder of First Professional Management Inc., a real estate development company, which he runs with sons Stephen and Mitchell, says his parents had a lot to do with his strong commitment to community and desire to make a difference.

"My parents provided my sister Dorothy and I with many advantages and always taught us to share with others less fortunate," he says. Goldhar believes he inherited his mother's "wise business sense" and his father's "compassion for helping others." Sam and Rose Goldhar owned and operated a convenience store and delicatessen on St. Clair Avenue West. The store's back room served as the Goldhar's home for many years. Sam Goldhar was one of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation's founding members when the shul was located on St. Clair.

In 1970, Goldhar began his own real estate development and construction company which has built housing subdivisions and commercial complexes throughout Metro Toronto.

Goldhar has been a UJA Federation supporter for more than 30 years. However, becoming less involved in the company has allowed him to become more involved with what he considers "the most important organization in the Jewish community." He insists Toronto's "highly developed Jewish communal infrastructure would not exist today if it weren't for the work of UJA Federation."

In 1995, Goldhar co-chaired UJA Federation's Construction Division and a year later he helped to create the highly successful King David's Circle, which raised close to an additional $450,000 for the 1997 campaign. Today, the division is headed by Lionel Robins and former UJA Federation Vice-Chair Michael Daren.

Goldhar has also been instrumental in developing corporate sponsorship initiatives with the broader business community. "UJA Federation's connection with the Jewish community is unique and widespread," says Goldhar. "Companies which become sponsors and supporters can benefit greatly from attaching their name to ours."

Goldhar credits family support and encouragement for his decision to accept the 1998 chairmanship, a role which he assumes with "honour."

"I wanted a leadership role so I could increase awareness about how important UJA Federation is to the community," Goldhar explains.

But all that aside, he says, he's just happy to help out.

Campaign '98 puts premium on children

UJA Federation Campaign '98 Chairman Leo Goldhar and Vice-Chairs Glennie Lindenberg and David Engel are asking the community to increase their campaign support on behalf of children.

The three leaders have outlined several crucial needs, including financial assistance for disadvantaged children, overseas rescue of young Jews, primarily from the Former Soviet Union, and more programs to enhance Jewish identity.

An estimated 4,000 Jewish children are living below the poverty line in the Greater Toronto Area. Increased donations, according to Engel, will help UJA Federation improve the quality of life for children and their families who are burdened by insufficient income and its side effects. More money, he says, is required to support existing supplementary financial assistance provided by Jewish Family and Child Service, and additional subsidies for food, housing and summer camp experiences.

Some 15,000 young people will be leaving the Former Soviet Union this year.

This year 15,000 youngsters and teenagers from the Former Soviet Union will move to Israel, thanks to the UJA Federation-funded Jewish Agency. Every additional $325 to the UJA Federation campaign will pay for one flight and every increase of $250 will send a Jewish child to summer camp in the FSU, Lindenberg points out.

Funding for initiatives enhancing Jewish identity among local youth will go toward education subsidies, Israel Experience programs and synagogue outreach.

"UJA Federation can be the connection to Jewish identity so many young people are seeking," says Goldhar.

"Our kids are wondering if we are prepared to practice the Jewish values we are so proud to preach," Lindenberg adds.

Engel: still going strong

Although David Engel is entering his second year as Vice-Chair of UJA Federation's annual campaign, the highly energized businessman, family man and volunteer has hardly run out of steam.

Engel, an ex-Montrealer and graduate of UJA Federation's Leadership Development Program, began his extremely active involvement with UJA Federation more than ten years ago. He has chaired UJA Federation's Marketing Division as well as the Young Leadership Network and rarely declines a request to help out.

In 1995, Engel helped to change the way campaigners relate to donors. Engel's innovative ideas included more comprehensive one-on-one campaign training and personalized thank you letters to donors.

David Engel

Last year Engel and his fellow Vice-Chair Michael Daren and Chairman David Goldstein helped to raise $35.5 million. In the 1998 campaign Engel hopes to attract younger people to UJA Federation's growing family.

Lindenberg leaps into Campaign

For years Glennie Lindenberg has been an important voice in Jewish Women's Federation. This year, her sights are set on a larger landscape as Vice-Chair of UJA Federation's Campaign '98.

Lindenberg, a lawyer in partnership with her husband Nathan, began her involvement with UJA Federation in the early 80's when she joined the Business and Professional Women's Network, becoming the chair two years later.

In 1994, Lindenberg was appointed President of Jewish Women's Federation.

Glennie Lindenberg

Lindenberg says she's always felt her Jewish identity is enhanced by her community involvement. "It's really a very big part of who I am."

CONVERSION LEGISLATION

IT'S TIME TO BUILD BRIDGES

UJA Federation is trying to encourage dialogue among segments of the community in the wake of religious conversion legislation, which has received first reading in the Knesset. The bill would legalize the status quo under which only Orthodox conversions performed in Israel are recognized. Those who convert outside the country would not be affected.

"We hope to develop respectful discussion and mutual understanding," said UJA Federation President Sandra Brown.

Sandra Brown

UJA Federaton has been meeting over the past few weeks with Orthodox, Conservative and Reform movement representatives. Brown has communicated her "dismay" with the conversion legislation and "distress" over the communal divisions it has caused.

"The Directors of UJA Federation feel the sense of alienation and disenfranchisement expressed by Reform and Conservative Jews," she said.

The UJA Federation Board of Directors recently endorsed a resolution passed by the Council of Jewish Federations, which urges the government of Israel to "abstain from amending legislation or passing any new legislation which would change the current situation regarding recognition of conversions."

Brown sees community unity as the most important priority on behalf of Jews in need. "Our communal partnership must be stronger than politics, the proponents of separation and the opponents of klal yisrael," she noted. "Now is the time to intensify our determination to assist every Jew at home and overseas who needs our help."

Rosenblatt brings love of Bible to Toronto

In the beginning, Naomi Rosenblatt studied the Book of Genesis to discover the hidden secrets of adulthood. Since then, her childhood curiosity has led to a lifelong passion for teaching Bible lessons to a growing number of followers from housewives to politicians to Wall Street executives and accomplished journalists.

Naomi Rosenblatt

Rosenblatt will be in Toronto next week as the guest speaker at an evening sponsored by Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Women's Campaign, Wednesday, June 4, 8:00 p.m., at Chapters book store, 110 Bloor Street West. The well known author will also be promoting the best-seller she co-authored with former student Joshua Horwitz *Wrestling with Angels: What Genesis Teaches Us About Our Spiritual Identity, Sexuality and Personal Relationships.*

Since its publication in hardcover in 1995, *Wrestling With Angels*, which examines the lives of the patriarchs and matriarchs depicted in Genesis and translates their experiences and identities into the modern world, has won Book of the Month Club and Jewish Book Club designations. Rosenblatt's success has also led to several television and radio appearances during the last two years on programs such as Bill Moyers' 10 part PBS mini series "Genesis - A Living Conversation" and NBC's *Today Show.*

A psychotherapist by training, Rosenblatt has spent the last twenty years running her own private practice from her Washington D.C. home and conducting weekly Bible study classes around her dining room table and in the Capitol Hill office of U.S. Senator Arlen Spector. The grandmother of three also instructs journalists such as Ted Koppel and *New York Times* columnist William Safire. Other high profile Rosenblatt disciples include Ohio State Senator Howard Metzenbaum, Lynda Robb, daughter of former U.S. President Lyndon Johnson, Marvin Kalb, Director of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and Nitza Elissar, wife of Israel's Ambassador to the United States.

"People are interested in studying and discussing the Book of Genesis for all kinds of reasons," says Rosenblatt. "But the common thread is the desire to understand where we all came from and the humanity we all share." Rosenblatt says there's no better guide to unravelling the mysteries of human nature. "Genesis is the DNA of Jewish identity."

Although she was born and raised in Haifa, Rosenblatt's parents — father from Scotland and mother from Winnipeg — taught their daughter English at an early age. After she served in the Israeli Navy, while still in her teens, she met her husband Peter, an American student whom she followed back to the U.S.

From the age of six, Rosenblatt was drawn to the Book of Genesis to learn about the adult world. "I was exposed to worldly matters without having to leave my neighbourhood." She says she continues to derive insight and spiritual nourishment from the life stories of Abraham, Sarah and Isaac.

"I identify most with Rebecca because of her tremendous courage and willingness to pay a heavy price for the sake of family unity and I empathize with King David's internal conflict over his country's borders."

For tickets at $20 per person for Rosenblatt's June 4 appearance, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 174.

RELIGIOUS STATUS IN ISRAEL

The following resolution was recently endorsed by the UJA Federation Board of Directors.

Whereas, the Council of Jewish Federations views, with the highest priority, the preservation of the unity of the Jewish people; and

Whereas, the centrality of Israel to all Jews is fundamental to our very Peoplehood; and

Whereas, the support of the Jewish people for the State of Israel and its identification with it are one of the most important strategic assets of the State of Israel; and

Whereas, freedom of religion and conscience are basic principles of the State of Israel; and

Whereas, the Law of Return is one of the basic laws of the State of Israel, as well as a fundamental aspect of Jewish peoplehood, and has immediate ramifications for the relations between Israel and the Diaspora;

The Council of Jewish Federations urges the Government of Israel and the Knesset:

To abstain from amending legislation, or passing any new legislation which would change the current situation regarding recognition of conversions.

Not to change any aspect of the Law of Return which is one of the pillars of Jewish identification with the State of Israel in each and every Jewish community around the world.

To adhere to the Covenant (Article 7) between the Government and the Jewish Agency regarding consultation with the Jewish Agency on legislation specifically affecting the functions of the Agency before such legislation is submitted to the Knesset.

We, the Board of Delegates assembled at this 65th General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations, meeting at a critical moment concerning this issue, urge the leaders of Israel not to underestimate the strength of feeling on this matter, and its detrimental effect on Jewish unity and Israel-Diaspora relations.

We direct the leadership of CJF to convey to the political leaders of Israel, in the most vigorous, immediate and continuing way possible, that they must not risk dividing the world Jewish community. Simultaneously, we affirm our continued total support for Israel, and for the Federation/UJA/UIA-Canada Campaigns, and call upon every Jewish organization and institution in North America to endorse this principle.

STEPPING FORWARD FOR THE COMMUNITY

After Vadim Dreyzin completed medical school at the University of Toronto, he decided to connect with the local Jewish community. One of the first steps he took was attending a UJA Federation program, *Out in Front*, run by the Young Leadership Cabinet, on behalf of young adults, 25-40, who want to become involved. The next session takes place on Thursday, June 5, 7:00 p.m., The Game Room, 449 Walmer Road.

The purpose of *Out in Front* is to introduce people to various volunteer opportunities and match them with an activity that interests them, says Co-Chair David Rashkovan. "We get many calls from people who want to connect with the community but they don't know how."

"We want volunteering to be fun for participants and beneficial for the community," adds Jacqueline Valmont, who also co-chairs *Out in Front*.

Tracy Waner

Tracy Waner, who emigrated from South Africa two years ago, agrees. She says she has developed a network of friends through her involvement with UJA Federation.

While Waner is still in the process of exploring volunteer options for herself, lawyer Sarit Goldman is moving full steam ahead.

Goldman, who grew up in the Toronto area, is now a Co-Chair of UJA Federation's Young Professionals Network. She recently helped to organize an evening at the Jewish Film Festival, followed by a reception for more than 150 people at a local restaurant.

These days, Goldman is looking into starting a free legal clinic for seniors, and she's also organizing a bus mission to some of UJA Federation's beneficiary agencies. "We want to get people who aren't involved and interest them in giving service to the community," she says.

THE GIFT OF LEARNING

Youth on two different continents will benefit from a learn-a-thon for high school students sponsored by UJA Federation and the National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY).

Participants will be able to increase their Jewish knowledge while, at the same time, raising money so that UJA Federation can help young people from the Former Soviet Union make aliyah.

Open to Jewish high school students from all backgrounds, the learn-a-thon takes place Monday June 2, from 5 to 9 p.m. on the fourth floor of the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street.

The program features videos, food, speakers, discussion groups and prizes, such as a Walk for Israel T-shirt for anyone who raises $18.

Learn-a-thon Coordinator Shoshana Weinberg, who's been involved with NCSY since Grade 7, says UJA Federation asked NCSY to help run the project because the youth organization is very active in outreach to high school students. The goal of the learn-a-thon, she adds, is to increase the exposure of students to Judaism on behalf of a worthy cause.

For information on the learn-a-thon call Weinberg at 905-761-6279 ext. 66 or Marc Bookbinder at 416-631-5703.

Many of these NCSY advisors will be participating in an upcoming learn-a-thon, co-sponsored by UJA Federation.

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Yaffa Eliach continues mission to gather images of shtetl life

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Yaffa Eliach in the Tower of Faces. She prefers "Tower of Life."

TORONTO — Yaffa Eliach has delved into the past like a pearl diver who scours the depths for hidden treasures. As a daughter and granddaughter of amateur photographers, she knows the power of the image. Thus, to drive home the impact the Holocaust had on a single Polish shtetl (hers), Eliach continues to unearth pictures of a shattered past — not to shock, but to enlighten.

The Tower of Faces is one of the more popular sights — if the term can be used — at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C, where, on a metal bridge, the viewer finds himself surrounded by faces: children, parents, grandparents, uncles, siblings. These were the Jews of Ejszyszki (Eishyshok in Yiddish, now part of Lithuania), where on a single day, Oct. 20, 1944, uniformed Poles barely out of their teens murdered Eliach's mother and baby brother.

Relatively atypical of the pogrom at Eishyshok was that it happened following the town's liberation — three months after the Nazis were driven out. The participants were not Germans but 150 Poles, half of them members of the Polish Home Army.

The town had been home to 3,500 Jews before the war. After liberation, about 30 or so returned and camped out in two homes. Among them were Eliach, then seven, her parents and two brothers. On that terrible day, the gang of thugs, accompanied by a neighbor, stormed the family house. Eliach had been hiding in a closet, watching through a crack as her mother held her infant brother Chaim in her arms, and, addressing the attackers by name, pleaded to be killed first so she would not have to witness her child's death. In reply, the young men fired nine bullets into the baby and then pumped another 15 into Eliach's mother. Eliach counted every round.

Now among the foremost Holocaust historians (some say the successor to Lucy Dawidowicz), Eliach is professor of Judaic Studies at Brooklyn College, and on something of a mission: to leave a legacy of every Jew from Eishyshok who was killed, before and after liberation. She's been digging for 18 years, ever since then U.S. president Jimmy Carter appointed her to his Holocaust Commission, and has traveled to six continents to buy, barter and even smuggle her precious photos.

To date, she's collected over 10,000 photographs, 1,500 of which adorn the Washington museum's Tower of Faces (she prefers calling it the Tower of Life). In all, she's culled photos of 98 percent of the Jewish population of Eishyshok, but for Eliach, this has been more than just dry research.

"I would never dedicate my time and life to Holocaust documentation, because it's a very painful subject," she told *The CJN* just before appearing at Beth Emeth Synagogue as a weekend scholar-in-residence. "The reason I'm doing this is I hope my teaching and research will have an impact on the future, so that this will never happen again."

For Eliach, these aren't mere pictures, but portraits of a dynamic daily life in a typical Polish town that dated back 900 years. One of the better known images is of a 4-year-old Eliach surrounded by chickens on the very day the Nazis marched into Ejszyszki.

Eliach has now teamed up with PBS for a documentary on the town and the Tower of Faces, which she hopes will promote coexistence — the kind that existed in Eishyshok, at least until the war.

"For the future of our survival," she says, "it's very important to examine the events, to understand them, but for positive reasons. Not for hate. Not for distrust. And not to blame one another, but to assure the future."

Like Elie Wiesel, to whom she's also been compared, Eliach is involved in promoting tolerance, because, as she puts it, "Who knows who will be the 'Jews' of the next holocaust? You can always isolate a group of people; the Holocaust was a blueprint."

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From coast to coast

Growth in Hamilton

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The Jewish community in this area increased by 25 percent between 1971 and 1991, up from 4,115 people in 1971 to 5,145 in 1991, according to a recently released study by McGill University's Consortium for Ethnicity and Strategic Social Planning.

The demographic study by James Torczyner and Shari Brotman was carried out in conjunction with the Council of Jewish Federations-Canada, Hamilton-Wentworth Jewish Federation and Statistics Canada. It covered the 10 federated communities of Canada: Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, Windsor, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.

The definition of a Jew was based on the Canadian census as being "someone who identifies him/herself as being 'Jewish by religion,' or 'Jewish by religion and ethnic origin' or 'Jewish by ethnic origin with no religion.' "

Of the Jews in Hamilton, 86.6 percent said they identified with the Jewish religion, a slightly lower rate than the Canadian average, while 13.4 percent said they were Jewish by ethnic origin but had no religion.

While the Hamilton community's 25 percent growth is described as "moderate and steady" and "more substantial" than the national Jewish rate, it nevertheless "fell well below" the national growth rate of other mid-sized (between 5,000 and 20,000) communities.

The single most important factor in the increase in Hamilton's Jewish population is "the continued, steady increase in the number of Jewish children." The 1981 census figures gave the number of Jewish children under 10 as 650; by 1991, that number had risen to 1,010, an increase of 55 percent.

The age structure of the Hamilton community shows a 7.8 percent drop in the 15- to 34-year-old population, while 35- to 44-year-olds grew by five percent.

The percentage of Jewish seniors increased by nine percent since 1981, with an increase in every age group except that between 70 and 74, which showed a marginal decrease.

The study also found that 75 percent of Hamilton's Jews live in traditional husband-wife families and while over the past 10 years there has been a 3.9 percent increase in husband-wife families, and a four percent drop in single parent families, the national rate of husband-wife families has declined by four percent, while single parent families have increased by 1.8 percent.

Hamilton Jewry's intermarriage rate, however, was 16.3 percent, slightly higher than the national average of 14.8 percent.

The study further shows that Hamilton Jewry has attained higher levels of education and income and has more professionals than the Hamilton population as a whole.

At the same time, one out of seven Hamilton Jews (14.2 percent), mostly elderly, lives below or near the poverty line, a rate slightly lower than the national 15.4 percent average.

While the study suggests that the Jewish community's future appears promising, its recommendations include strengthening Jewish identification, creating opportunities for Jewish singles and young families and reaching out to unaffiliated Jews.

Student seminar held

By BARBARA SIVAK
Special to The CJN

WATERLOO — The Waterloo County Holocaust Education Committee recently held its eighth annual student seminar at Wilfrid Laurier University, drawing 650 students from high schools in the region and vicinity.

This year's seminar focused on the role of investigative reporting in exposing hate groups in and around the community. The first part of the program was a presentation by two award-winning investigative reporters from *The Hamilton Spectator.*

Casey Korstanje and Andrew Dreschel spent three months in 1995 investigating the Romanian Iron Guard, and found it was using the Hamilton area as a secret base.

They reported that the Iron Guard hides behind Hamilton's Romanian Cultural Association and uses its private campground in Flamborough as a meeting and recruitment centre.

Rev. Oscar Cole Arnall, a professor at Wilfrid Laurier University, discussed the role Christianity has played over the years in fueling anti-Semitism.

Several survivors from the community and from Toronto described their experiences in the Holocaust and students had the opportunity to talk with them.

This fall, the committee is planning its annual teacher's seminar on the Holocaust, whose purpose is to provide teachers with resource material to facilitate the teaching of the Holocaust.

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Hillel plays major role in Seneca student's life

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Tammy Nisinov

TORONTO — When Tammy Nisinov entered Seneca College in 1995, she didn't know Hillel existed. That changed in January 1996. Leaving class one day, she spotted a Hillel sign, leading her to what was to become an intense involvement in steering the Jewish student organization in new directions.

As president of Seneca Hillel for the past year, Nisinov's efforts helped raise its on-campus profile and earned her a Seneca Student Federation award, the top honor given by Seneca's student government to an on-campus club for outstanding contribution to student life.

A year and a half ago, her curiosity piqued by the Hillel sign and Israeli music she heard in the background, Nisinov became involved in a lengthy, animated discussion with a small group of Hillel students and their staff program coordinator Tami Sitcoff.

"I had so many ideas," enthused Nisinov, 21, during a recent interview at her home. "Why don't we do something to bring in more members?" she suggested.

The Israeli-born accounting and finance student, who moved to Toronto nine years ago, also wondered about the dearth of Israeli members and proceeded to brainstorm solutions geared to attracting more students.

When she became president last fall, she was able to put some of her ideas into action.

Hillel's kickoff event, a Sukkah open to all Seneca students, got the year off to a successful start. "It was the best," said Nisinov, her eyes widening with zeal and her words picking up speed as she described other recent Hillel events.

Holocaust survivor Judy Cohen spoke at one event. "Her story touched everybody's heart," said Nisinov, adding with pride, "You should have seen that room — it was full of people."

Even more spectacular in terms of attendance was the January city-wide dance organized by Seneca Hillel as a fundraiser for Mazon Canada. Members put "all our heart and soul" into organizing the event; six hundred students turned out for it.

A women's discussion group and Jewish-themed social outings rounded out the schedule.

Surprisingly, Nisinov hasn't been involved in any other organizations — although she says that as a small child her dream was to be "president of the world." During her years at Newtonbrook Secondary School, she never found a group that sparked her enthusiasm the way Hillel has.

"I said to myself, 'There's something in it.' "

Last summer she was one of 11 local students to participate in Hillel's international leadership conference held in Pennsylvania.

Although she was confident about her leadership ability, attracting Israeli students to Hillel was an uphill battle. She persisted in outreach efforts, trying to combat stereotypes of Canadian Jews among Israeli students. When half a dozen Israelis joined Hillel in the second semester, Nisinov was "so happy."

Liaising with other campus clubs was another satisfying achievement for Nisinov this past year. "I don't think it's right to keep to yourself," she said.

Nisinov made a point of attending meetings with other club executives and of encouraging her own executives to join her. Hillel's booth at Seneca's campus-wide international day was another coup, with falafel samples and a Jewish wedding display, complete with chuppah.

As far as attracting more members, the numbers on Hillel's mailing list don't tell the whole story, Nisinov explained. The current list has 210 names, down from a woefully obsolete 270 last summer. "We're building it up," she said confidently.

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Election '97

One Jewish candidate running in Hamilton area

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — This area's sole Jewish candidate running for election on June 2 is Allan Lonn, a lawyer and the Reform party's nominee in Wentworth-Burlington.

A large riding bordering on the city's western outskirts, Wentworth-Burlington includes Ancaster, where in recent years, close to 200 Jewish families have settled, as well as Dundas, which, together with neighboring Hamilton-West, has the largest number of the area's 5,100 Jews.

Lonn hopes to defeat Liberal incumbent John Bryden.

Other candidates in the riding are the Progressive Conservative's Jerry Aggus, also a lawyer, and newcomer Jessica Brennan for the New Democratic Party, known for her volunteer work with local charitable organizations.

Charitable groups

In Hamilton West, five candidates are vying for the seat held by Liberal MP Stan Keyes. Andrea Howarth, co-chair of the Hamilton social action committee and recently named one of six winners of the Hamilton Woman of the Year award, is running for the NDP. The Reform party has Ken Griffith, 32, an advertising executive, while the Tory hopeful is lawyer John Findlay, 43.

Also running here are Brian Rickard for the Natural Law party, and Wendell Fields for the Marxist-Leninists.

The Jewish population of Hamilton East has increased in recent years with the move of many retirees into downtown condominiums. This is the riding of deputy prime minister Sheila Copps. Running against her are insurance company inspector Kevin Barber for Reform; Wayne Morriston, a retired Bell Telephone employee and chair of the Hamilton District Labor Council for the NDP; accountant Michael Hilson for the Conservatives; and Rolf Gerstenberger, Marxist-Leninist.

Another Liberal stronghold is Hamilton Mountain, with a handful of Jews spread over a large area. Here, MP Beth Phinney is being opposed by Conservative John Smith, a former minister in the provincial Tory government; graduate student Chris Charleton for the NDP; lawyer Richard Gaasenbeek, Reform; Iqbal Sumbal, Marxist-Leninist and Christopher Patty, Canada Action Party.

Stoney Creek

Stoney Creek is a riding with just a small number of Jews. The candidates here are incumbent Tony Valeri, Liberal; Tory Angie Tomasic, a bank manager who ran against Copps in last summer's by-election; businessman Clay Downes, Reform; lawyer Peter Cassidy, NDP; Cynthia Marchand, Natural Law party and Angela Braun, Christian Heritage party.

In Burlington, the approximately 200 Jewish families are spread throughout this sprawling bedroom community. The incumbent here is Paddy Torsney, Liberal, a former public relations consultant. He's opposed by Tory Mike Kuegle, a lawyer; Jim Hough, NDP, an electronics technician and labor activist; Terry Lamping, Reform, formerly in the insurance business and now with PetroCan; and Anne Marsden, a social activist, Canada Action Party.

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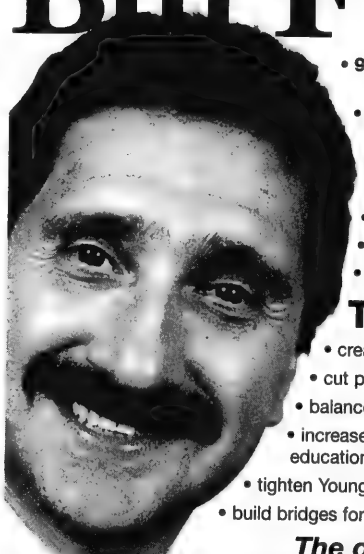
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Election '97

Candidates focus on jobs, health

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — Jobs, health care and gun control are concerns candidates in Thornhill riding say they have encountered on the campaign trail.

Thornhill

The riding was created during the most recent redistribution from parts of York North, represented by Liberal Maurizio Bevilacqua, and Markham, held by independent Jag Bhaduria.

It's estimated that Thornhill is at least one-quarter Jewish.

A good deal of attention has been focused on the riding, due to the parachuting of former Ontario health minister Elinor Caplan as the Liberal candidate, over the strident objections of several local residents who had stood for nomination.

Caplan told *The CJN* she believes the furor has pretty much died down. People realize, she said, that her appointment "sends a strong message to the Jewish community" on how significantly Prime Minister Jean Chretien views the riding.

It is also an opportunity, she said, for there to be a Jewish MP from the Greater Toronto area.

People are more concerned, she said, about good jobs, and "those things that stem from a strong economy and a compassionate government."

She has also encountered concerns about keeping the community safe, with many supporting gun control.

Lawyer Bill Fisch, the Conservative candidate, has been a councillor in Thornhill's Ward 7, and since 1994, a regional councillor for Markham. He said he's "the only local candidate who has been actively involved in the community."

The message he's hearing is "very strong and clear. People are worried about jobs, the economy, tax relief, health care and education."

While the campaign started slowly because of the floods in Manitoba and interest in the Bre-X mines, "things are really picking up. [Leader Jean] Charest has done very well in the debates."

NDP candidate Helen Breslauer, an educational consultant, also sees concerns in jobs, health care and education. People are "bruised" when it comes to politicians, she said, who "promise lots, but don't seem to deliver what is promised."

She denounced federal cuts to transfer payments, which, she said, have damaged post secondary education to the extent that universities are looking for corporate money, "which comes with strings."

Dentist Aurel David, the Reform party's hopeful, said he decided to run because he supports the party platform, particularly that all provinces should be treated equally, and that there be less government and lower taxes.

The family should be strengthened, he believes, by advocating tax breaks, an increased allowance for those who choose to stay home with their children, and a $5,000 tax credit for each child.

Thornhill residents want their community to be free of crime, he said, and want the Young Offenders' Act revised. "The system puts the criminal before the victims," he charged.

Accountability is a key issue for independent candidates Rick Levine and Sid Soban, who both say that constituents can only benefit from representatives who are concerned only for their welfare and are not obligated to follow a party line.

Soban, a small businessman, supports the restoration and strengthening of social services, health care and education; a more equitable tax system; and taking steps to create new jobs, like increasing tax credits to small businesses in direct proportion to an increase in their work force, and encouraging banks to provide lower interest loans for companies making investments that will create permanent jobs.

Levine, a band leader and entertainment promoter, wants politicians to take responsibility for "broken promises, like removing the GST, and job creation."

All candidates agree the riding's residents are concerned about national unity.

Also running in the riding are independent Shel Bergson and Linda Martin for the Natural Law party.

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Election '97

Manning's bid for seat draws national attention

By JUDY SHAPIRO
Jewish Free Press

CALGARY — Calgary Southwest is one of those ridings that will be watched with interest across the country, and it also happens to have the largest concentration of Jewish voters in the city.

Calgary Southwest

The bulk of the city's Jewish population resides in Calgary Southwest and day schools, synagogues and the Calgary Jewish Centre lie within its boundaries.

The riding is of national interest because the incumbent MP is Reform party leader Preston Manning. Calgary Southwest is where Manning entered national politics, trouncing Conservative cabinet minister Bobbie Sparrow in the last election.

Manning faces a full slate of challengers in the June 2 election, six in all, including representatives of the major parties and two Jewish contenders.

Running for the Conservatives is former Reformer Jan Brown, whose much-publicized break with Reform in 1996 made her nearly a household name. Brown's resignation came after she refused to vote with the party against gay rights legislation.

switched ridings as well as parties to take on her former leader in Calgary Southwest.

Brown's presence in the campaign has turned the race into something of a soap opera, with the media keeping an eye on her relationship with Manning. While all the candidates say they've found voters to be concerned about jobs, economic issues, health care and national unity, the event which was most prominently covered in Calgary newspapers so far is Brown's surprise appearance at a breakfast hosted by Manning.

With the Tory vote split between Manning and Brown, some political observers believe the field is open to a victory for Liberal candidate Paul Drager.

A lawyer and former diplomat, Drager's area of expertise is international trade. As a diplomat, he served in Moscow and the Netherlands, and for the past eight years, has headed up the international trade section of a major law firm in Calgary.

Drager's main challenge is to overcome the anti-Liberal sentiment in Alberta, which dates from the infamous National Energy Policy.

Also hoping to make a run up the middle in this election is New Democratic Party candidate Mara Vogel. A native Calgarian and an involved member of the Jewish community, Vogel has degrees in psychology and law, and is a small business owner. Her campaign centres around concerns for social justice and tzedakah.

Other contenders in Calgary Southwest are Sol Candel, running for the environmentalist Green party; Larry Heather, representing the Christian Heritage party, a pro-life group which is running four candidates in Alberta; and Richard Shelford of the Natural Law party.

Other ridings to watch here are Calgary Centre and Calgary West. Both were held by prominent Reformers (Jim Silye and Stephen Harper) who have retired from politics. In both ridings, relatively unknown Reformers are being challenged by high-profile city councillors running for the Liberals.

Job loss a major concern in Eastern Canada

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — As the federal election campaign enters its last days, Atlantic Canadians are worried.

They are concerned about the increasing loss of jobs, and rising unemployment figures. They wonder about Canadian unity. But most of all, they think about the apathy toward this election campaign that has left most people wondering if it will have an effect on Canadians at all.

There are no Jewish candidates in the region's 33 ridings. There are also very few issues that specifically concern Jewish voters, except for the issue of Nazi war criminals in Canada.

"The war crimes issue makes it hard to vote Liberal," says Claire Salama, of St. John's, Nfld., a member-at-large of the Atlantic Jewish Council's (AJC) board of directors. "They've been dragging their behinds for so long and don't seem to be making any progress."

She says national unity is also a concern for Newfoundlanders.

For Jewish Newfoundlanders, Montreal is an important city," Salama says. "Many Newfoundlanders hail from Montreal and they're disappointed what they find when they visit there. And many Newfoundlanders are in retail and find it quite different than years ago when they go there for business. When relatives from Quebec visit here, they also have grim stories."

Jon Goldberg, executive director of the AJC, says Canadian Jewish Congress and the Canada-Israel Committee have asked regional offices to monitor candidates for comments on Israel, the peace process and the status of Jerusalem and he has made regional representatives aware of that.

"We've had no negative reports on candidates so far but I think Israeli issues are low on their campaign platforms. They're answering constituents' questions about jobs, unemployment, transfer payments, health care and other issues more germane to Canada."

He says many candidates appeared at Yom Hashoah ceremonies in Halifax, Saint John and St. John's, "an indication of their support for the Jewish communities. But local candidates aren't concerned with Jewish issues specifically."

In New Brunswick, the judicial system that allows the publication and distribution of hate literature is an issue that concerns the Jewish population, says Ivan Levine, a past chair of the AJC.

"Otherwise the issues are jobs, unemployment, highways and unity. New Brunswick has about 50 percent French population. Quebec separation would affect us more than other provinces."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TO SECURE COMMUNITY CALENDAR LISTINGS CALL FRAN AUGENBLICK AT JEWISH INFORMATION SERVICE (416) 635-5600 OR FAX 631-5715

DATE		EVENT	ORGANIZATION	TIME	PLACE
JUNE '97					
Sun	1	CJC Regional Meeting	Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region	9:00 am	Lipa Green Building
Sun	1	Beth Sholom 50th Anniversary Reunion Open House	Beth Sholom	2:00 pm	Beth Sholom Synagogue
Sun	1	Honouree Dinner for Art Eggleton	Canadian Technion Society, Toronto Chapter	6:30 pm	Inn on the Park
Mon	2	NCSY-UJA Learn-a-thon	UJA Federation Community Cabinet	4:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Mon	2	Installation Dinner	Toronto Hadassah-WIZO	7:00 pm	Adath Israel Congregation
Mon	2	Annual Meeting	Jewish Immigrant Aid Services	7:30 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Mon	2	Gala Concert for Disabled Veterans of Israel	Beit Halochem Canada	8:00 pm	Ford Centre for the Performing Arts
Tues	3	1997 Zimriya (Choral Concert)	Jewish Music Toronto-Koffler Centre for the Arts	8:00 pm	Adath Israel Congregation
Wed	4	Annual Meeting & Installation	Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary	12:00 pm	Oakdale Golf & Country Club
Wed	4	"Faith Over Circumstances" w. Naomi H. Rosenblatt	Jewish Women's Federation "Timeless Treasures" Series	8:00 pm	Chapters - 110 Bloor Street W.
Wed	4	"Show, Share & Sell"	Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles	8:00 pm	National Council of Jewish Women
Thurs	5	Annual Meeting	Toronto Jewish National Fund	6:00 pm	Inn on the Park
Thurs	5	Community Lecture w. Rabbi Mark Dratch	Canadian Friends of the Shalom Hartman Institute	8:00 pm	Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
Sun	8	Toronto's 2nd Conference for Children of Holocaust Survivors	Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation	8:00 am	Lipa Green Building
Sun	8	Israel Day Festival	Canadian Zionist Federation	11:00 am	Mel Lastman Square
Mon	9	Annual Meeting	UJA Federation of Greater Toronto	7:30 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Sun	15	4th Annual Bike for Baycrest	Baycrest Centre Leadership Development Group	8:00 am	Seneca College King City Campus
Mon	16	Musical "Jolson"	Jewish Family & Child Service/Bathurst Jewish Centre/ Canadian Council of Christians & Jews	8:00 pm	Royal Alexandra Theatre
Tues	17	48th Annual Humanitarian Award Honouring Mendel Green	Beth Sholom Brotherhood	6:00 pm	Beth Sholom Synagogue
Wed	18	Tribute Dinner Honouring Allan & Carol Gordon	Canadian Society of the Weizmann Institute of Science	6:00 pm	Sheraton Centre
Thurs	19	CJC Regional Executive	Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Thurs	19	Donor Recognition & Dedication	Associated Hebrew Day Schools	7:30 pm	Kamin Education Centre, Thornhill
Sun	22	Annual Brunch Honouring Bob Kaplan & Herb Gray	She'arim Hebrew Day School	9:30 am	Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
Sun	22	Gala Concert & Reception	Jewish Russian Community Centre	6:00 pm	Ford Centre for the Performing Arts
Sun	22	3rd Annual Island Bash-BBQ Dinner & Dancing	Israel Cancer Research Fund Young Associates	7:00 pm	The Docs, 11 Polson St.
Mon	23	Annual Meeting	Baycrest Centre Men's Service Group	7:00 pm	Baycrest Centre
Mon	23	Gala- Ashkenaz '97 Festival	New Yiddish Culture	7:00 pm	Ford Centre for the Performing Arts
Thurs	26	Annual Meeting	Reena Foundation	7:00 pm	Toby & Henry Battle Development Centre
Thurs	26	100th Anniversary Dinner Honouring Rabbi Burak	Beth Jacob Congregation	8:00 pm	Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
JULY '97					
Mon	7	Yiddish Outdoor Concert	Committee for Yiddish of UJA Federation	7:00 pm	Earl Bales Park
AUGUST '97					
Mon	25	Top Gifts Event	UJA Federation of Greater Toronto	5:30 pm	Ford Centre - Studio Theatre
Mon	25	1998 Campaign Launch	UJA Federation of Greater Toronto	7:30 pm	Ford Centre - Recital Hall
Mon 25 - Sept. 1		Ashkenaz '97 - A Festival of New Yiddish Culture	New Yiddish Culture	Various	Harbourfront

Community Calendar is published as a community service by UJA Federation which reserves the right to include/exclude listings.

UJA FEDERATION

Election '97

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

Finestone's taking nothing for granted

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Liberal Sheila Finestone garnered 85 percent of the vote in the 1993 election, but the candidates are not acting like the outcome of this election is a foregone conclusion.

Mount Royal

The campaign has been enlivened by the presence of an independent, anti-separatist activist Howard Galganov, whose main plank is opposition to the distinct society clause, and of Conservative Carolyn Steinman, a well-known Jewish community professional and lay leader, whose theme is that Jean Charest is the only leader who can save the country.

Determined not to be overlooked are the NDP's Adam Giambrone, an articulate 20-year-old student, and Jacques Thibaudeau, 68, a retired Radio-Canada producer, who says he using his candidacy to frankly communicate to anglophones why many francophones support sovereignty.

Mount Royal is home to about 40,000 Jews.

Finestone, 70, who is seeking her fourth term, admits there's a lot of "disgruntlement" with Chrétien's handling of the national unity issue in the riding.

She believes the government's success in reducing the deficit will ensure Canada's economic health and, when things are going well, Quebecers will be less interested in separation.

A Supreme Court opinion on the legality of separation will clarify the role Ottawa should play in any future referendum, she said.

Constitutional recognition of Quebec's distinctness will have little impact, she feels. "It will only reaffirm what the Supreme Court has already been doing — taking the particular nature of Quebec into consideration in its decisions."

She heartily supports the municipal "staying Canadian" resolutions, including the first ones passed in Cote St. Luc and Hampstead, which call for these cities to hold their own referendum on partition, if Quebec says yes to separation.

Steinman, 59, local director of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, says "never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that one day I would run for public office." The reason, she says, is fear for Canada's break-up.

"Jean Chrétien let the country down during the last referendum. He told Canadians there was nothing to worry about...Jean Charest fought for Canada," she said.

Steinman, whose father was Russian-born, has been appealing to the riding's many ethnic groups with patriotic talk about how people of all backgrounds call themselves Canadian. At her nomination, she shared the stage with three Russian immigrant friends who had just received citizenship.

"I don't feel like a sacrificial lamb," she said (the Tories came third in '93). She's hoping Charest's soaring personal popularity will translate into votes for her. If elected, she's been promised a position in his shadow cabinet.

Both Steinman and Galganov shy away from criticizing Finestone personally. Steinman says she has a lot of respect for her, and Galganov, who lives in St. Lazare, admits he doesn't know her.

Galganov, 47, who co-owns an advertising company, says distinct society would "institutionalize varying levels of equality among citizens" by giving Quebec special powers.

He does not call himself a partitionist, but supports the municipal unity resolutions. "In the event of a unilateral declaration of independence, there will be no power in Quebec which will be capable of stopping federalist areas from remaining Canadian.

"In the final analysis, if the separatist nightmare scenario comes to pass, and if the barricades are ever erected, I will be standing proudly with the Canadians."

Giambrone has prepared a platform that stresses fair taxation, strengthening the Canada and Quebec pension plans, and the protection of social programs.

Thibaudeau has to be philosophical about running for the Bloc in Mount Royal, one of the most federalist ridings.

"I'm only running for one reason: to meet people, to explain sovereignty, that it is nothing to be afraid of and that sovereigntists are not against anybody," he said. "But I'm sure I won't convert anybody. I just want them to understand our point of view."

On the issue of war criminals, Finestone, Steinman and Galganov expressed dissatisfaction with the government's progress.

Finestone insisted there's not a lack of political will, but rather the stringency of our justice system, that has delayed action. "The process has to be accepted if you believe in the rule of law and the equal application of the law."

Steinman said Charest is well-informed on the issue and understands how Jews feel. "What a Conservative government would do exactly, I can't say, but Charest would do a heckuva lot more than the Liberals."

Election '97

Federalist riding a Liberal stronghold

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Westmount-Ville-Marie riding is one of the safest Liberal strongholds in Quebec, and Liberal incumbent Lucienne Robillard will likely lose little sleep worrying over the outcome on the eve of the June 2 vote.

Westmount-Ville-Marie

The riding stretches from the Decarie autoroute in NDG at its western edge to St. Lawrence Boulevard in the east, and encompasses tony Westmount, downtown Montreal to the northern edge of Mount Royal, as well as Little Burgundy in the south.

The almost monolithically federalist anglophones and allophones outnumber the francophones in the significantly federalist constituency by a 2-1 ratio, and the riding includes an estimated 8,000 Jews (out of about 76,000 riding voters).

For Robillard — who is being challenged by Progressive Conservative (PC) candidate Thomas Davis, Bernard Guité of the Bloc Québécois (BC), and Chris Carter for the New Democrats (NDP) — the issues are jobs and the economy, national unity and medicare, in that order.

But they are all inextricably linked, Robillard suggested in a *CJN* interview.

Out on the hustings, Robillard, who is also immigration minister, carried the banner for the federalist forces in Quebec before the October 1995 referendum and has sensed the pervasive anxiety over Quebec separating among her constituents.

She has sought to reassure voters that the Liberals do indeed have a strategy. It's two-pronged: build jobs and the economy while setting the rules for the next referendum before the Supreme Court.

"I'm telling you it's our most important commitment to assure the national unity of our country," said Robillard, who, although not Jewish, lived in Israel for several years and continues to impress unsuspecting Jewish audiences with her mastery of Hebrew.

"It's the role of the prime minister to have a plan of action. The rules must be clear. But the plan is not well-known to the people and that's what I'm doing."

Not so, says PC challenger Thomas Davis, a lawyer who worked for the referendum No committee and also lobbied for the doomed Charlottetown Accord.

Davis accuses Robillard not only of being an absentee MP in terms of her constituents (unlike Davis, she does not live in the riding), but of not being there in general before the province came within a whisker of separating.

"People feel there was a lack of strategy," says Davis, who supports PC leader Jean Charest's "Plan A" approach to keeping Canada together. "He is the best person to lead us to a unified country."

Although acknowledging that he has an uphill climb in the riding, Davis says usually Liberal-bent Westmount voters are letting him know they think it's time for a change.

That includes the Jewish community, who vote overwhelmingly Liberal.

In contact with Jewish voters, "I got the same sense of frustration over the lack of leadership on the national unity issue," says Davis. "They appear to be ready to make a change."

NDP candidate Chris Carter, only 24 and a past president of the McGill Student Society, sees jobs as the "central issue" in the election campaign.

But his focus is also on national unity and what he sees as the Liberal abandonment of social programs and Canadian institutions.

"You don't create unity by attacking institutions central to the Canadian identity," he said. "The Liberals have betrayed a trust."

Carter's approach to Quebec is inclusive. Recognize Quebec as a distinct society, but create a "sense of attachment" with the rest of the country by preserving the things that define Canada, such as social programs and access to health care.

BQ candidate Bernard Guité is under no illusion about winning.

But because separation, at least in his view, is inevitable, he has another goal: to create an "honest" dialogue with minority group federalists, who are equal Quebecers.

"We need a little more honesty and a little less [Howard] Galganov," said Guité, referring to the "angry anglo" activist.

While all the non-Liberal candidates voiced the need to do more on the war crimes issue, Robillard said she has met with Jewish community officials and expressed the Liberal government's "very large commitment" to bringing war criminals to justice.

Robillard can not deport anybody until a case is adjudicated before the courts.

There are 10 such cases pending and "it will be important to win the first one," she said.

"I know the Jewish community is very anxious to see results."

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Features

Stakes high as Canadian political sands shift

[Cont'd from page 1]

for Quebec. Manning has played this card again and again, attempting to reach out to those who want to get tough with Quebec, who want to take out the tire irons and show Quebec that English Canada means business.

But this is a dangerous game for both Manning and the country. Manning may lose as many votes as he gains, especially if he begins to appear to be too anti-Quebec, too strident, too divisive. His tough talk could also produce a backlash in Quebec.

Manning's other major problem is that Tory Leader Jean Charest has emerged as the political star of election '97. He is a compelling and often fire-in-the-belly speaker and he clearly won both the English and French language debates. And although he still carries the heavy baggage of the Mulroney legacy, he is likely to resurrect the Conservatives from the ashes of their near obliteration in 1993.

Charest and Manning divide the political territory on the political right in a way that also divides up the country. The Tories are strong in Atlantic Canada and in Quebec, Reform dominates the west. The battleground between them will be Ontario.

But in Ontario the two right-wing parties are likely to split the vote, guaranteeing a Liberal victory.

While Charest is likely to be a major force in Canadian politics for some time to come because he is likely to exceed the expectations set for him by the media (and the media's expectations are always the critical high jump bar over which politicians have to jump), the same may not be true of Manning. If Reform fails to make a breakthrough in Ontario in this election, then Manning's leadership is to bound to be called into question. There are those who are already sharpening their knives.

While NDP leader Alexa McDonough has proved herself a feisty and tough campaigner, the New Democrats are unlikely to regain the strength they had prior to the 1993 election. Look for a strong showing in Saskatchewan, however.

The other great regional party is the Bloc Québécois. The Bloc's campaign sputtered and stalled for most of the election. Bloc leader Gilles Duceppe, a cold and listless speaker, was pushed aside in the midst of the campaign as separatists launched a major effort to staunch what appeared to be a serious of collapse of support.

The intervention of Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard has added still more fuel to the fire on the national unity issue. His firebrand style has raised the temperature considerably. Bouchard is arguing that a strong showing by the Bloc is essential if separatists want to win the next referendum. In doing so, he is putting his prestige and that of their movement on the line. He has made the election into a kind of mini-referendum.

A loss of even a few seats could be seen as a defeat for the sovereigntist cause and a blow to Bouchard's image as a political savior.

An election is always a time when a country has a chance to look into the mirror and see its own reflection. Citizens have a chance to see the strengths and the weaknesses of their society, its successes as well as its failures.

This will be a more important election than most of our elections have been. The stakes are high as the sands of Canadian politics continue to shift.

David Taras is a professor at the University of Calgary and author of The Newsmakers: The Media's Influence on Canadian Politics *among other works.*

Teacher stepping down

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Gord Meslin loves his retirement but he does not want to give up his first love, teaching.

After 33 years as a history and geography teacher, department head and principal with the North York Board of Education, Meslin has retired, but not completely. He believes it's important to have some participation in the field of education.

"Retirement is happening younger and younger all the time and you must be prepared mentally and emotionally for an active retirement," says Meslin, 56. "I believe that retirement becomes the best years of your life."

He gained his love of teaching from his father, Jim Meslin, who was a Yiddish/Hebrew teacher in the 1930s and '40s in Windsor, Hamilton and Toronto. His father would occasionally take his young son with him and Meslin says he was awed by his father's passion for teaching.

He decided to enter the teaching profession when he was in Grade 12 at Downsview Collegiate Institute.

After he graduated from the University of Toronto's Faculty of Education, Meslin taught at Sir Sandford Fleming Secondary School, Georges Vanier Secondary School, York Mills Collegiate Institute and other North York schools, as well as at Ner Israel Yeshiva. He was principal in North York's summer and night school programs.

Interested in Holocaust education, he was hired to teach the subject at Holy Blossom Temple for three months and remained for three years. In the early 1980s, when Holocaust studies were introduced into North York schools, Meslin worked in the program and with the Holocaust education committee of Canadian Jewish Congress.

Meslin's latest project is with Cambridge International College, where he is principal of the summer school. Government cutbacks by all school boards, he says, have affected night and summer schools.

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Shabbat street closing passes uneventfully

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The long-awaited Shabbat closing of Jerusalem's Rehov Bar Ilan went off without incident, with the street closed seven ½ hours during prayer hours and open to traffic the rest of the time.

But contrary to what secular residents of the neighborhood were told, the permits issued by the Transport Ministry explicitly state that they are not allowed to travel on Bar Ilan during the closed hours.

"You can't drive into Bar Ilan during prayer hours even with the permit — it's closed for everyone. The police do not allow any of the secular residents to go through," said Aliza Avinezer, one of the original petitioners to the High Court of Justice in the case.

Avinezer, who lives at the western end of Bar Ilan where the street's name changes to Yirmiyahu, said she still has to walk 300 to 400 metres to her house from where she can park.

During prayer hours when the road is closed, Avinezer said, "Bar Ilan is like a promenade, with people walking freely in the road like in Mea She'arim and Geula — and that's what they wanted!"

Police said late Saturday a few hundred Haredim stood on the sidewalk at the intersection of Bar Ilan and Shmuel Hanavi and screamed "Shabbes, Shabbes" at passing cars, but did not throw stones or garbage as at previous demonstrations.

"They are clever, because they know that if they make trouble, the road will be opened again," said Avinezer. "But it's only the beginning.

They will close the road for all of Shabbat — it's only a matter of time."

CHESS ACADEMY LAUNCHED
World chess champion Garry Kasparov (left) and Tel Aviv mayor Roni Milo watch children play chess at the recent opening of the city's first Chess Academy. Kasparov, who will head the academy, arrived in Israel after losing a series of matches to the IBM computer Deep Blue. [Reuters photo]

Municipal strikes halted

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Tel Aviv District Labor Court has issued restraining orders preventing strike action by 14 municipalities, including Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Haifa.

Histadrut campaign head Leon Moros said there will be no industrial action in the towns where restraining orders were served. The Histadrut said it intends appealing the decision to the National Labor Court, and announced that all the other 250 local authorities will strike all services, including education, special education and kindergartens.

The Education Ministry said it is determined to keep schools and kindergartens open. All administrators and teachers employed by the Education Ministry worked on Sunday, Director-General Benzion Dell said.

A meeting between the Union of Local Authorities (ULA) and Prime Minister's Office director-general Avigdor Lieberman failed to produce a compromise agreement.

Correction

The omission of a word in the "Message from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu" on Israel's 49th Independence Day (May 22), inadvertently changed the meaning.

In reference to the proposed conversion law, the message should have been that "the bill intends to do *no more than* turn current practice in Israel into law, and...it ensures continued recognition by Israel of Reform and Conservative conversions performed abroad."

The CJN regrets the error.

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on receiving an honorary degree from Yeshiva University at the Convocation Ceremony which took place in New York City on May 22, 1997

and

for being awarded the Jerusalem Prize for Jewish Torah Education in the Diaspora to be presented June 4, 1997 by Ezer Weizman, the President of the State of Israel at the Yom Yerushalayim celebration in Israel

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Time to free Pollard: A-G

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The time has come for Jonathan Pollard, serving a life sentence in the United States for spying for Israel, to be released, Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein said last Sunday.

"I think it is time to release him. He has already been in prison for 12 years," Rubinstein said in an interview with *Halishka*, the journal of the Jerusalem branch of the Israel Bar Association. "It is a very long time, especially in view of the fact that he spent some of this time in solitary confinement."

Rubinstein, who was minister at the Israeli Embassy and was in the building when Jonathan and Anne Pollard requested asylum in November 1983, said the world had changed a great deal since then.

"The American intelligence community should view this issue in that light," he said, noting that President Bill Clinton accepted their view.

"The feeling is that he received a very harsh sentence. Members of the American judicial system have spoken of shorter sentences," Rubinstein added.

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Water, water everywhere...

Cabinet approves supply plan for Jordan

By DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The cabinet recently approved a plan to supply Jordan with 50 million cubic metres of water over the next three years, as part of Israel's commitment under the peace treaty with Amman.

The agreement, which has already received Jordan's approval, will pave the way for intensified negotiations on a range of joint infrastructure projects, National Infrastructure said Ministry spokesperson Ra'anan Gissin.

Water Commissioner Meir Ben-Meir met with his counterpart in Amman to conclude the agreement for the transfer, the second of its kind under the treaty. The water is to come from salt water currently used by kibbutzim in the Beit She'an area for fish farms.

However, it will take some three years to construct and prepare the required desalination plant on site. In the meantime, Ben-Meir has offered the Jordanians 25 million cubic metres of drinking water over the next three years from other sources, while preparations for desalination go ahead.

The first of these transfers is expected to take place by next week, according to Gissin. They will be used in the Amman area, where there is currently a water shortage, with faucets often running dry.

The Beit She'an project will cost an estimated NIS 500 million. In the peace treaty there is no mention of who will pay for the operation, but during his recent visit to Amman, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu offered to pay half the bill.

It is anticipated, according to Gissin, that the remainder will come from U.S. loan guarantees and from the World Bank. Negotiations on the third and final transfer of 50 million cubic metres have already begun, with water likely to be taken from the Jordan and Yarmuk rivers before they enter the Dead Sea. This project will in all likelihood be funded by foreign investors, led by Japanese companies, according to Gissin.

Sharon wants Israel to control West Bank sources

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A hard line member of the Israeli government has proposed that Israel declare its sovereignty over large portions of the West Bank in order to ensure control over water sources.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon raised the proposal at a meeting of senior ministers on the future of Israeli water sources, according to the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*.

Implementation of the plan would require that Israel significantly reduce the amount of land it eventually transfers to the Palestinian Authority, *Ha'aretz* reported.

Sharon proposed that in return, Israel would triple its water supply to Palestinian towns. The Palestinians would also be obliged to build purification systems for waste water and sewage in order to prevent the contamination of water sources.

The water issue has become a source of friction between Israel and the United States because Sharon's ministry has refused to fulfil an understanding reached with the former Labor government of Yitzhak Rabin, *Ha'aretz* reported.

That understanding provided that the United States would allocate $46 million for an American company to drill three wells for Palestinians in the West Bank.

U.S. officials said Israel had approved two of the wells, but without authorization of the third, the work could not begin.

Sharon has demanded that the Palestinians first provide a plan for sewage disposal in the area.

MK 'uprising' threatened

[Cont'd. from page 1]

– to stand firm on Jerusalem," said MK Shaul Yahalom of the National Religious Party. "On this issue there is the broadest consensus of all and if the government slides here, then there is no telling where it could take us next.

"We will be very vigilant and will not buy any cover story masking a halt to Har Choma construction. Even a 24-hour stoppage would not be undone for 24 months thereafter. There must be no yielding here. Our message to Netanyahu is clear: If you retreat, you are out of office."

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The Week in Israel

May 19

• Israeli forces thwarted an attempted attack on a navy patrol north of Rosh Hanikra on the Lebanese border. According to reports, an Islamic militant was killed after he ignored orders to stop. The Amal organization in Lebanon claimed responsibility.

• A group of secular Israelis of Sephardi background have established a new social political movement. The founders said they acted because they felt the Shas Party does not represent their social or political outlook.

May 20

• Israeli and Palestinian negotiators met secretly overnight, but failed to make any progress in attempts to renew negotiations.

• Israel's ambassador to Jordan, Oded Eran, reversed his decision of last week to resign.

• Through special satellite hookup, parliamentarians from Israel, Britain and Germany marked Ron Arad's 39th birthday by appealing for his release.

May 21

• An Israeli soldier was seriously wounded by a roadside explosion planted by Hezbollah in the security zone in Lebanon.

• A government study concluded that Israeli men continue to earn significantly more than their female counterparts. The study said that in the public sector, wages differed by as much as 61 percent.

May 22

• Israeli media reported that Israel's President Ezer Weizman will meet with Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak, but an Egyptian official denied a meeting will take place anytime soon.

May 26

• Israeli-Arab MKs and Palestinian Authority officials helped battling Muslim and Christian clans in Lower Galilee to reach a peace agreement. It is hoped that the intervention of the two groups of officials will put an end to the month-long fighting that has left one Christian dead and at least four Muslims injured, two seriously. A police officer was also injured.

With files from the JTA and JPFS.

Labor fractured as primary beckons

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Israel's Labor party is heading into its leadership primary on June 3 in a fractured state.

The party, which lost last year's general election by a margin of less than one percentage point, is a house divided on the eve of one of the defining moments in its history.

The candidate who replaces current leader Shimon Peres will not only lead the party into the next scheduled election in 2000 but into the 21st century.

Four members of the Knesset are vying to succeed Peres — Ehud Barak, the former chief of staff who served as foreign minister in the last Labor government; Yossi Beilin, the former deputy foreign minister and one of the architects of the Oslo peace process; Ephraim Sneh, an ex-general and onetime minister of health; and Shlomo Ben-Ami, an academic who was Israel's ambassador to Spain.

The leading contender is doubtless Barak, who compares himself to his late mentor, Yitzhak Rabin. The darkest darkhorse is Ben-Ami, who has rejected proposals by Barak, Beilin and Sneh to remove himself from the contest in exchange for a plum position.

Regardless of the outcome, it is already clear that one of the first tasks of the victor, a herculean one in itself, will be to achieve a measure of unity. As a result of the maneuvering and the mudslinging so far, gaping holes have sprung up in the party, leaving it divided and rather weak. If parallels are needed, the Labor party is probably as fragmented today as Canada's Progressive Conservative party was before the Brian Mulroney era.

One of the causes of its disunity is Peres himself. A distinguished personality with an unsurpassed record of public service, Peres announced last autumn that he would not run in the next election. Having been handily swept aside by Likud challenger Benjamin Netanyahu in the direct prime ministerial race, Peres seemed ready to resign and, in an intergenerational change, to relinquish the reins of power to a younger person.

But Peres had his own plans, making it known that he wished to be appointed party president. The idea appealed to some insiders: Beilin, his protege; Nissim Zvilli, the party secretary-general; and Avraham Burg, chair of the Jewish Agency. But Barak, Peres' would-be-successor, was opposed, saying the new post would "create two power centres" and distract attention from the goal of bringing down the Netanyahu government.

As this issue simmered, Peres put out feelers to Netanyahu for a national unity government, claiming he wanted to save the faltering peace process. Barak balked, convinced that Peres' eagerness to join the Likud as Labor's senior representative was a thinly-disguised ploy to retain his primacy no matter who was elected to succeed him as party chair.

The Bar-On affair extinguished the prospect of a national unity government, but did not dampen Peres' hope of being acclaimed president. Peres, due to Barak's opposition, was fighting an uphill battle. As the party convention to resolve the burning question approached, Peres accused Barak of engendering "an atmosphere of intimidation."

In the showdown two weeks ago, Barak prevailed, persuading 62 percent of the delegates to rebuff Peres and thereby effectively end his career. But in triumph, Barak caused a rift in the party.

The fissure has been widened by Beilin's scathing attacks on Barak, a security hawk who came out against the 1995 Oslo 2 agreement. Beilin, who belongs to the dovish wing of the party, has charged Barak with "fudging" his views and pandering to right-wing voters.

Barak, in turn, has chided Beilin for undermining the party. Given these polemics, it is debatable whether they will be able to work together.

Barak and Beilin, though, have narrowed their political differences with respect to the Palestinians since the party's seminal decision on May 14 to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination in an independent state with limited sovereignty. Beilin always supported the concept, but until recently, Barak did not.

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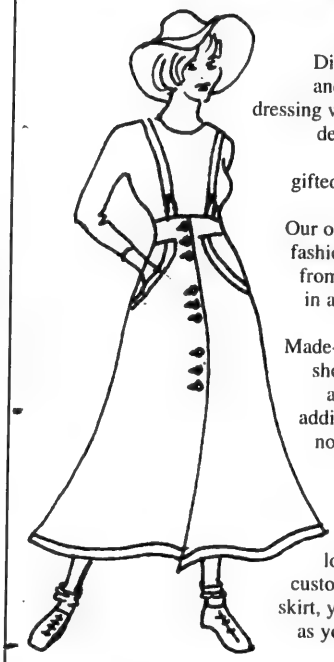

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LINDA LUNDSTRÖM ENVIRO-FASHION

During Earth Week last April, Canadian designer Linda Lundström unveiled her environmentally-friendly Spring/-Summer collection. Pictured here is an Alfalfa Austrian linen shirt jacket, and inside-out skirt, Safari helmet, accessorized with a shell and bead necklace, clip earrings and a linen belt. Lundström's spring linen is a high quality fabric produced by a mill in Austria that complies with strict environmental laws.

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Beauty Shop

By Carol Wise

The face of summer heats up with a multitude of colors. Soft, sorbet-hued pastels dance with bold, daring colors shimmering with frost and shine.

Hot humid days demand staying power, so choose long-wearing products. Lighten up your cleansing and moisturizing regime; lotions are usually the best choice for the summer months.

Make sunscreen part of your daily routine, because UV rays are as damaging on cloudy days as sunny days. This summer, a new range of tanning products means sunbathing is no longer necessary for an enviable tan.

CAROL'S TIPS

SKIN CARE needs special attention. To avoid shiny skin, Lancome provides "Instant Matifying T. Zone," a velvety powder gel to keep the oiliest skin from shining. Clinique saves the day with "Take The Day Off Makeup Remover" — perfect for removing indelible lipstick and waterproof mascara.

Elizabeth Arden expands its Ceramide line with three new anti-aging products: "Lift Intensive Firming Lotion," "Time Complex Moisture Cream SPF 15" and "Advanced Time Complex Capsules." This incredible trio promises to reduce the appearance of dark spots, create an immediate lifting effect and reduce the appearance of fine lines.

Biotherm's, "Profil'Up," a new cellulite and firming gel, tones, lifts and slims. Your skin will be bathing suit ready after one application. Clinique's "City Block Oil-Free Daily Face Protector SPF 15" can be worn under foundation or sun products. Lancome's two new products — "Self-Tanning Lotion" and "Sun Tan Prolonger Refreshing Gel" — both assure exceptional protection from harsh UV rays. They contain an ingenious replica of natural melanin that keeps your skin bronzed all year. Christian Dior's "Instant Glow Self-Tanner" for face and body gives your skin a golden tan in just one hour; re-apply after three hours for a deeper glow. The tinted, lightweight formula makes application easy and streak free.

[Cont'd. on page 37]

Fashion

Time to prepare for summer

[Cont'd. from page 36]

FOUNDATION helps balance skin tones. Apply it sparingly; a little goes a long way. Try Lancome's "Teint Idole," new formula that resists smudging from friction, weather or emotions. Say good-bye to touch-ups and dreadful stains on collars. Its light, supple texture provides comfort and a perfectly unified matte finish.

HAIR coloring is easy with Christian Dior's "Mascara Flash." Exactly like lash mascara, it comes in colors like champagne, chestnut and paprika — just to name a few. Just brush on streaks, let dry, brush and like magic, you have these gorgeous highlights. Safe for the hair and disappears after the first wash.

LIPS AND EYES this summer are soft and subtle. Elizabeth Arden's "Lip and Eye Fix" should be a makeup staple. Use regularly to avoid color fading. Color is back, particularly for lips. Pink Veil from Chanel and Orange Punch from

Eye color pastels

Dior, say summertime in the city. Eyes are dusted with soft colored hues like Honey Bunch "Stay the Day Eye Shadow," defined with "Pewter Eye Shading Pencil" and topped with "Jet Black Naturally Glossy Mascara," all from Clinique. Don't miss Chanel's eye color pastels — Glacier/Sky/Honey — they are exquisite.

FRAGRANCE this season is fresh and light. "Allure" from Chanel is a fresh, clean, soft and sexy oriental scent. "Eau Vitaminee" a fragrance mist from Bio Therm, tones, vitalizes and smells like a fresh summer morning. Dior's "Dolce Vita Perfumed Body Mist" is available for only the summer months. Its light feather-like sensation cuddles the skin in perfumed softness — perfect for warm, breezy nights. Lancome's "Poeme De Bain" presents four sensational products — creme, lotion, gel and soap that make bath time a delicious pleasure.

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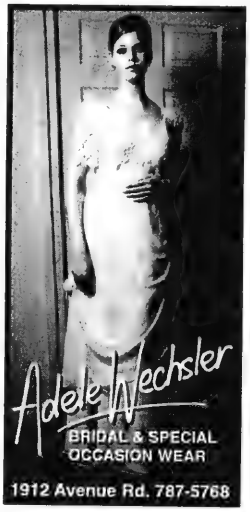

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Travel, Arts & Business

Klezmer CD has wide influences

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — In the region that David Buchbinder refers to as "the golden horseshoe of Yiddish music" – stretching roughly from Odessa on the Black Sea down through western Ukraine, Moldova and Romania – klezmer musicians of the last century likely didn't know from electric cellos, Cuban percussion instruments and the bansuri, an Indian flute.

These are some of the instruments that accompany the more traditional violin, accordian, clarinet, trumpet and percussive sounds found on *Fire*, the recently- released third CD album of the Toronto-based Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band.

According to Buchbinder, who is the band's leader, the music played on the CD "reflects the fact that we are all urban Canadian musicians playing at the end of the 20th century...exposed to a whole range of sound from jazz to Afro-Cuban music to European art (classical) music to funk."

One tune, *Dig*, "sounds the way klezmer music might have sounded if Cuba had been dropped into the Black Sea," he acknowledged.

Guest vocalist Adrienne Cooper of New York, one of the leading exponents of contemporary Yiddish vocal music, performs on four numbers.

Musicianship is supplied by band-members Buchbinder on trumpet, Paul Pacanowski on clarinet, Sasha Luminsky on accordion, Bucky Berger on drums and Artie Roth on bass, as well as guest musicians Steven Greenman, Rick Shadrach Lazar, Richard Armin and Ernie Tollar.

The playing on *Fire* attains extra energy because the album was recorded live, not in a studio setting like its two predecessors. "We always felt that we were a live band," Buchbinder said. "This album benefits from the spark that you can get only from a live audience."

Since the CD's release, the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band has acquired a new member: vocalist David Wall, who also adds some percussion. Toronto audiences have an opportunity to hear the popular band at the Ashkenaz festival at Harbourfront in late August. (Call 416-973-3000 for information.) The CD is available at many record and Judaica shops around town. Inquiries: phone 800-329-0757, e-mail [wonder @global.com.]

* * *

The "Jewish" Violin: What is it about the classical violin that marks it so distinctively as a Jewish instrument? Zina Schiff, backed only by Cameron Grant on piano, succeeds in bringing out an apparently intrinsic Jewish quality of the violin on the recent CD *King David's Lyre* in playing that has been variously described as soulful, moody and complex.

Schiff, who has performed as soloist with many major orchestras internationally, devotes the title piece – *King David's Lyre*, by German-born Israeli composer Hanoch Jacoby – to a commemoration of the Jerusalem 3000 anniversary. The piece, which Jacoby claimed to have completed the day Israel attained statehood in 1948, is based on a Talmudic legend describing the midnight breeze that would rustle the strings of David's lyre, inspiring him to compose psalms.

Other selections recall an enticing list of early and mid-20th-century Judaic composers such as Joseph Achron, Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Efrem Zimbalist, Mischa Elman, even George Gershwin.

Recorded by 4-Tay Records, New York. Inquiries: phone 516-797-9166, e-mail [jamesarts @worldnet.att.net.]

* * *

A Capella: What do you call a pop-klezmer Jazz-Yiddish Hebrew country-western band with no instruments?

The members of Listen Up! a capella band – the name is Shimu Na in Hebrew – are young, hip and Jewish. Their first CD, *Listen Up!*, proves that they are eclectic as well. Selections range from *Under The Chupah*, a take-off of the Drifters' 1960s hit *Under the Boardwalk*, to the far more reverential *Shehechiyanu* and *Ki L'Olam Chasdo*, both from the Hebrew prayer-book.

Other tunes include *Hineh Ba HaShalom*, *Jewish Food Jive*, *Chai*, *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav* and *Hatikvah*. Chicago-area performers Mike Mendelson, Ron Packowitz and Rebecca and Steve Singer amply demonstrate their ability to harmonize well in both Hebrew and English.

Inquiries: phone 773-973-3428, website [http://orion.it.luc.edu/~ssinger/ third.html.]

The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band.

Bitter Apples hits stage

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — *Bitter Apples* is a play about three generations of Jewish women coping with Jewish identity in the Diaspora.

Written by Victoria Keidan of Alliston, Ont., the play has won the annual Canadian Jewish Playwriting contest.

It will be given two staged concert readings directed by Kevin Sheard — on June 8 at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre and June 15 at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, both at 8 p.m.

The four characters in *Bitter Apples* are a mute, overbearing diabetic grandmother; a caregiver daughter who buys her French fashion magazines and Belgian chocolates, and two granddaughters.

Their home, according to writer Keidan, could be in any large city with a ghettoized community and the play is relevant to anyone who asks what it means to be a Jew in Canada.

Despite the serious subject, the playwright says *Bitter Apples* has many comedic elements as the characters cope with being Jewish in the Diaspora.

Keidan is the author of many other plays some of which have been produced in Toronto.

In 1993, she told *The CJN* that she credits her grandmother with convincing her to live as a Jew, even though her own parents divorced when she was a girl and she lived apart from the Jewish community.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

SOTHEBY'S JUDAICA SETS WORLD RECORDS

An international auction record for an item of Judaica ritual silver was set recently when a private American collector, bidding by phone, offered nearly four times the estimate for a silver gilt Sabbath lamp from Fuerth, dated to 1780. The lamp, from the legendary Sassoon Collection, fetched $552,500 (US).

Another highlight of the sale of important Judaica, which took place in a Tel Aviv hotel, was the Sassoon silver miniature Torah ark, which brought $118,000. A large silver kiddush cup from Fuerth, by the same maker as the Sabbath lamp, **J. Rimonim**, fetched $23,000, while a German silver spice tower from the same period also fetched $23,000.

An oil by **Isidor Kaufmann**, *Portrait of a Yeshiva Boy*, brought $112,500 while a monumental oil by **John Rogers Herbert**, *The Tribes of Israel Discovering Joseph's Chalice in Benjamin's Possession* achieved $107,000. In addition, a set of 17 lithographic plates of scenes of the Holy Land, 1842, by **David Roberts**, brought in $23,000.

A sale of 19th- and 20th-century art saw Reuven Rubin's oil, *Rider with Bouquet*, going for nearly triple its estimate at $283,000, while **Marc Chagall's** *Femme Allongee* was knocked down at $167,500. In all, Sotheby's officials assert that this was the most successful sale in Israel in years. The auction house has been operating in Israel for 13 years.

Music, Theatre, Painting

• Jewish Theatre Projects presents *Passed Over*, a play that "delves into the Jewish experience to explore oppression in the community." In conjunction with Leah Posluns Theatre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre. June 1, 2:30 p.m. at Leah Posluns Theatre. Also June 8, 1:15 p.m. at the Poor Alex Theatre. $10. 416-870-8000.

• Moon in June Productions presents an evening of entertaining tales and toe-tapping melodies from the Middle East, Africa, the British Isles and Eastern Europe.

Featured artists include storyteller **Alec Gelcer**, guitarist **Brian Katz**, and writer/performer **Dorothy Lichtblau**. May 29, 8 p.m. Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. Tickets $10.

• Toronto Senior Strings performs June 5, 2 p.m., St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, near St. Andrew subway, Toronto. $10. 416-769-5071.

• Vignettes: A Selection of Paintings on Paper, August 1996-January 1997, by American artist **Helen Frankenthaler,** is on view at Gallery One, Toronto, June 3 to July 2. 416-929-3103.

New Books of Note

• *Written in Memory: Portraits Of The Holocaust* (Chronicle Books), a new large-format book by photographer **Jeffrey Wolin**, presents a collection of some 50 simple photographs of survivors poised against backgrounds of their own hand-printed testimonies. The result is fully in keeping with **Elie Wiesel's** observation that "The Holocaust in its enormity defies language and art, and yet both must be used to tell the tale, the tale that must be told."

• What's next for New York author **Mark Kurlansky** now that his timely fish story *Cod: A Biography of the Fish That Changed the World* (Knopf, $27.95) has been released into this season's literary stream? A study of whitefish or the much rarer gefilte? A former *Maclean's* correspondent, Kurlansky's previous titles include *The Chosen Few: The Resurrection of European Jewry.*

• Bloomsbury has produced a handy paperback of *Shine: the Screenplay, by Jan Sardi* ($15.95). The recent Oscar-nominated film catapulted pianist **David Helfgott** to brief celebrity even as it led Helfgott's sister to mount a media campaign because it painted their father in what she considered too harsh a light.

• The Canadian Federation of Friends of Museums has released *Significant Treasures* ($29.95), a combination art book and educational resource highlighting 131 museums from coast to coast. Among the items depicted are a Torah crown from the Baycrest's Kanner Heritage Museum, a Holocaust badge from the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, and the Kaifeng Megillah from the Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum of Beth Tzedec, all of Toronto.

Grants & Awards

• UJA Federation is inviting applications for Jewish Continuity Culture grants ranging from $1,000 to $5,000 per project, up to a possible maximum of $30,000 in total grant awards. Deadline June 27. Call Lil at 416-635-2883, ext. 111.

The cast of Passed Over. Top (from left) Jodi Miller, Shayla Gunter, Reney Benlolo, Glenda Freilick. Bottom Mark Albert, Kevin Zeilig.

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22/10/97	13	3729	Singapore-Indonesia-Darwin	7
4/11/97	15	3730	Darwin-South Pacific-Fiji	7
19/11/97	11	3731	Fiji-Polynesia-Papeete	4
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Travel, Arts & Business

Anthology traces poet's discovery of her role in Judaism

By SIDURA LUDWIG
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Carol Rose's premier anthology of poetry, *Behind the Blue Gate*, is the journey of a woman as she discovers her role in Judaism. Rich in vivid images and mesmerizing rhythms, the anthology introduces Rose as one of the Jewish community's crafted poets.

Behind the Blue Gate is divided into five sections, each highlighting a different aspect of the speaker's journey. The first section, titled *Whenever I Return*, is composed of poems about Israel and the speaker's relationship to the country. One poem, *The Wall*, likens the speaker's attachment to the city to an intense love relationship. It begins, "In Jerusalem / I always come / Face to face / With my longing." Israel, in this section, is a home filled with politics, comfort, conflict and peace.

Rose captures the diversity of the Holy Land through her descriptions of the women and the dichotomy of their lives. In particular, in *Passover Eve*, Rose's combination of "blood on the door" with dancing "woman-spirits" provides the reader with an effective example.

In the second section, *The Crones*, Rose explores the role of women in the history of Judaism. Many of the poems focus on female, biblical characters, such as *Miryam, Jochebed* and *Bitya*. The poems in this section echo the frustrations of women who feel they have been excluded or their role in Judaism ignored in history. Rose plays not only with rhythmic diversity in these poems, but with visual space as well, such as in the poem *Echo Location*.

Equally as tangible in their descriptions as the poems in the first section, these poems are possibly the strongest in the collection. Bound tightly by Rose's intense exploration of biblical women, they seem to represent the voices of generations of Jewish women.

The following two sections are weaker in visual imagery than the other poems. Rose's focus becomes personal, with the speaker exploring her sexuality. The speaker traces a history of abuse through to an eventual reconciliation with herself, as she finds a relationship which is both fulfilling and safe.

Poems such as *Kitchens of My Childhood* and *Alone in His Bed* are chilling accounts of abuse. In particular, *Kitchens* appears as a flood of memories, flashing the image before the reader. In these two sections, Rose tries to play more with the shaping of words and phrases, than with the conjuring of images. At times, the poems appear heavy in their wording and unclear in their intent.

The final section, *Behind Blue Gate*, concludes the speaker's journey as she has grown to become a caregiver, mother and spiritualist. The poems are intergenerational, showing the speaker's relationship with her children as they go through Jewish celebrations such as a brit and a wedding.

In the poem, *Tears Splintering the Night*, the speaker becomes a learned guide to her daughter who questions her about the Holocaust. In the poem *Morning Prayer*, the speaker further evolves as a spiritual leader as she creates her own prayer. The speaker reconciles herself with her home in Jerusalem and in the end appears comfortable with herself spiritually, maternally and sexually.

Rose's poems have appeared in numerous literary journals and anthologies. In 1994, she received the second prize in the Stephen Leacock Poetry competition. *Behind the Blue Gate* showcases her talent as an artist who can paint diverse pictures and images with her words.

Holy Blossom company staging Shmulnik's Waltz

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Holy Blossom Temple's Stagecraft Company is presenting its fifth production, *Shmulnik's Waltz*, May 29, May 31 and June 1, 7:30 p.m. at the temple.

The play, directed by Michael Ryval, was recently performed off-Broadway and follows the turn of the century pattern of Jewish immigration from shtetl to the Lower East Side of New York.

"The Stagecraft Company selected this play because of its richness in human feelings, portrayed in the tradition of Shalom Aleichem," says Roberta Presser, a Stagecraft actor and producer.

The company, says Presser, "has become a full-fledged Jewish repertory theatre since its inception less than three years ago when temple members, Joanne and Joel Rose, decided to start up a theatre group to provide a creative outlet for Jewish expression."

After its first production, *G-d of Vengeance,* in which three people turned up for the original rehearsal, the company put on *Golda,* which drew an audience of more than 600. The next two plays were *A Body of Water,* which portrayed water through the use of three Jewish rituals, and *Crossing Delancey.*

With 30 core members, the company "still retains the openness that made it so exciting at the start," says Presser. "It now has an executive who formulates policy and approves new plays proposed by company members and it is completely self-supporting."

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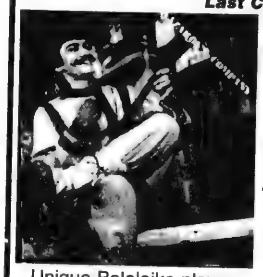
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Travel, Arts & Business

Zimriya to feature Ladino composition

Milton Barnes

TORONTO — This year's choral Zimriya will feature a new work specially composed for the occasion by Milton Barnes, entitled *Sefarad.*

Based on Ladino folk songs, the work covers a range of moods, from the solemn prayer of *Respondemos* to the lilting guitar-like lullaby *Durme* and the uptempo *Noches Noches.*

Over the years, Milton Barnes has composed for orchestras and chamber groups throughout the country, as well as such artists as Erica Goodman, Moshe Hammer and Ofra Harnoy. His works combine his years of training and performance in classical, jazz and popular music.

Sefarad makes a thrilling sound when sung by the massed choirs of the Zimriya Chorus. It will form the climax of an evening entitled *A World of Jewish Music* - the sounds and rhythms of the Diaspora, including songs from Sephardi culture, Yiddish, Chassidic, Western and North American traditions.

The Zimriya, organized by Jewish Music Toronto, is an annual highlight of the Jewish Music scene. This year's participants include the Zemer Chorale, Beth Tikvah, Holy Blossom and the Jewish Folk Choir, as well as the Heritage Singers and Neimot Singers, returning after a long absence from the event.

"We encourage choirs from the entire Toronto area to participate in this exciting event," organizer Charles Heller said. "There are so many groups who could join us – we look forward to hearing more of them at future events."

The Zimriya will be held at Adath Israel Congregation, 37 Southbourne Ave., North York, on June 3 at 8 p.m. Admission is by suggested donation of $5.

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Singles Registry's Open House = Full House

They came, they saw, they registered. The excitement was brewing as the Jewish Singles Registry (J.S.R.) recently held its very first "open house" a few weeks ago. J.S.R. Director Rob Singer reports that the turnout was exceptional with their sparkling new headquarters at 55 Eglinton Ave. E., #405, filled to capacity. Singer proudly notes that the open house showed how fun and easy it is for Jewish singles to meet in this kind of atmosphere.

New computer system a big success

The whole premise behind the Jewish Singles Registry is to provide their members with all the necessary information to make informed and quality dating choices. J.S.R.'s new state of the art computer system does just that. Members still get to read detailed biography profiles on each other, see photographs, and now exclusive to J.S.R. members, they get to listen to recorded voice messages. The system is safe, fun, and most important, very simple to use.

Here come the bride(s)

Midway through 1997, J.S.R. is delighted to report that **5 couples have already announced their engagements** and more announcements concerning upcoming nuptials are expected soon. Singer notes that there are many couples presently involved in "serious" relationships at the moment. "Given the huge increase in new members lately we expect that number to rise even higher," he says.

Personalized service

With almost 1,400 members registered in Toronto alone and an additional 250 from Montreal, the J.S.R. continues to provide unparalleled personalized service. There are now 3 professionals on staff at the J.S.R. who members can turn to when they need advice, suggestions or are just looking for feedback from a previous date.

See for yourself

At the J.S.R. they know how important it is to have someone special in your life, a person to talk to, and laugh with, and to share life's ups and downs with. They also know how difficult it is to meet that someone special. Their goal is to make it easy, by giving you the opportunity to choose who you think would be right for you. Whether you are looking for friendship, a relatiohnship, or something in between, the J.S.R. is the right choice. Go in and see for yourself. Call them today at **(416) 483-4151**. E-mail **jsreg@total.net.**

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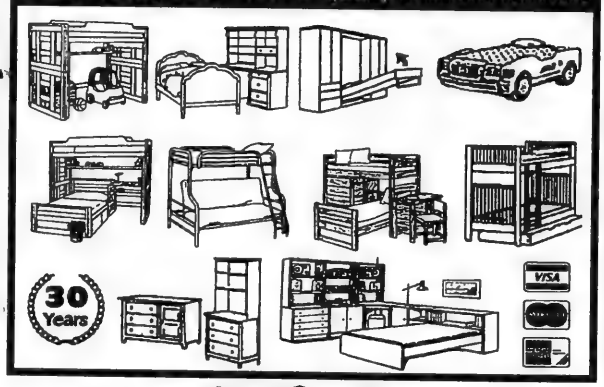

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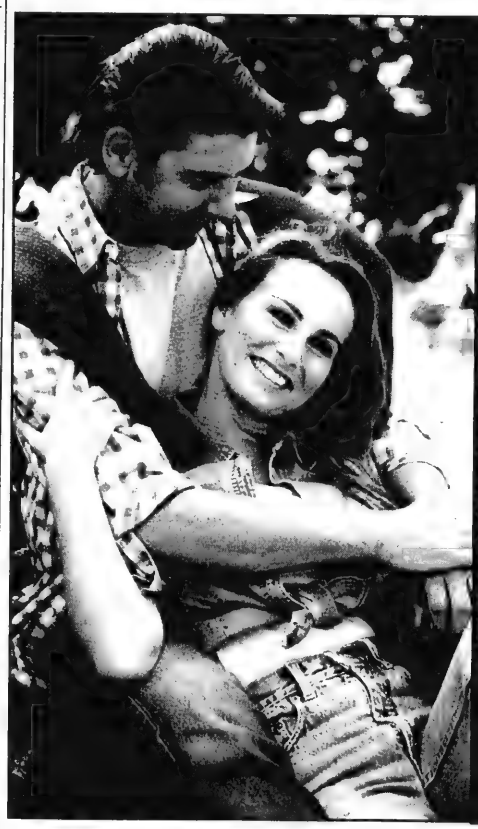

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Want to keep cool this summer? Try fans. They eat up less electricity than air conditioning; one fan uses about the same power as a 60 watt bulb. Also, as they don't lower the air temperature, they free us from the strain of body temperature adjustments caused by going in and out of air-conditioned rooms. Instead, they cool us by moving air over our skin and drawing heat off.

In many 2 storey houses, though, the top floor is often too hot in summer, even with air conditioning; and fans remedy this. For example, a properly positioned stairwell fan turns a heat trap into a conduit that moves a refreshing air current through your home.

In stock and on sale, Royal Lighting has over 70 styles of fan, and is Ontario's largest dealer for the most popular make, Casablanca. Other brands include Can-Arm, SMC and Kendall. Prices range from $59.99 to $1,199.99, with warranties from 5 years to lifetime.

Ceiling fans' popularity is growing. Today, most are reversible: that is, they blow air downward in summer, making a cooling breeze; and in winter, they blow upward, drawing cooler air from the lower part of the room and pushing warm air down from the ceiling. Also, they disperse tobacco smoke.

Ceiling fans come with lights, or lights can be added, letting you replace fixtures with fans. They come in 32", 36", 42" and 52" sizes, in many different styles and colours, with pull chains, wall switches or remote control. Some can be set to turn on automatically at a certain temperature — and, for security, to turn lights on and off at random times.

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The Shining Jewel of Avenue Rd. North

A Show of Hands has become the shining jewel of Avenue Road North — a must see on the Avenue spring day shopping circuit. Owner/Curator Sara Levine Petroff continually strives to source truly exceptional one of a kind pieces from hand blown glass, ceramics, jewellery, to distinctive contemporary Judaica, in a wide range of prices, for both private and corporate art collections.

A Show of Hands has an interior designer on staff to help ensure that colour, proportion, lighting and placement are considered when selecting craft works for your home or as a gift. If you have your own interior designer or decorator to work with, the gallery does offer a courtesy discount to the trade.

We are well versed in the protocol of gift giving, ensuring that each piece is a signed and dated original work, accompanied by an artist statement and biography. Whether you choose to recognize an engagement, birthday or wedding, a significant milestone, or an employee's exceptional performance, A Show of Hands will work with you to ensure that from selection to delivery, both giving and receiving will truly be a pleasure.

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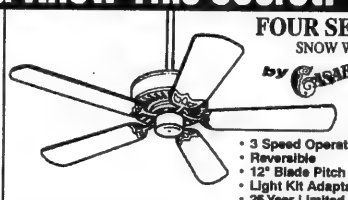

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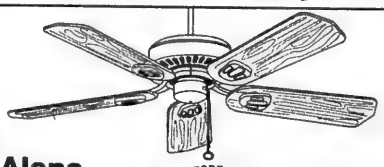

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Cancer research centre launched in Montreal

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Cancer patients in Montreal should have access to drugs under development much earlier than now because of a new applied research centre based at the Jewish General Hospital (JGH) that aims to shorten the time it takes to bring a laboratory discovery to treatment form.

The McGill Centre for Translational Research in Cancer is so-called because it "translates" new scientific knowledge into clinical application, said Dr. Gerald Batist, the centre's director.

The centre is the first of its kind in Canada and one of very few in North America.

It takes an average of 10 years to get an idea from the lab to the stage where it is safe and effective for patient use, Batist said, far too long for a cancer sufferer who is not responding to available treatments.

Dr. Gerald Batist

"By providing the infrastructure and expertise to bring together laboratory researchers, cancer specialists and [the pharmaceutical] industry, we will be able to offer promising new treatments to patients as early as anywhere in the United States," he said.

The centre includes a clinical research unit where patients are treated.

Batist, a JGH oncologist with expertise in experimental pharmacology, heads 25 researchers representing a number of McGill University and universités de Montréal and du Québec à Montréal departments including biology, immunology, pharmacology, pathology, pediatrics and other related medical fields, as well as experts from the pharmaceutical industry.

"Our centre is taking advantage of Quebec's strong environment for biotechnology and research and development," he said. "The development of novel therapeutics is extremely expensive, both in the discovery stages, as well as during preclinical and clinical development.

Among the initial projects at the centre are those concerning gene therapy and medicines that may be derived from natural sources. In the former case, scientists are studying how introducing genes into a tumor may halt its growth. The latter project is inspired by the development of Taxol, a drug derived from the bark of the Pacific yew, which, Batist pointed out, took 20 years to reach the market.

Dr. Richard Margolese, a centre member and director of the JGH oncology department, emphasized that no compromise will be made in the JGH's current protocol to ensure the safety of patients participating in clinical trials.

Much of the lag from conception to practical application is due to the isolation in which researchers at different hospitals and universities work and the lack of communication between them and the doctors who can administer and evaluate new drugs, or even among themselves, said McGill dean of medicine, Dr. Abraham Fuks.

The centre will help coordinate these various efforts and thereby accelerate the testing of potentially life-saving therapies.

The partnership with the drug industry will facilitate technology transfer and commercial agreements, Batist said, but the centre will retain control of the development of the researchers' findings. The centre will hold the patent on any drugs produced commercially.

Typically, scientists sell their ideas to pharmaceutical companies, which then develop the drug themselves, often conducting trials outside of Montreal, he said.

The centre has been established with a $2 million donation from the Alexander and Goldfarb Family Foundations, a $1 million grant from the National Scientific and Engineering Research Council, and additional funding from the Montreal Breast Cancer Foundation.

CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Baycrest begins Parkinson's program

TORONTO — The Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care has launched a new program, the first of its kind in the Greater Toronto Area, for people recently diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

Called the Parkinson's Early Intervention Pilot Program, it was developed by Baycrest's physiotherapy and occupational therapy departments, and offers education and special exercises to help slow the disabling symptoms that can accompany the condition.

"We conducted a comprehensive assessment of out-patient services and held focus groups with clients and their families," says Baycrest physiotherapist Rebecca Gruber. "Both clearly indicated the need for more and better professional services for those who are newly diagnosed."

Medications are commonly used in the early stages of the condition to control such direct effects as tremor and rigidity, she says. However, it is believed that using physiotherapy early on could slow the indirect effects, such as loss of muscle and joint flexibility.

"Unfortunately, the current practice is to send clients to us in the later stages of the condition when the problems are more severe and difficult to treat," says Gruber. "We hope to show that referrals to physiotherapy should be made sooner."

Parkinson's is the most common progressive neurological condition in the elderly, affecting about one percent of Canadians over 65. Its main symptoms are tremor, rigidity, slowness of movement and difficulties with balance.

In the new Baycrest program, clients and their partners attend two-hour sessions twice weekly for 10 weeks. Each session is led by an occupational therapist or physiotherapist and includes one hour of education followed by an hour of instruction in specialized exercises. The program also assesses each participant's level of functioning and provides referrals to other Baycrest and community services.

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Split lvl., 5 bdrms., 4 bths., fam. rm., fin. bsmnt., dble. drive, gar.

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN (416) 633-7373

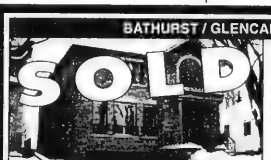
HOMELIFE HIGHER STANDARDS

BATHURST/LAWRENCE - 3100 sq. ft., custom blt., super location, elegant home.
BATHURST/FINCH - Great sidesplit, fin. bsmt., close to all amen.!! $279,900.
BATHURST MANOR - 3 bdrm., bung., fin. bsmt., 3 bathrooms., $279,900.
CALL JUDIT ENGEL
HOMELIFE/CIMERMAN R.E.
226-9770

BATHURST/STEELES
Detached 3 bdrm., Mn. Flr. Fam. rm., priced to sell.
Call Aviva or Bilha
Remax Realtron
(905) 764-6000.

DAVID EICHORN
REALTY LIMITED
787-1712

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Custom built family home. 5 bdrms., 5 baths, fam. room, library, dream maple kitchen, finished basement. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

CLANTON PARK

Very spacious back-split, 4 bdrms., family room, custom library, gorgeous 50' x 154' lot. Call Esther Rubenstein or Michael Klugman (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Lots of home — low price! 5 bdrms., 4 baths, family room, bright open concept, hardwood floors, Finnish spa in basement, only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

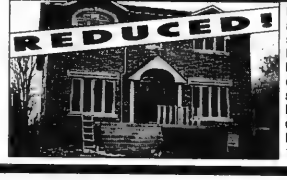
EARL BALES PARK – SPLENDID RANCH BUNGALOW
Spacious ranch-style bungalow with 65 ft. frontage, 3 + 1 bdrms., sep. entry to bsmt., near Earl Bales Park, lots of potential, only $269,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — REDUCED
Fabulous building lot in prestigious location. 50 ft. x 136 ft. Existing bungalow renovated. Only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / WILSON — CUSTOM BUILT FAMILY HOME!
Spacious 5 bdrms., 5 baths, fam. room, library, fin. bsmt. Incredible price — only $529,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS!



Brand new, 6 bedrooms, custom designed luxury home. Dream maple kitchen, oak panelled library, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. basement. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT PARK — SPACIOUS RANCH BUNGALOW

Custom built. Pride of ownership, 3 + 1 bdrms., fam. room, hardwood floors, sep. entry to in-law suite, asking $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE RD. / GLENCAIRN – FAB. BLDG. LOT – REDUCED!
70 ft. frontage, OMB approved for 5,000+ sq. ft. new home. Fab. location! Only $379,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN – STORE FOR SALE!
Fabulous location, only $239,000. Ideal for user — priced to sell! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR — IMMACULATE 3 BDRM. SIDE-SPLIT
Exclusive listing, bungalow, 52.20 ft. frontage, fam. room, Jacuzzi. ACT NOW — only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

JUST LISTED LOWER VILLAGE A "10"
Fantastic interior, 18th century antique marble frplc, 6 bedrooms, 4 baths, great Street. David & Eleanor Wagman* 488-2875

8 PLEX - BATHURST/WILSON - GOOD OPPORTUNITY
Net income $44K, new roof, gas conv., balc. R. Trachter* 226-1987

ARMOUR HEIGHTS - SPEC. CUSTOM $649K
3300 s.f., highest quality, 50' frontage! Patti Pollock* 226-1987

FANTASTIC CUSTOM RENOVATION – $549K
Armour Heights, 4+1 bd., best St. B. Westbrook*/P. Pollock* 226-1987

FABULOUS CEDARVALE CENTRE HALL!
5 bdrms., 4 baths, mn. flr. fam. rm.! Maria Amati* 488-2875

YONGE/LAWRENCE - SUPERIOR TOWNHOUSE
Quality & spac., 2 car pk. B. Singer** 488-2875

HAZELTON AVE. - RARELY FOUND – $449K
Charming 1⅛ sty on 25' front. P. Pollock* 226-1987

1ST AD - NEW LISTING – YUPPIE DREAM
3 + 1 bdrm., hot tub, loft, wow! S. Gruenstein* 226-1987

BATHURST-DREWRY REDUCED
$214,900 open concept over 1400 s.f. A. Editz* 226-1987

GORGEOUS EXECUTIVE UPPER DUPLEX
Lower Village, 3 bdrms. LEASED ms. L. Elkind* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW-YORK MILLS – 81'x156'
To be custom built, 3 car gar., circle dr. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

BAYVIEW RIDGE – EXECUTIVE BUNGALOW
100'x250', one of a kind. Call Mark Cowan* 226-1987

BAYVIEW-YORK MILLS – CUSTOM 5000'
Res. of luxury & quality. Anna Pollock* 226-1987

FABULOUS 2 YEAR OLD HOUSE ON 1/2 ACRE
Pool, tennis cr., 3 car garage. J. Uslaner* 226-1987

4000 SQUARE FOOT HOME
5 bdrm., w/pool. J. Uslaner* 226-1987

LOOKING FOR IT ALL? LOCATION/SCHOOL/ETC.
Great 4+2 bdrm., huge kit., 4 frpl. A. Pollock* 226-1987

BAYVIEW – 67'X146' - BEST PART OF TOWN
4 bdrm., 4 bath, only $459,900. J. Uslaner* 226-1987

STARTER HOME - $219,900
3 bdrm., 3 bath, fin. bsmt., lg. yd., garage. J. Uslaner* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

SKYMARK - JUST REDUCED!! $314,900
2 bdrm., 2 bath, den, sol., 1775 s.f. S. Train** 226-1987

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

BATHURST MANOR
3 bdrm. bung. on 52' x 115' lot, clean & SOLD CAC, bsmt. apt., quiet st., great starter home! Asking $279,900.

AVENUE ROAD / BROOKE
Newly built 3 bdrm. back-split on generous 45' x 130' lot, self-contained in-law suite, large kitchen. Close to all amenities.

COTTAGES! BELLE EWART!
Two separate side-by-side waterfront cottages, lots totalling 125' x 240', very quiet street, short walk to synagogue, motivated vendors! Buy one or both!

CLANTON PARK / EXCLUSIVE
Fully renovated 3 bedroom side-split on generous lot & quiet street, in-law suite, hardwood floors, CAC, shows beautifully! $349,900.

Call **Jacob Florans,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

MILL ST. - BATHURST
Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms., 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!!
BATHURST - ANTIBES
2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, large wrap around balcony.
CLARK - HILDA
$242,000 great 3 bedroom detached, 3 baths, appl., air, great location must be sold.
STEELES - HILDA
4 bedroom back/split - semi 3 baths + basement apartment, sep. entrance, garage.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

BATHURST MANOR $265,000 3 bdrm. brick bung. on 52'x115' lot, 2 baths, sep. ent. to fin. bsmnt., white kit., 5 app., CAC, hrdwd. under brdlm., new roof, park 6 cars, near subway.

CONDO! BATHURST/CENTRE 1240 sq. ft., 2 bdrms., 2 baths, eat-in-kit., sol., west view, $162,900.
Rebecca Moscoe, Sutton Group Admiral Realty (416) 739-7200.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Thornhill, 3 bdrm, walk to shul, lot size 100' x 308',102 Arnold Ave,$675K.**Priv.** 905-884-3847.

Thornhill, Bath./Centre, spac. 4 bdrm, 2500', huge kosher kit, **$324.9K.**Walk to schools, shuls. **No Agents.** 905-764-0963.

SPRING FARM
2800 s.f., 4 + 1 bdrms., fin. bsmt., extra lg., upgraded kosher kit., huge pie-shaped lot on quiet court, steps from BAYT, schools & shopping. Beautifully decorated with many extras. $439,000. No agents. *Call* **Garry** *or* **Rachel**
(905) 764-7480

24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY

Bungalow or split level, between Shepp./Steeles - Bath./Yonge, **Private!** Save commission. **No Agents plse.** 905-660-3392.

25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

We need a house to rent for 6 mos., beg. Aug. or Sept. 1, s. of Wilson,n. of St. Clair. 482-8607

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Apt. to share, Bath./Egl. area, 2 bdrms, kosher, mins. from TTC, shuls. Avail. July 1. Call Jonathan, 905-881-6742.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE
Various Locations
Bachelors-4 bdrm. townhouses
PLEASE CALL:
Anforth Property Management
(416) 485-1193
Monday to Friday
Bus. Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

St. Clair/Wychwood North, 2 bdrm apt, liv rm, din rm, lndr rm. in duplex, backyard, gar,$945. 783-8431 or evg.905-886-5515.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Corporate Rentals & Relocating Service. Worldwide. Short/long-term, min 4 mos. 778-7600

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

ORILLIA AREA WATERFRONTS
Cottages, Lots, Vacation Homes
Lake Simcoe - Eight Mile Pt., Four Mile Pt., Moon Pt., Carthew Bay areas & Lake Couchiching. ***FREE*** knowledgeable info. on many listings in all price ranges. I have many satisfied purchasers, so call your Orillia Connection:
JOANNE JOHNSON, *Sales Rep.* **Remax Orillia Realty (1996) Ltd. 705 - 325-1373**

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

The **SKYMARK** *Specialist*
DON MILLS & FINCH
JUST LISTED - Corner 2 bedroom + family + solarium + balcony, 2 baths, fireplace. With a panoramic view. For our updated inventory, please call Mr. Santee Leung, F.R.I.
Santee Realty Inc.
(416) **441-2003**
(24 hrs.)

ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF CONDO LIVING!
Governor's Hill - 1542 sq. ft. of luxury living. Enjoy the luscious garden & waterfall from your balcony, 2 br., 2 baths, parking & locker. $379,000.
MARILYN FELDMAN 229-4454
HOMELIFE/PARTNERS REALTY INC.

3000 Bathurst, 2 bdrms, 2 bths, deluxe kit. Must be sold by June 15. **No Agents.** 416-756-0594 or 416-787-2098.

Bath./Finch, Savoy, cornr, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bths, whirlpl, marble,extras galore. 736-8007

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp,spac. condo, furn, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc, pool, pkg, $950. inclusive. 416-444-4813.

500 Glencairn, 1 bdrm condo + an office, fully furn. 787-2098.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

100 Canyon, lux. 3 bdrm, 2 baths, updated.638-4041, evgs.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

ANITA LATNER

UP YOUR SCALE in this custom cedar Lk. Muskoka 4-bdrm + nanny rm., Cathedral ceiling, skylts. $395,000.

• • •

Grey-cedar Healey Lk. 4-bdrm., Muskoka rm. $229,000.

• • •

YEA OLDE LOG - 3-bdrm., BH/deck atop, Lk. Muskoka water-ski bay $249,000.

• • •

MUSKOKA COTTAGE LINE
705-687-2879

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

4 bdrm, 2 baths, waterfront cottage at small Muskoka lake for mo. of July. 221-0253, evgs. or wknds.

We are a group of 6 cottages on a small & quiet **Bracebridge** area lake. I have a 3 bdrm with screened porch,waterfront view, safe, sandy beach & rec. hall. June 27-July 31. Call 635-0146, after 7 pm.

Belle Ewart, 2 cottages on lge lot, nr. water. 636-0733.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Belle Ewart, lovely 4 bdrm, liv. rm/din. rm., nr. shul. 633-3151.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boynton Beach, prestigious c.c., dec furn, 3 br, 2 ba, 2 cg, fam rm, enc patio, villa, golf/tennis, eq. avail. 561-364-5698.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

N. Miami Beach,1 bdrm apt,fully equip,nr all amen. 789-3083.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

LAKE SIMCOE WATERFRONTS
LEFROY - 45 min. to Tor., 136' sandy btm., 2.5 acres forest, charming log cottage + 2 bdrm. guest cottage. Walk to synagogue. VRM $490K-$600K.
BIG BAY PT. - Exquisite 2 yr. old 3000 sf shingle sided home. State-of-art amenities, 4 bdrms., 3 bths., solarium, 3/4 acre on Bay. VRM $790K-960K.
PATTIE HARPER, *Sales Rep.*
416-213-7224
THE PRUDENTIAL ANDREWS REALTY GROUP

220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

Property Management: Established professional company provides discreet, reasonable & comprehensive management of income producing properties within Southern Ontario.Please call or fax for further information: **Bansley Property Management Inc.,** 3185 Bathurst St.,Suite 103, North York,Ont., Canada, M6A 2B2. Tel: (416) 781-6606 or fax:(416) 781-3270

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

MEDIA ENCORE
HALF PRICE BOOKS & MUSIC
OPEN YOUR OWN
Reuseable Book & CD Store
. . . With A Difference
• Turnkey Operation • High Profit Margin
FOR FRANCHISE INFORMATION
CALL 416-699-0646

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Educational Director req. for small alternative Jewish Sunday School, offering progressive, secular, humanistic education. P/T pos. (equiv. of 1- 1 1/2 days/wk.). Ideal candidate will have a Univ. degree, strong background in Jewish history & culture, exper. in teaching, curriculum development & supervision, exc. organiz. & comm. skills. Knowledge of Yiddish & Hebrew an asset. Résumés to: Morris Winchevsky School, 585 Cranbrooke Ave., North York, Ont. M6A 2X9, by June 13, 1997. **No faxes please.**

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Orthodox Jewish Girls School seeks to hire an exper. fundraiser. Good pay. Fax résumé to: 416-785-3478.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care - I Care, Thornhill, more for your child, more for your money. Personal care. Loving, safe & educational environment in home pre-school. In operation since 1988 with ECE teacher, over 15 yrs. exp., limited space, full or part time. Refs., receipts. 905-764-6936.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady avail., refs. & exper. Call 246-9630, evgs.

Cleaning lady available, very honest, experienced with refs. Call Janet, 416-638-8313.

Do you need an exper. cleaning lady? Need someone who is dependable & trustworthy to clean your home? Very afford. prices. Call 416-534-0186.

EC Access Employ. Agency
(filipino owned & operated)
Low fee/nanny/housekeeper
Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

Exper. cleaning lady looking for a job. 416-538-0132.

Exper. nanny seeks live-out job, p/t, light hskpng, good refs. avail. Call 416-287-0415.

Filipinas, Nannies/Housekeepers in Phillippines & Hong Kong seeking sponsors anywhere in Ontario. **No charge to employer**. Call Ontario Employment Agency, 699-6931.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Lady will clean houses/apts, 18 yrs exp,good rates.596-2447

Nanny, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs. 630-0674 or 224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Polish cleaning lady, housekeeper avail.,exper. 266-7208.

R.C.M. Domestic Agency has prof. & fully trained hskprs/nannies/companions & p/t cleaners. No fee for overseas sponsorship. 416-633-5919, evgs.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Find The Caregiver Match for Your Lifestyle
We help you put the Pieces in Place!

Senior Lifestyle Solutions

Book now OR arrange for a free consultation

Highly Qualified Companions, Homemakers, Health Care Aides, available now.

Part-time, Full-time, and Respite Care. We care, let us start helping you today, whether at home, in the hospital, or in a seniors home.

905-886-1267

(Gov't of Ontario Licence No. 6172)

MARLA'S DOMESTICS
RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

Exp. cleaning lady avail. Mon-Fri,wknds. Call 530-4026, evgs.

258 HEALTHCARE

HCA certif., Jewish girl, avail. for elderly, exper, refs, live-out. 416-588-7202 or 416-328-7754.

HCA with hospital, nursing home, private home exper., seeks steady position. Refs. & licensed. Call 604-3350.

Certified HCA willing to look after seniors or sick persons. Flexible hours, Mon. - Fri. Please call Arlean, 416-746-9502.

Comfort Healthcare, reliable, dependable service offers care to the elderly, $12./hrly. 416-328-7754.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***Soulmates Worldwide Jewish Introduction Service!** The last Service you'll ever need! Thousands of upscale clients.
Call Evelyn 905-709-3868
www.soulmates.net

1 match can light a fire! At least 1engagement/mo.Bringing People Together 905-731-5204

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over 1350 registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**. 483-4151

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

High profile, attr JM, 5'9", n/smkr, in good shape & health, has been alone for 8 mos. & is now ready to reach out to a "special lady" in her late 30's or 40's. It's said beauty is only skin deep, however, in order to explore the inner beauty of this special lady, it's important that she is attr., shapely, self-confident, outgoing & indep. If you're ready to seize the opportunity, please include your photo and send to CJN Box 6919.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJF, 35, attractive, outgoing, professional, would like to meet a SJM, professional, attractive, 35-40, who has a great sense of humour, likes sports, travel & the outdoors, for relationship, possibly leading to marriage. Photo if possible. CJN Box 6925.

Attr, warm, secure mid-50's JDF, seeking a JM for a meaningful relationship. CJN Box 6927.

Attr. JF, looking for a Jewish gentleman, 40-50, for lasting relationship. CJN Box 6923.

Very unique,sophisticated lady, 60, looks 50, curvy, touch of class, likes quality life, no children, own business, would like to meet a sophisticated gentleman between 60-70 yrs. old. CJN Box 6928.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Road,
Suite 205,
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

A large Singles party in nightclub **Metropol**, 72 Steeles Ave. West, Fri. May 30, 8pm. Cost: $20., incl. dinner, band & Las Vegas show. **416-739-7371.**

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

RANDALL-PINTO
Adele and Marvin Randall are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter **Susan** to **Gabriel Max**, son of **Allegria Pinto.**

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Condo. furniture for sale, excellent Condition. 905-764-6574

330 OBITUARIES

WILLIAM GOLDFINGER, age 52, passed away suddenly on May 15, 1997, of a heart attack, in Miami, Florida. He leaves his loving wife Lana,daughter Nicole, mother Irene, and the rest of the family. He will be dearly missed by family and friends

BAER, Harold - on May 6, 1997, late of 240 Markland Dr., #1008.
SKLAR, Murray - on May 10, 1997, late of 900 Yonge St., #703.
VIGODDA, Dorothy - on May 10, 1997, late of 193 Herchimer Ave.
SCHEFFER, Walter - on May 11, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
USHER, Rose - on May 11, 1997, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.
WORTZMAN, Pearl - on May 11, 1997, late of 3 Concorde Pl., #1405.
ZAUBERBLAT, Nana - on May 11, 1997, late of 2045 Finch Ave. W.
GOLDMAN, Louis - on May 12, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
HUTTER, Anne Fidler (Milgrom) - on May 12, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
JACOBY, Paul - on May 12, 1997, late of 50 Carrington Dr.
ALTCHULLER, Dora Fanny – on May 13, 1997, late of 133 Wilton St., #530.
LITTLE, Dave - on May 15, 1997, late of 84 Castlewood Ave.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

SLONE, Joel - on May 12, 1997, late of 484 Avenue Rd.
BELICK, Sadie - on May 13, 1997, late of 3300 Don Mills Rd.
EISEN, Ralph - on May 13, 1997.
DE HOND, Rebecca - on May 15, 1997, late of 18 Cedarcroft Blvd.
LEWIS, Arik - on May 13, 1997.
MONOSOV, Yefim - on May 15, 1997, late of 4300 Bathurst St.
SMALL, Morris - on May 15, 1997, late of 131 Torresdale Ave.
REISS, Wilhelm - on May 16, 1997.
SEGAL, Jean- on May 16, 1997, late of 197 Banbury Cres.
PHILLIPSON, Ilse - on May 17, 1997, late of 642 Sheppard Ave. E.
SHEINE, Florence - on May 17, 1997.
FURMAN, Aharon - on May 18, 1997, late of 3108 Brighton St.
JAY, Anne - on May 19, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of Fern Reich and Family

335 UNVEILINGS

MESLIN, Dinah. The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Dinah Meslin** will take place Sunday, June 8th at 11:30 am at Mt. Sinai Memorial Park, 986 Wilson Ave., Independent Workmans Circle Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Yetta Speisman** will take place on Sunday, June 1st at 11:15 am at Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park, Ostrovtzer Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Bernard Arshoff ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section - Phase 3, DDD row 6
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Ruth Bernstein ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 1:00 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Ruchtcha Bornstein ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 8th, 11:00 a.m.
Lambton Hills Cemetery
Ostrovtser Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Annette Buckspan ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 11:00 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Temple Sinai Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MOLLY CADESKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
First Narayever Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RUTH COOPER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 1:15 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Charles John Kasner ז"ל
beloved husband & father
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Shaari Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
Bess Goldberg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HILLEL KOHN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Pultusker Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CHAIM GOLISH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 12:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Warshover Lodzer Section #46
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Morris Lubelchek ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section DDD
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved daughter
Marilyn Glassman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 8th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stashwer Young Men's Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memories of the late
Lillian and Lionel Magder ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 2:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Moldover Synagogue Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LEONARD GOLD ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st at 12:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Steeles & Bathurst)
Apter Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RACHEL KAPLAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 8th at 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Farband of Lithuanian Jews Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SOL MILLER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAM NEWMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Clanton Park Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JACK PERKELL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Synagogue Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JOSEPH SCOTT ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 9:45 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie Drive
B'nai Brith Section "C"
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Linda Silverberg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 10:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Stuart Joseph Title ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 1st, 11:30 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Beth David Section #115
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ISAK SIMMONS ז"ל
beloved husband and devoted father
will take place
Sunday, June 1st at 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Centre Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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CLASSIFIED INDEX

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT-TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

Judicial independence revisited

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Documents filed recently in the Supreme Court of Canada on alleged government interference in war crimes cases were given exposé treatment by two major Canadian newspapers but are really just "old news," say spokespersons for two Jewish organizations.

The allegations contained in the documents have already been addressed by Chief Justice Charles Dubin in an internal review commissioned by the Justice Department and by the Canadian Judicial Council, which investigated the conduct of Federal Court Judges Julius Isaac and James Jerome, say Keith Landy, national legal counsel of Canadian Jewish Congress and Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

Dubin concluded Justice Department official Ted Thompson was responsible for only a "minor error in judgment" while the Judicial Council cleared Isaac, Chief Justice of the Federal Court of serious wrongdoing.

"This is not a new chapter, it's only an old chapter" in the controversy over alleged judicial interference, Littman said.

The two stories, which appeared in the *Globe and Mail* and the *Ottawa Citizen*, quote internal government memos written by Christopher Amerasinghe, a senior lawyer with the Justice Department's war crimes unit. They focus on a March 1, 1996 meeting between Thompson and Isaac in which the slow pace of proceedings in war crimes cases was discussed.

The meeting prompted defence lawyers to seek a stay of proceedings on the grounds of judicial interference. Federal Court Judge Bud Cullen granted the stay but the Federal Court of Appeal overturned that judgement. The Supreme Court will hear an appeal from that decision next month.

Memos by Amerasinghe suggest Thompson had a close personal relationship with Isaac and that Thompson told him Isaac would speak to Jerome and get him to remove himself from the cases. According to the news stories, Amerasinghe also writes in his memos that Isaac and Thompson had dinner on March 1, 1996 and again discussed the war crimes cases.

Amerasinghe also wrote that Thompson later met Jerome in Montreal and the judge suggested he not file an affidavit to explain the meetings. Amerasinghe warned that could lead to the "clear inference that the fix was in" and he described the relationship between Thompson and Isaac as "incestuous."

Amerasinghe also advises against calling Thompson as a witness to explain the meetings with Isaac, saying his testimony would be harmful to the government.

Landy said the documents are troubling because "there appears to be dissension in the department. There appears to be a lack of cohesiveness as to what the aim of the department was."

He said many of Amerasinghe's memos are based on speculation.

Race tight in Edmonton

By NEIL LOOMER
Edmonton Jewish Life

EDMONTON — Although there are only 5,000 Jews out of a general population of 700,000 in Edmonton, the concentration of Jewish homes in two ridings means the community's vote can have an impact on the federal election.

Election '97

Edmonton Northwest includes the downtown area around the city's two oldest synagogues, where many senior citizens have retired to high-rise condos. It also includes the established Glenora community, Edmonton's equivalent of Forest Hill.

The riding is held by Liberal Anne McLellan, the minister of Natural Resources. In 1993, she won by only 11 votes over the Reform party candidate.

Despite her high profile as a cabinet minister and her success in consolidating the Armed Forces at the Edmonton Garrison, many still expect a close race. A former law professor at the University of Alberta, McLellan was recruited to move to Edmonton 16 years ago from the Maritimes by a former classmate, Bruce Elman, a past president of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton.

McLellan's Reform opponent, Dean Kurpjuweit, is a newcomer to politics who is hoping to steal one of the few seats Reform does not hold in the Edmonton area.

It's the opposite situation in Edmonton Southwest, where former school trustee Esther Starkman is representing the Liberals against incumbent Ian McClelland of Reform.

The Jewish community has drifted to this area over the past 20 years and will see the opening of a new Talmud Torah in the heart of the riding this fall.

McClelland expects to garner some support from Jewish voters. He was a business partner for 25 years with Louis Rudolph, a pioneer of Edmonton's Jewish community. McClelland recently travelled to Israel with Canadian Jewish Congress and has spoken out in the House of Commons on the failure of the government to prosecute alleged Nazi war criminals.

Starkman, a long-time Liberal, is well known in both the Jewish and general communities for her professional and volunteer work in education.

Another factor that could hurt McClelland is a strong run by the Progressive Conservatives, who held the riding before the last election.

Montreal native Ellie Shuster is representing the Tories. A one-time journalist and speech writer for former Saskatchewan premier Grant Devine, Shuster is stressing national unity in her campaign.

She says she is inspired by her great-grandfather, the first Jewish alderman in Montreal, who ran a bilingual campaign with signs in Yiddish and Italian.

The office of THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS will be closed on Wednesday, June 11th and Thursday, June 12th for Shavuos.

There will be an early deadline for classified advertising and the Service Directory for the issue of June 19, 1997.
The deadline will be Tuesday, June 10th by 4:00 p.m.

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Israeli soccer having impact on world stage

JERUSALEM —Eyal Bercovic became a saint last October. But even though he's from the Holy Land, the 25-year-old soccer player's elevation in status has nothing to do with religion; rather it is due to his signing a three-year contract with the English premier league team Southampton, popularly called the Saints.

Bercovic began repaying the $2 million Southampton transferred to Maccabi Haifa for the midfielder's rights when he scored and assisted on three goals in his debut for the Saints, a 6-3 victory over English powerhouse Manchester United.

Bercovic, 25, is renowned for his incisive passing, a skill that helped him win two championships with Maccabi Haifa, while also representing Israel in 40 international matches.

Bercovic's success at Southampton has stimulated an exodus of Israeli soccer stars. Striker Ronen Harazi, who has scored 18 goals in 36 international appearances, was set to join English premier division team Sunderland from Betar Jerusalem, while Maccabi Tel Aviv midfielder Avi Nimni was being wooed by Sheffield. Defender Gadi Bromer and Israel's captain Tal Banin are also expected to join English clubs. Earlier in the season, the Spanish first division team Celta Vigo bought Haim Revivo from Maccabi Haifa.

Israeli soccer has improved by leaps and bounds in recent years. Here, two players fight for the ball in a game played in Israel.

Interest in Israeli players has been abetted by the remarkably good results achieved by Israel's national team in World Cup qualifying matches, where, at the end of April, Israel led Group 5 qualifiers with 13 points, two ahead of second place Russia. On April 30, Israel defeated Cyprus 2-0 at home, avenging a 2-0 loss to the Cypriots in Nikosia.

Israel faces Russia in an away game in June and Bulgaria in Sofia in August. Two wins would clinch a berth in the 1998 World Cup and would mark Israel's first appearance in the tournament since 1970. Israel has already defeated Bulgaria, World Cup semi-finalists, 2-1 at home and tied Russia 1-1 at home.

The success of Israeli players at top levels in Europe is not a new phenomenon. Ronny Rosenthal helped Liverpool win the English championship in 1990 and has been playing for Tottenham Hotspur since 1993. Before that, Avi Cohen won English and Scottish championships with Liverpool and Glasgow Rangers, respectively. Veteran Betar Jerusalem striker, Eli Ohana, 33, who was recalled to the national team recently and scored the vital winning goal in a World Cup qualifier against Luxembourg, won a European Cup winner's medal with the Belgian side, Mechelen, in 1990.

While Israel still faces an uphill battle in its bid to qualify for the World Cup, the omens for future success are good. The country's under-16 team won the bronze medal in the European Championships in Austria in 1996 and several of the team's top players have been signed by leading European sides.

Israel's under-18 team qualified for the final of the European Championships in July while its under-21 team leads its group for the European Championships in 1998.

Individually, Israeli athletes continue to shine. Shlomo Dahan, 17, scored well for the youth team of German champions Borussia Dortmund while Yossi Benayon, 17, is touted to become the greatest Israeli player ever. He scored 10 goals in the first half of the 1996/97 season for Ajax Amsterdam and was chosen the Dutch champions' most outstanding youth player of the year.

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Hoops tournament to aid cancer research

TORONTO — The Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) will be the scene of a basketball tournament and blood drive on June 1 to raise funds and awareness for cancer research and bone marrow transplants.

Hoops for Hopes, formerly known as Play for Jay, is expected to attract as many as 400 participants, including media personalities from TSN, the New VR and CITYTV. Participants will play three on three basketball and from 12 to 1 p.m. the media will play a celebrity game.

Hoops for Hopes grew out of the Play for Jay tournament, which helped fund the testing of bone marrow donors for Jay Feinberg, then a 26-year-old cancer patient from New York. In 1995, the campaign found a donor to save his life.

"I am now a healthy 26-year-old, alive today because the gift of a stranger gave me the gift of life. My hope has become reality; I am leukemia free. With the continued support of generous sponsors and players, Hoops for Hopes can help other cancer patients find their life saving donors," he said.

Two years ago, Audey Stanleigh of Toronto found his donor from a drive organized by the Friends of Jay. Unfortunately, Stanleigh, who came up with the idea for the fundraising tournament, succumbed to post-transplant complications last summer. This year's event will be held in his memory.

"Audey Stanleigh was my best friend and I hope the community will support his legacy," said Ilan Meister, chief organizer of Hoops for Hope. "In 1995 we co-directed the tournament together to raise more than $20,000. This year we hope to...almost double our fundraising efforts."

In addition to the hoops action, a blood drive will be held to increase the number of potential donors on the international unrelated bone marrow registry. Dynacare Laboratories has donated medical supplies and its technical skills for the drive.

The official sponsor of the tournament is Brian Mermelstein Investments while Shoeless Joe's Sport Bar & Tavern, Dufferin and Orfus Road, will host a post-tournament party after 7 p.m. Proceeds from the $5 cover charge will go to the charity.

For more information, contact Meister at 905-771-9773.

The tournament takes place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the BJC, 4588 Bathurst St. The blood drive will run from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is $5 for spectators and $100 per team of three or four.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

כיצד מתחילים סיפור?

מתחילים סיפור מאת: עמוס עוז, כתר תוצאה לאור,1996, אינו ספר המסות הראשון של המחבר. ידוע לשבח ספר המסות שתיקת השמים - ענינו משתנמם על אלוהים וכן ספרי המסות הפוליטיים באור התכלת חעזה ויפח רשם בארץ ישראל.

במתחילים סיפור, עוז, שכמעט הפך כסופר ואישיות ציבורית אגדה בחייו, שואל: מה בא בתחתלה? מה כותבים בפרק הראשון? מה יהיה המשפט הפותח? ובעצם מה זו בכלל התחלה? הלא תמיד "קיימת התחלה שלפני התחלה." תוך דיון ביצובעיה חשחורה הראשונה על פני הדף הלבן" עוז מתלבט בסוגיות נוקפות. התכנים הם מעולם הספרות והפילוסופיה ונושאי מחקרו של עוז נוגעים בהבחנות הדקות בין סיבה לעילה, בין נורם למניע, טיבו של הדימוי והיחסים המורכבים בין תדמית, עובדה, אמונה, ודאות ואמת.

הספר מיוחד ורווי באוצרות מחוראת הספרות. וכי מה יכול לחיות רע בש"י עגנון, קפקא, גוגול, סי יזהר, י. שבתאי ואחרים תחת פלפולו המרתק של עוז.

עמוס עוז סוגד לקהל הקוראים. לא קדושת הסופר לנגד עיניו אלא קדושת הקריאה. הוא דובר לא כסופר מרץ אלא כאחד מן חשורה, כקורא מן המנין. כתיבתו קלילה ונוטלת יומרנות יתר. פניתו אינה למעגל אקדמי אלא לקוראיו בפועל ובפוטנציה.

בין השאר, הסופר מבקש לתקן עוול שעוללו כמה מורים לספרות "שניתחו בפנינו הכל בכל, עד דכא, טכניקות ומוטיבים... אלגוריה וקונוטציה... ורק את התענוג שבקריאה סירסו קצת, שלא יפריע; שנדע לנו שספרות זה לא משחק ובכלל, שהחיים לא פיקניק." מתוך אהבתו לדמיון הספרותי, עוז מדגים משחקי קריאה המבקשים מן הקורא שישתתף השתתפות פעילה בקריאה "שיביא עמו אל חזירה את נסיון חייו ואת תמימותו וגם זהירתו ועורמתו." לדעת הסופר, הקריאה מבוססת על שלב הפתיחה שבו כביכול נתחם חוזה בין הקורא והסופר.

במתחילים סיפור עוז בוחן סה"כ עשר יצירות; שבע התחלות של סיפורים ושלוש התחלות של רומאנים. הוא מפענח עבורנו את "חוזה הפתיחה" ביצירות שבחר ומעניק לנו הדרכה ספרותית מרתקת. חשיפתו לאור הבטים שיתכן ונעלמו מאתנו, הקוראים, מהווה תשורה ספרותית מתוקה.

יש התחלות, אומר עמוס עוז, כמו "הבל הבלים, אמר קהלת, הבל הבלים, הכל הבל" שפשוט מתמצות את הכל. ואולם רוב הפתיחות נזקקות להמשך הסיפור להצדקת קיומן.

עוז מספר על אביו שכתב ספרי מחקר וקינא בבנו "על שאני כותב חופשי, מה שבא לי, ישר מהראש אל הדף." הבן מצידו, קינא באביו שהיה מתיישב לכתוב מאמר מדעי וכל השולחן שלו מכוסה בספרים, מאמרים, ומקורות. "...לגיון של כוחות עזר ושל ארטילריה מסיימת." את הבן, זה שכותב "חופשי" מלווה בכל חומרטה בעיית פתיחת סיפור. זה הסיפור עמוס עוז שבשלב ההתחלה "יושב מקשקש על הדף, מקמט, זורק לסל. מקשקש. צורות פרחים. משולשים. מעוינים. בית עם ארובה. חתול קירח. מקמט, זורק..."

הספר פותח באביו ומסיים בפרק הדן בסבתו של עוז: "חסיבה האמיתית למות סבתי." בסגנון לבבי ואישי מספר לנו עוז שסבתו נפטרה באמבטיה ובעקבות זאת הוא מבקש מענה לשאלה, האם נפטרה סבתו מהתקף לב או מנקיון. בדיון בדילמה זו, עוז מפנה את הקורא לקונסוליום פילוסופי, מלייבניץ ועד איינשטיין.

עמוס עוז, מתחילים סיפור: בהחלט מומלץ לכל מי שאוהב לקרוא, מי שרוצה לכתוב וסתם מאוהדי עמוס עוז. ספר חכם ומחנה.

ולהזדמנת פתיחה שאני אוהבת, בחרתי ברומאן מנוחה נכונה שבו מוצגת עמדה חדשה ומפתיעה בשאלת דיקונה הלאומי של מדינת ישראל. כנגד מיתוס הצבר בסיפורת של "דור הארץ", במנוחה נכונה הושמה דווקא בפי הגיבור הצבר בקורת נוקבת על ניתוק דור לילדי-הארץ ממורשת העם היהודי. וזהו משפט הפתיחה למנוחה נכונה: "איש קס ועובר ממקום למקום. מה שחשאיר האיש מאחוריו נשאר מאחוריו ומביט בגבו." עמוס עוז, מנוחה נכונה, ספריה לעם, 1982.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

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HAMBURGER UPSIDE-DOWN CASSEROLE

2 cups elbow macaroni, raw	8 oz can tomato sauce	3 eggs, beaten
1 small onion, minced	1/4 tsp pepper	1/2 cup water
1 garlic clove, minced	1/4 tsp salt	14 oz can asparagus spears
1-1 1/2 lb. ground beef	1/4 tsp oregano	*Yield: 6 servings.*

Preheat oven to 350°F. Cook macaroni according to package instructions. Spray large frying pan with cooking spray and sauté onion and garlic. Add ground meat. Cook, stirring constantly until the meat has browned. Add tomato sauce and spices.

Spread meat mixture into 2 qt. greased casserole dish. Arrange cooked macaroni over hamburger. Combine beaten eggs with water. Pour over macaroni. Bake 1 1/2 hrs. until custard is set. When done, allow casserole to stand 15 minutes, then loosen edges and unmold on platter. Decorate with asparagus around unmolded casserole. Cut into wedges.

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

About families

Dear Susan,

I have three young children. My in-laws live in Toronto and my parents reside in New York State. My parents see my children on a regular basis; however, my in-laws have virtually no contact. This situation appears to trouble me more than my husband. Do you have any suggestions?

Dear Reader,

Thank you for sharing your dilemma. Families have different capacities for closeness. This is predicated on an individual's capacity to connect on an emotional level. Dr. John Bolby, the father of attachment theory, described this process in his theory of bonding and attachment. An individual's capacity to bond stems back to the all-important bond between mother and child. This bond extends itself to father-child and sibling relationships. The degree to which one has bonded is played out in adult life in spousal relationships and parental spheres.

You have alluded to the fact that your family has no problem with attachment, even if it is geographically challenged. Your parents have kept in regular contact with your children. I assume that this is a style of relating that you are accustomed to.

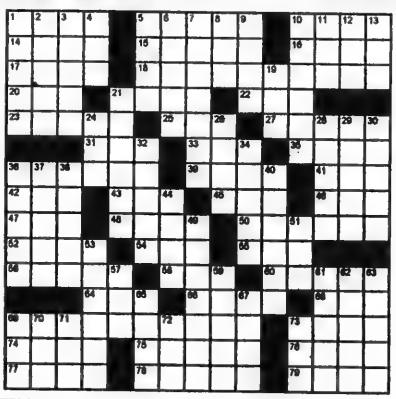
Your husband appears disinterested because he appears to come from a disengaged family. Their comfort zone is not within the bosom of close relationships. It is your husband's decision as to whether he wants to reconnect with his parents in a more deliberate way, and wants his parents to have a closer relationship with your children.

I detect a pacing problem in that you wish for a closer relationship with your in-laws. You will have to follow your husband's lead when he chooses to dance the dance.

In the meantime, you might discuss how the children might be experiencing the disparities in grandparent involvement as a means of anticipating questions on their parts.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Moses' last mount
5. Betim in Spain
10. Misplace
14. Arkin or Funt
15. Obey
16. Sinai climate
17. Adam to Eve
18. Advice lady
20. Number ending
21. ___ Shabbat
22. Grass
23. Stooge
25. "Gingy"
27. Peerce part
31. Over to Ha Levi
33. Offering often
35. Columnist Barrett
36. Streisand
39. Halt
41. Patriarchs
42. Long before
43. Canasta card
45. Printing measures
46. Cain to Adam
47. Speak
48. Handel
50. Experts
52. Byzantine and Hellenistic
54. Reason for shiva
55. Shikker's choice?
56. Like the Dead Sea
58. And more
60. Fleishidic
64. Cheer
66. Tashlich crumbs
68. Gottex suit top
69. Poet (2 wds)
73. Adam's son
74. Seduce
75. Shofar blast
76. Solomon
77. Luckman and Gordon
78. Job's travails
79. Fewer

Down

1. Items on Schindler's List
2. Eilat, old style
3. Use a mikveh
4. Echad (Eng)
5. Actor James
6. Lil __, Capp cartoon
7. Peerce and Cantor
8. Anti-Semitism fighters
9. Galilee and Dead
10. Jacob's dream
11. Solomon's find
12. Title for Jacob Epstein
13. Goldman and Koch
19. Never
21. Plays for Sills
24. Gang for Bugsy Siegal
26. Israeli fruit
28. Purim must
29. Gribbenis ingredient
30. Noah's forecast
32. Imitated Woolf
34. Bilhah to Dan
36. Hubs for Tsahal
37. 100th of an NIS
38. Regal
40. Hymns
44. Wiesel
49. Mems or Lameds
51. Vav: (Eng.)
53. Tefilin features
57. Slang affirmation
59. Commandment no no
61. Hippie Hoffman
62. Samson's strength
63. Comic Soupy
65. Owns biblically
67. Hebrew letters
69. Jewish Theological Seminary
70. Geller
71. Adam to Abel
72. Bear false witness
73. Leather punch

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 50.)

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Sat. May 31, 1997

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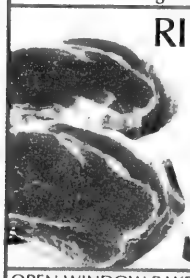

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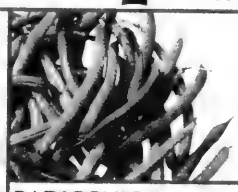

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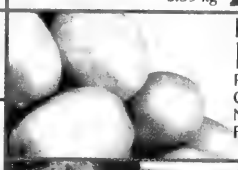

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California
Fresh
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1.49 LB

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675 g Loaf
99 EA

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•in vinegar
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GREEN GIANT
VEGETABLES
•Corn, 341 ml Tin •Peas, 398 ml Tin
•Mixed Vegetables, 398 ml Tin
•Green Beans, 398 ml Tin
79 EA

GOLD'S
BORSCHT
Assorted Varieties
.946 L Jar
1.79 EA

PEACHES
Product of USA
California
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Large Size
2.18 kg
99 LB

DUNCAN HINES
CAKE MIX
Assorted Varieties
515 g Box
1.29 EA

GOLDEN
BLINTZES
Frozen
Assorted Varieties
368 g Package
2.99 EA

AYLMER
TOMATOES
•Whole •Crushed
•Diced
796 ml Tin
99 EA

PRINGLES
POTATO CHIPS
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170 g - 200 g Tin
1.69 EA

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29 LB

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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Coalition urges continuation of Branson services. *Page 3*

Refugee Board will consult its members on Jewish refugees issue. *Page 6*

Emunah women passes torch to a new generation. *Page 20*

Travel

Jordanian government planners are keenly aware of importance of tourism to its economy. *Page 40*

Arts

Women's basketball team gears up for Maccabiah Games. *Page 46*

Party Planner

Planning a party? Our special supplement has lots of tips and ideas. *Section B*

Index

GTA	3
Editorials and Letters	8
Perspectives	9
Opinions	10
The Kirshner File	11
Jewish Life	12
What's New?	22
Just Between Us	24
On Campus	26
National	27
International	31
Health	35
CJ Kids	36
Travel, Arts & Business	38
Classified	42
Sports	46
Ask Lisa	47

Shabbat: Bamidbar
Candlelighting: 8:36
Sivan 1, 5757
Havdalah: 9:41

MAUTHAUSEN MEMORIAL
Israeli Knesset member Dan Tichon and his wife Ludmilla visit the Holocaust memorial in Mauthausen. *[Reuters/RNS]*

PA involved in murders: Israel

CJN Wire Services

JERUSALEM — In the wake of a foiled attempt by six Palestinians to abduct Palestinian land dealer Assad Rajibi, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called an emergency meeting of senior security officials last week.

Among the subjects reported on the agenda for discussion was the possibility of suspending contact with the Palestinian Authority (PA).

Israel claims the PA has embarked on a calculated campaign of murdering Palestinians who sell land to Israelis.

In response to the abduction attempt, Netanyahu told army radio Galei Zahal: "The fact that there were and are murderous attacks on them [the land dealers] through or with the encouragement of the senior officials in the PA, is something we cannot accept. Such acts harm the idea of peace and coexistence between us and the Palestinians. We know that whoever does not respect his own people will not respect his neighbor. We will take all necessary steps to bring justice to those killed and prevent other murders."

Netanyahu added that Israel cannot accept attacks or murders on those holding Israeli identity cards, through the encouragement of senior members of the PA.

Last weekend, Israeli police prevented the murder of Palestinian land dealer, Assad Rajibi, Jerusalem police chief Yair Yitzhaki revealed.

Rajibi, 57, was abducted from his home near Hizma, northeast of Jerusalem by the six Palestinians, who forced him into a car and fled toward Ramallah, he said.

Jerusalem police spokesperson Shmuel Ben-Ruby said that acting

Continued on page 31

The rabbi of Kinshasa

By ELIAS LEVY
Staff Reporter

Special Feature

MONTREAL — Highly confident about the future, Rabbi Shlomo Bentolila, the spiritual leader of the small Jewish community of the new Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire), is firmly convinced that the political-military crisis that has erupted there in recent months will soon be settled as the new strong man of Kinshasa, Laurent Kabila, comes to power.

"The Zairian people feel relief. The are breathing again. The anxiety, the dissension and the confusion are giving way to hope and to a fervent desire to rebuild this country which has been tested so painfully.

"The Zairians are peace-loving, tolerant and hospitable. They have always felt great admiration and affection for the Jewish community that lives among them," said Rabbi Bentolila, in a telephone interview with *The CJN* two days after the triumphant entry into Kinshasa of the rebel troops of the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the liberation of the Congo-Zaire.

A native of Montreal, this 32-year-old emissary of the Lubavitch movement has been living in the former Zaire since 1991, with his wife and his two children.

The Jewish community in the new Republic of Congo consists of some 200 families, 135 of whom live in the capital, Kinshasa. The others live in Lubumbashi and in the mining areas. The majority of Jews living in the country are francophone Sephardim from North Africa — Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria. The first Jews to settle there at the beginning of the century were from the Greek island of Rhodes. Three Canadian Jewish families — including Rabbi Bentolila's — currently live in Kinshasa.

"Our community is very united and structured. We are like a small family stubbornly trying to preserve and transfer to our children the rich spiritual and cultural heritage left to us by our ancestors. We live our Judaism within the framework of a fulfilling and dynamic community," the rabbi said.

The Jewish community of the former Zaire has a beautiful, spacious synagogue, a cultural and recreational centre, a library with several hundred works and a store that sells strictly kosher food as well as kosher meat imported from South Africa.

After Shabbat services, Rabbi Bentolila said, the members of the community attend a kiddush and eat lunch together. A kosher restaurant in the community centre is open one day a week.

Jewish education is a major priority for the members of the community. "Twice a week, we offer the children classes in Hebrew and Torah. Even if many of them are not at all religious, most of the members of our community are very aware that education is one of the basic foundations of Jewish identity."

Continued on page 33

La Presse story 'pernicious'

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — *La Presse* assistant publisher Claude Masson, in a meeting last Thursday with Jewish community officials, refused to back away from his newspaper's portrayal of a "Jewish criminal organization" running a money-laundering scheme.

Despite the civil tone of the one-hour encounter, Masson's continued defence of his French-language daily's coverage clearly disappointed the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) delegation. "No, we are not satisfied," said David Sultan, director of CJC-Quebec's community relations department. "We want a recognition of their error.

Continued on page 30

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Since *The CJN* is closed June 11 and 12 for Shavuot, the deadline for classified and display advertising for the June 19 issue will be June 10 at 10 a.m.

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Jerusalem reunified in photos — please see page 9

The News in Brief

Jerusalem's Population

Group	1996	%	2010*	%
Jews	422,300	70	566,500	69
Arabs	180,700	30	251,000	31
TOTAL	603,000		817,500	

Jewish Population Breakdown

Group	2010*	%
Haredim	214,000	38
Non-Haredim	352,500	62
TOTAL	566,500	

*Estimate

Figures supplied by the Jerusalem Institute for Israeli Studies

CANADA

Cemetery Shootings

QUEBEC CITY — The shooting of two caretakers of a Jewish cemetery near Quebec City late last month was a settling of accounts, police say.

One of the caretakers, who was shot five times by a would-be assassin, is a member of a local gang and known to police, officials said.

The second caretaker was slightly injured when a bullet ricocheted and struck his knee.

CJC Supports Mosque

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region, has come out in support of the building of a mosque in suburban Mississauga.

The region's community relations committee chair, Ellen Cole, has written Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion, urging the city to work "cooperatively" with the Canadian Islamic Trust Foundation in establishing a mosque, school, social hall and other facilities for the Muslim community.

Studies Complete

TORONTO — Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, will honor almost 50 adult students who have completed at least 120 hours of text study at an awards ceremony on June 8. The ceremony represents a celebration of five years in which Kolel has provided Liberal Jewish adult education in the community.

YTV Achievement

VANCOUVER — Vancouver native Nava Mizrahi, international president of B'nai Brith Girls, recently won a YTV achievement award for public service. Mizrahi, 18, was one of over 1,300 nominees Canada-wide for the 15 awards.

ISRAEL

Israel Festival

JERUSALEM — The 36th Israel Festival has begun, bringing together groups exemplifying the best of Eastern and Western cultures.

For 19 days, Jerusalem is transformed into an international cultural centre as hundreds of artists gather from Israel and countries from around the world.

Hopeful Signs

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said last week he hoped the election of a relative moderate in Iran's presidential elections would bring a "positive development" for Israel.

But Netanyahu stressed that it was still too early to draw conclusions about the implications of the Iranian elections.

Arab Hatred

JERUSALEM — Some 40 percent of Israeli high school students "hate Arabs" and 60 percent "want revenge," according to a survey released last week.

The study, conducted by Dr. Ofra Meisels of Haifa University and Dr. Reuven Gal of the Carmel Institute for Social Research, polled some 5,300 high school students from 84 Israeli schools.

The number of respondents who said they hated Arabs went up significantly in state religious schools, where 79 percent of girls studying in vocational tracks said they hated Arabs.

Rail Links

JERUSALEM — First you could drive, then you could fly. Now it won't be long before you can take the train from Israel to Jordan.

Ariel Sharon, Israel's national infrastructure minister, said last week that rail links would be built in the Dead Sea area, and between the Red Sea cities of Aqaba and Eilat.

WORLD

Czech Compensation

PRAGUE — The Czech government has agreed to compensate Slovak Jews for gold that was taken from them during World War II.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday June 2, 1972

THE LADY IS A RABBI

On June 3, the first woman rabbi in the history of American Judaism will be ordained in the 107-year-old Plum Street Reform Temple in Cincinnati, Ohio.

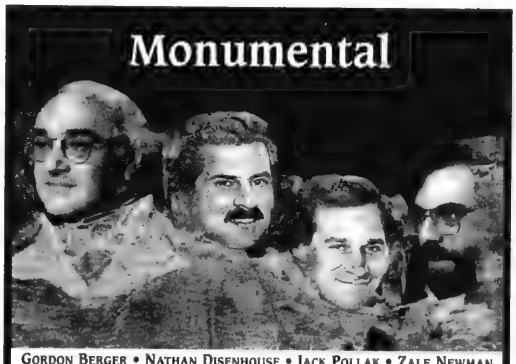
The idea, of course, is far from winning acceptance, even in Reform Judaism, not to mention the Conservative and Orthodox community.

When as a student rabbi, she was criticized for wearing a mini-skirt under her clergy robe in the pulpit, Sally Priesand explained that it's possible to function both as a rabbi and as a woman.

On her own marriage plans, "Rabbi Sally" said that anyone she would consider would have to realize how much the rabbinate means to her. However, she doesn't expect to marry a rabbi. As for children interfering with her clergywoman's life, she quipped: "I can even envision a nursery next to my study. A rabbi can have children."

WIESEL PRAISES 'SECOND CITY'

Elie Wiesel paid tribute to his affection for Toronto (his "favorite city after Jerusalem") by making it the site of his first fundraising speech. "They knew in New York I could not say no to Toronto," Wiesel quipped at the Toronto chapter of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University annual dinner.



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Vol. XXXVIII, No. 7 (2,853)

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,711 copies.
Average net paid circulation per issue: 45,109 copies
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997

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Coalition urges continuation of Branson services

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —A revived Branson Hospital would offer all its services except 209 in-patient acute beds, *The CJN* has learned.

All out-patient, clinic and diagnostic services, including medical, would be retained, senior vice-president of Branson Brian Fenton said.

All day surgery, including those that need overnight stays in hospital, will continue and this already constitutes 80 to 90 percent of its total surgery, Fenton said.

His comments followed urgent appeals by the Canadian Jewish Congress, UJA Federation, the Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens and North York Mayor Mel Lastman to keep Branson open. It is one of 10 Metro area hospitals to be closed before the year 2000.

"It would be stupid for them to close Branson," Lastman told a media conference at Queen's Park. "Can you imagine someone suffering a heart attack taking three buses to get to another hospital?"

The coalition, which represents the Association of Jewish Seniors and the Bernard Betel Centre, is supporting the plan to keep Branson open as an urgent care and ambulatory care centre.

"We are being abandoned. It is ageism being used against us by the Ontario government," said Reta Duenisch-Turner, 70, of Bernard Betel.

"Please don't pull the plug on Branson Hospital," said Lastman, adding he doesn't know why Branson was picked for closing, considering it serves more seniors than any other hospital in Metro.

The conference was arranged by Monte Kwinter, Liberal MPP for Wilson Heights, in whose riding the hospital is located. "For weeks I've been reading petitions in the legislature every day to keep Branson open."

Metro Coun. Norm Gardner said there would be no saving in closing Branson because it would take $90 million in capital funds to replace Branson and provide beds and services in other hospitals.

Harold Brief of Congress and Alan Sandler of UJA Federation said 32,000 seniors depend on Branson, a figure that will rise to 40,000 in 10 years.

Sandler asked why Queensway General would be kept open as an ambulatory care centre, while Branson, which serves three times as many seniors, is closed.

Brief said Branson is particularly sensitive to the needs of the Jewish community.

Fenton told *The CJN* that 60 percent of the Branson hospital patients would go to Humber River Regional Hospital (formerly York-Finch) about 30 percent to North York General and 10 percent to York Central in Richmond Hill.

One difference if Branson is kept open is that patients could not be taken there in an ambulance , but if necessary, they would be transferred to another one by ambulance, Fenton said.

Lastman said North York General is already overburdened and could not cope with extra patients if Branson is completely closed.

Duenisch-Turner said Jewish seniors are worried about losing their physicians at Branson.

"If Branson is closed it represents an increasing risk for a vulnerable population," said Bea Levis, co-chair, Ontario Coalition, which has 500,000 members.

Human rights body to explore Zundel's material on Internet

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A human rights hearing will continue Oct. 14, despite legal attempts to derail it by Holocaust denier Ernst Zundel.

Zundel's legal challenges to the jurisdiction of a Canadian Human Rights Commission tribunal were turned down last week by a three-person panel, which ruled that the tribunal was the appropriate forum to determine whether material posted on the Internet could be regulated.

Zundel's latest run-in with the law came as a result of complaints to the commission by the Toronto Mayor's Committee on Community and Race Relations and by Sabina Citron, founder of the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association (CHRA). They allege an Internet site operated by Zundel presented material that exposed Jews to hatred or contempt. They cited three documents in particular: *Did Six Million Really Die?*, *Jewish Soap* and *66 Questions, and Answers on the Holocaust.*

Prior to last week's hearing, Zundel attempted to challenge the jurisdiction of the tribunal before the Federal Court. The court turned down his requests that it dismiss referral of the issues to the tribunal.

Last week, Zundel's lawyer Doug Christie argued the Internet was not a telephonic communication and so, did not come under the Canadian Human Rights Act. He also contended that the complaint against Zundel was vexatious and made in bad faith and that the real creator of the Internet Web site, called "Zundelsite," was a woman named Ingrid Rimland, based in Carlsbad, Calif.

In dismissing Christie's arguments, tribunal chair Claude Pensa said the factual questions would be dealt with during the hearing.

The tribunal also reserved a de-

[Cont'd. on page 14]

8:36 P.M.
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Greater Toronto Area

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The Board of Jewish Education in Toronto is holding its annual Creative Writing Awards ceremony June 5. Twenty-seven students will be honored with special awards for the quality of their poetry and prose writing. Approximately 250 submissions from students in seven BJE-affiliated day schools and five BJE-affiliated supplementary schools were put before the BJE judges.

It is our pleasure to feature in this space, as we did last year, a small sampling of the writing that will be singled out for special commendation.

* * * * *

While the Shabbos Candles Burn

On Friday night in secrecy
the candles would be lit.

At a place around the table
they would take their seats and sit.

For they were Marannos
hiding from the Inquisition of Spain

They stayed though,
knowing all Jews would be slain.

But as they watched the light of the
candles flicker on their faces

There seemed a hope of survival
through all these terrible places.

We are like the candles burning
for the wick stays high and bright.

Although we went through a lot of
tragedies, we still light up the night.

by Goldie Michalowicz, Grade 5

* * * * *

We Were Slaves To Pharaoh In Egypt

The child tugs at my robe
I look down
There is a troubled look on his face.
Anxious to bring a smile to his lips,
I kneel and hug him
"Why so serious, my child?"
The child does not answer for a while
I wait.
At last he asks a question.
The child wants to know if I was
once a slave.
I do not want to answer.
I look down at the child in my arms
So young,
So innocent,
Should I show him the scars on my
back
Made by the cruel whip?
I think of the sights and screams
That live in my mind,
Haunt my dreams.
How can I tell the child of this?
Better to deny the past and shelter the
child.
Then I look into the future,
My child will not know his legacy.
He will not understand what it says in
the Torah
About Egypt, Pharaoh, the plagues,
the redemption,
My child will not comprehend
The miracles God has done for us.
He will not celebrate Pesach.
Nor my grandchildren.
Nor my great-grandchildren.
So I tell my innocent child,
"We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt."
The story will live on.

by Chava Good, Grade 8

* * * * *

A Mitzvah For Our Time

The Schneider Garden Utilities warehouse was a large, damp, foreboding building. However, it was not empty, for a community of mice lived between the walls. The largest problem of this community was starvation. The only food the stomachs of the mice received were the meagre crumbs left over from the workers' lunches. Into this sorry state of affairs, a young mouse was born. They called her Robin Rodent. As Robin grew, she just couldn't understand why her community was so poor and hungry when some of the other mice in the district were plump and led a life of ease. On the day of her bat mitzvah, Robin declared that she would find a way to change the circumstances of her community.

Rabbi Tuckish, the community leader, was so inspired by the determined words of Robin that he decided to move the whole community to the Weekly Challah Food Bank, the supposed land of milk and honey. Imagine their horror when, one week after their move, they found out that the Weekly Challah Food Bank was also short of food. The mice felt completely defeated and lost until Robin Rodent came up with her plan.

Robin called together Rabbi Tuckish, Kleine Mouse, Maid Miriam and a close group of friends.

"Friends, I have an idea!" she said.

"Oy vey, Robin," said the rabbi. "We have no more strength for ideas."

"We have to listen to Robin, Rabbi. We have no other choices, no other opportunities," Kleine Mouse said.

"So what's the plan, Robin?" asked Maid Miriam.

Robin told them all about the fancy food store called Pushy Harry's. It was truly the land of milk and honey (and panini, focaccia, pasta and sun-dried tomatoes) and everything else. Robin decided to liberate food from Pushy Harry's and bring it back to the Weekly Challah Food Bank, not only benefiting the mice but also the food bank and all its customers.

Early the next morning, they snuck into the store and hid in the shelves of olives and hot banana peppers. They waited until nightfall and hearing Maid Miriam's truck pull up outside, loaded the good food into the back and made their getaway. Back at the Weekly Challah Food Bank, they quickly and stealthily stocked the shelves with the booty.

The raid proved so successful they decided that another one should be scheduled immediately. The same procedure was to be applied, but this time something went dreadfully wrong. A glass jar of hot banana peppers was pushed off the shelf onto the floor and broke with a loud crash. Pushy Harry himself came lumbering down the aisle and found Robin floundering in the spilled contents. He quickly grabbed a blue cappuccino bowl off the top shelf and clamped it down over poor Robin.

"Pushy Harry, Pushy Harry listen to me!" called Robin. "Take this bowl off me! I've got something to say to you."

"It must be the liver kreplach again," thought Harry. "This time, it's talking mice!"

"This is not liver kreplach. I am a talking mouse and my name is Robin Rodent," shouted Robin. "Now take this bowl off me!"

Pushy Harry was so astounded to find a talking mouse in his store that he obeyed Robin and removed the bowl.

"Pushy Harry, my group of mice live in a food bank and we're starving. Do you know what this means? Not only are we mice starving, but there's not enough food for the food bank's human customers either. Look around your store and recognize the bounty! Have you ever contributed to the Weekly Challah Food Bank?"

"No," said Pushy Harry, sheepishly.

"Harry, it is your responsibility and duty to help those who are not as fortunate as you. I think it's time for you to do a mitzvah," said Robin.

"What's that?" asked Harry.

"A mitzvah is a good deed, like helping an elderly mouse cross the street," said Robin. "If you do a mitzvah, it will make you feel good inside."

"Well, mouse, if it's as good as all that, I think that, well...I know! I'll contribute a good amount of my produce to the Weekly Challah Food Bank. Therefore, I can not only benefit myself by making myself feel good, but I also get to benefit two whole communities of mice and people. I already feel better."

P.S. The Weekly Challah Food bank prospered and soon became the Daily Bagel Food Bank, truly a mitzvah for our time.

by Annie Freeman-Herbert, Grade 6

* * * * *

Best wishes to a colleague

Astute readers of *The CJN* have probably noticed during the past four months the absence of Leora Eren-Frucht's dispatches from Israel in our international news pages. She was on a leave of absence while exploring the possibility of a new and exciting employment opportunity.

That possibility has now become her reality. She was recently appointed features editor of the *Jerusalem Post*.

We convey our very best wishes to her. We know she will enrich the *Post* as she did *The CJN*.

Our new correspondent from Israel is Edgar Asher, a seasoned, veteran journalist. We are certain the readers will find his contributions worthwhile and interesting.

We welcome Edgar aboard even as we say l'hitraot and thank you to Leora. *MBD*

Writers honored

Greater Toronto Area

U.S. officials taking aim at freezing Swiss assets

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Some American officials are talking about freezing Switzerland's assets in the United States — valued at about $86 billion — and seizing what is owed to the heirs of war-era Swiss bank accounts, a leading U.S. expert involved in the probe of wartime Swiss banks said here last week.

It wouldn't be easy, but some U.S. cities are floating the idea of freezing Swiss banking operations in their jurisdictions should Switzerland's offer to compensate Jews not materialize, said Gregg Rickman, project director of the U.S. Senate Banking Committee, which has been investigating the relationship between Swiss banks and Nazis during World War II.

Rickman, who works with committee chair, Senator Alfonse D'Amato, said the huge $4.7-billion compensation fund the Swiss have put forward is still "in question" because it hasn't been approved.

As well, a $185-million interim fund "is a mere pittance" compared with what the Swiss looted and stole from Jewish bank depositors during the war, Rickman told Update '97, an annual day-long seminar for lawyers, accountants and financial planners.

Freezing Swiss assets in the United States is a long shot, he said, but more and more officials are considering it as talks with the Swiss drag on.

Rickman issued a blistering denunciation of Switzerland's complicity with the Third Reich, saying wartime Swiss bankers "collaborated with the Nazis, lied and stole from Jews and extended the Holocaust."

Rickman and his team of researchers have unearthed "shocking" documents showing the Swiss were "the Nazis' bankers," laundering stolen money and even remelting looted gold into coins and backdating them in an effort to hide the deed.

Rickman said there were Swiss soldiers in the Nazi SS, Swiss rail lines that hooked up with German ones and even Swiss factories that manufactured ball bearings for the Nazi war effort.

After the war, Swiss officials helped spirit top Nazis to South America "at $50,000 a pop." In 1949, Swiss banks negotiated a deal with communist Poland, in which the banks would collect the assets of Polish nationals who never returned from the war. In 1950, a similar deal was reached with Hungary, he said.

For 50 years, Swiss officials "did everything they could to keep the money away" from its rightful heirs, Rickman said. "But they kept records, and that's what did them in."

The Swiss government has set up a historical commission, and an international team of auditors is going through the books. Rickman said he's "skeptical" the $4.7-billion compensation fund will be approved, and besides, it has "a catch" — half the interest it will generate will have to be spent in Switzerland.

"The Swiss have perpetrated a great evil," said Rickman. "They have been arrogant and they tried to get away with a great crime. They should be punished."

Update '97 was presented by UJA Federation of Greater Toronto's Endowment Fund. It was announced at the conference that Barry Sherman, chair of Apotex, recently made a $25 million gift to the fund, whose goal is $150 million over five years.

Mezuzahs help raise funds

TORONTO — Students at Jewish schools and clients of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care have been busy for months painting ceramic mezuzot for the hundreds of doorways in Baycrest's new Apotex Centre/Jewish Home for the Aged and the Centre for Cognitive Disorders, scheduled to begin construction this spring.

The effort is part of the Baycrest Mezuzah Project, an initiative of the Baycrest Women's Auxiliary to raise funds for the planned expansion.

The project is one of several initiatives organized in support of the Baycrest Foundation's Imagine Your Future Without It campaign to raise $60 million to build the new centre.

The complex will care for 472 physically and cognitively frail residents in an atmosphere which is designed to be warm and home-like. The resident floors will be organized into small units for 13 to 14 people, each with its own living room, dining room and shared kitchenette, and will be decorated to reflect Jewish heritage and the individual preferences of residents

JERUSALEM ROSE GARDEN DEDICATED
From left, Markham Mayor Don Cousens, his wife Aline, Ruti and Jehudi Kinar, consul general of Israel, are seen at the recent dedication of the Town of Markham's Jerusalem Rose Garden. In front of them is a boulder bearing a plaque set into Jerusalem stone. The garden, situated between the entrances to Markham's Civic Centre and the Markham theatre, symbolizes the friendship and support between the people of Markham and the people of Israel. [Eric Anderson photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

IRB to consult members on Jewish refugees

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) will soon begin consulting its 170 members about how to handle Jewish refugee claimants.

If no immediate consensus emerges, guidelines will be written on how to process refugee claims from Jews, John Frecker, deputy chair of the IRB, told *The CJN* in a phone interview last week.

Frecker said the board will start "canvassing" members "to get what their sense is" on the issue. The move was triggered by two contradictory court decisions on Jewish refugee claimants to Canada.

Two years ago, the Federal Court of Canada upheld an IRB panel's denial of refugee status to a Jewish woman. The court agreed with the panel that because the claimant was Jewish, she was eligible for immediate citizenship in Israel under that country's Law of Return.

The judgment stated that Antonina Grygorian had "ready and automatic right to another country's nationality," and that Canada's protection "is not a quick fix."

The decision outraged Jewish communal officials, who feared it would lead to a modern-day closed-door Canadian refugee policy aimed specifically at Jews.

But last month, the Federal Court arrived at an opposite view. It found that Jewish refugee claimants cannot be denied asylum in Canada solely because, as Jews, they can go to Israel (*CJN*, May 22).

Even though the Law of Return gives every Jew the right to Israeli citizenship, with few exceptions, a clearly expressed desire to settle in the Jewish state is first required, the court said.

The landmark ruling overturned a decision by the IRB, which denied refugee status to a Ukrainian Jewish woman on the grounds that she could automatically receive asylum in Israel.

Over the past two years, the Grygorian decision has divided the IRB on how to deal with Jewish refugee claimants. There have been many rulings granting refugee status to Jewish claimants, but some panels, as community officials had feared, have relied on the tenets set out in the Grygorian case.

Last month's ruling stated clearly that the Grygorian decision is not binding on IRB panels.

Frecker said the two rulings have created a situation at the IRB that is "not satisfactory."

He said the consultative process, which could take six weeks, will ask IRB members what their views are, given the second court ruling.

He said if all members agree one way or the other, then "this could become a non-issue. But my guess is that the Grygorian proponents will have strong views.

"There probably will be internal division on this."

If that's the case, IRB lawyers will begin drafting guidelines. Frecker said it's possible the board will consult outside experts.

CANADIAN JEWRY CHAIR AT YORK

Richard Shiff (left) accepts a certificate of appreciation from Prof. Irving Abella of York University's Centre for Jewish Studies. Shiff was honored recently for his gift to the centre, which enabled York to establish a chair for the study of Canadian Jewry, the first permanent one of its kind.

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Baycrest resident celebrates her 100th birthday

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One hundred years ago, Wilfred Laurier was prime minister of Canada, William McKinley was president of the United States and Ida Rosenberg Ashrow was born in New York City.

Ashrow, now a resident of the Baycrest Hospital, recently celebrated her birthday with a party at the Thornhill home of her daughter, Joyce Sniderman. Over 100 people attended, including her three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Ashrow grew up in Montreal, where she went to school, winning two medals, which enabled her to further her education. When she moved to Toronto, she met her husband, Jack, who died recently after over 70 years of marriage.

Ashrow worked as a bookkeeper until she was 85 and then began a new career as a volunteer. She served on many committees at Baycrest Terrace, when she lived there, and continued at the Home for the Aged. She volunteered for United Jewish Appeal and United Way.

Ida Ashrow celebrates her 100th birthday. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Although she is in fragile health, daughter Joyce Sniderman describes her mother as "amazing — and completely articulate."

Sniderman said that her mother attributes her long life to the fact that she never whined or complained, but accepted what life brought her.

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Greater Toronto Area

Abuse of women must not be ignored: Dratch

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — We mustn't let shame silence us about the fact that there are abused women in the Jewish community, says the supervisor of the women abuse program at Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS).

"It is a shandeh to deny that the problem is ours. Women abuse is not a cheery topic, but the reality is that 300 women each year seek our services because of it," said Gail Gould.

She was one of three speakers at the recent Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Federation Women's Campaign panel, Sounds of Silence: Issues of Woman Abuse in the Jewish Family. Other panel members included Rabbi Mark Dratch, spiritual leader of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, and Marsha Sfeir, coordinator of Public Education and Training Education, Wife Assault. Moderator was Jane Hawtin, host/producer of *Jane Hawtin Live*.

Rabbi Dratch, who said he was "embarrassed" that so few men were in the capacity crowd at Shaarei Shomayim, said that although there are resources within the Jewish tradition to deal with wife abuse, "we don't [address it] because we don't want to bring ill

Rabbi Dratch

repute to our community.

"This view, however, is topsy-turvy. If we have violence in the community it is bad enough, but to deny it is even worse. It is a desecration of G-d's name. Lashon hora is a serious issue, but speaking out about domestic violence is not lashon hora. If someone is in trouble, we are obligated to speak out. If we remain silent, we are responsible for spilling their blood."

There are too many horror stories, he said, about rabbis who send abused women home again [because of shalom bayit]. "Keep going from one rabbi to the next until you find one that who will be your advocate. It is too easy to fall through the cracks and become a victim.

"We need to sensitize the community and rabbis that the words shalom bayit are not magic words that make everything better. None of the principles of law, truth or peace are absolute. Shalom must be tempered with truth and justice. Where there is not justice, there is no peace."

Gould said that too many women think peace must be obtained at any price. "Shalom bayit is real peace, not a cover up."

She described the "house of abuse" as having nine rooms. "In the religious room, the man uses Halachah to control his partner and speaks to her about shalom bayit. In the child abuse room, we see that children can be the victims of child abuse or neglect — 80 percent of children of abused mothers hear them being abused."

She also talked about the social isolation room, the room of emotional and psychological abuse, the financial control room (even when women earn their own money), the room of intimidation, the physical room, the sexual room and the verbal abuse room.

"Right here in the Jewish community, we have experienced violence in our own homes. There is no segment immune from the issue."

Citing statistics, Sfeir said that 51 percent of all women over 16 have been involved in at least one incident of violence and 73 percent of high school students in Toronto and London report knowing about date violence. "One in nine report physical abuse and one in five report sexual abuse, and jealousy is the most frequent trigger."

Public awareness campaign

Many programs are being run across the province, she said, to teach prevention strategies. "What these programs do, is strive to enhance children's self-esteem and to label their feelings. They need assertiveness training, they need to learn self-control and they need a conflict mediation program. Values education promotes the universal values of caring, trust, equality and respect for diversity."

Asked about signs that could indicate a man might be abusive, Gould said to be aware of men who are overly critical, of those who degrade or humiliate women or those who try to dominate a relationship by making all the decisions. "At JF&CS we have information for women that could help them identify potentially abusive behavior."

* * *

Last week in Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu launched a public awareness campaign against domestic violence, saying that the only difference between the battle against family violence and terror is that the former is hidden and fought within the home.

Netanyahu said the only way to fight violence in the family is for the victim to decide to stop being one. He called on women to take their fate into their own hands and seek help.

Some 200,000 Israeli women, or one out of seven, are physically abused, but only 18,000 complaints are filed with police each year, according to government statistics.

The campaign will include televised public service messages, with a hotline number for women seeking help.

"It is hard to give exact figures, because much domestic violence is hidden," said Ronit Lev Ari, head of the department against family violence in the women's organization Na'amat.

Lev Ari said the first step was to build awareness, and then government ministries, police and the legal system would work together to stop offenders.

With files from Naomi Segal

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MAKES SENSE

Only 30 years ago

It was only 30 years ago. In three bombast-filled weeks, Gamal Abdel Nasser's hateful rhetoric evolved into a military gambit to strangle and then crush the 19-year-old Jewish state. The Western world, if not silent, was passive. Twice within the same generation, Jewish survival hung heavily in the air, like a teardrop ready to fall. The Jewish world held its breath.

Then, out of the blinding sun in the early morning of June 5, the Israel Defence Forces struck. For six day, battles raged.

Israel vanquished its enemies.

It was a victory of 2.5 million against 50 million. More than a military victory, however, it was a victory of one set of values against another, of democracy against despotism, of the cause of justice against the cause of hatred, of the determination to live against the desire to destroy.

The teardrop did fall 30 years ago in the Jewish world. But it was a tear of joy, a tear of gratitude and of understanding that the brilliant white glow of Israel's incandescence was something metaphysical, beyond history, and a light which shone on us all.

Medieval and menacing

Last week, the Montreal daily *La Presse* carried a story about the arrest of a gang of criminals by the RCMP. Given the nature and pace of life in our large cities, it was, more or less, a welcome but "routine" intervention by law enforcement officers into the netherworld of drug-running criminals and drug-related-crime. But there was nothing routine about the manner in which *La Presse* chose to write the story.

In an eerie echo of the menacing group libels of medieval times, the newspaper portrayed the thugs as a "Jewish criminal organization." And, in an added effort to lend credibility to its outrageous approach to the story and to its preposterous emphasis on the religion of the seven Jews among the 31 people arrested, the newspaper also printed a sidebar about Meyer Lansky and Bugsy Siegel, two notorious Jewish gangsters who plied their illegal trade half a century ago.

In response to the indignation expressed to his newspaper by Jewish community leaders, Claude Masson, the assistant publisher of *La Presse* was reported to have answered, in part, "I think we should be careful about being so politically correct that we can no longer say what is happening in our society."

That Masson appears to view the matter as merely one of political correctness is as distressing as it is alarming. It is distressing because it fosters absurd stereotypes, helps justify malicious prejudices and encourages bigots to hold onto their bigotry. It is alarming because he genuinely seems not to understand this; he seems genuinely not to understand that the religion of the alleged criminals is a total and utter irrelevancy to the alleged nature of their criminal acts.

The reportage of this story by *La Presse* brings readers more news about *La Presse* than it does about the efforts by the RCMP to staunch crime on our streets.

* * * * *

The CJN went to press this week on the same day that Canadians went to the polls. The results of the federal election, therefore, will be discussed in this space next week.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"Through this Congress we are creating an agency for the Jewish people, such as it has not possessed heretofore, an agency of which it has stood in urgent need. Our cause is too great to be left to the ambition or to the discretion of individuals."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

June 8, 1939, Canada was the last country to reject the plea of the *S.S.St. Louis* before it was sent back to Germany with all its doomed and desperate passengers. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Orthodox position on conversions

The recent letter by Bert Raphael continues to spread the misinformation that Orthodox Judaism has somehow written off Jews who follow Conservative and Reform Judaism.

It has been stated over and over again: A Jew born of a Jewish woman is and will always remain Jewish, regardless of what stream of Judaism, if any, they follow. The controversy concerns Conservative and Reform philosophy and theology. Are they to be considered within the parameters of an authentic Jewish tradition as revealed at Mt. Sinai, or not?

The tone of Raphael's letter was full of venom and certainly did not enhance the spirit of "unity."

What surprises me even more, is that *The CJN*, a communal Jewish weekly newspaper, surely interested in building bridges, would print such a vicious diatribe that only serves to deepen the rift amongst Jews.

Rabbi Moshe Stern
Shaarei Tefillah Congregation
Toronto

Ashkenazim should end divisions

As much as we admire our Ashkenazi brothers and sisters for their contribution in the advancement of humanity in world science, literature, music, philosophy, for your organizational skills, your unquestionable sense of communal solidarity, we Sephardim are puzzled by your low level of religious unity in practice and faith.

If you advocate unity between our French and English Canadian fellow citizens, as it should be, couldn't you find a religious common ground for people who are of the same origin and refer to the same Torah and the same G-d. Unless you want to emulate Christians who are divided among Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant and all their sects. Or Muslims who count Shiites and Sunnis in their ranks; or Asians who differ from Shintoism to Buddhism to Confucianism. Show the way, be united!

David Sebag
Montreal

Action by Switzerland too late

The special fund launched by the Swiss banks and government to recant on their past history and former assertions will never erase the damage caused by the authorities in those years. The joint commission of the Swiss Bankers Association, the World Jewish Congress and other agencies is facing a complex assignment which can take several years. Let us hope that the aid to the Holocaust survivors will become a prompt reality.

Albert L. Stal
Toronto

Does anyone know Avram Rubin?

Mira Rubin born in Tarnopol, Poland, is looking for her father, Avram Rubin, born in 1911 in Tarnopol. Recently she found out that he came to Canada in February 1950 on the boat *Samaria*.

Pnina Zilberman, Director
Holocaust Education & Memorial Centre
4600 Bathurst Street
North York, Ont.
M2R 3V2

Observant and non-observant men cause problem

Prof. David Novak contends (*CJN*, May 1) that the agunah problem "mainly affects religious women. Non-observant husbands can usually be persuaded. The worst offenders are [usually] religiously observant Jews."

One would assume that Novak has researched carefully and extensively the agunah problem, locally, nationally and internationally, and is able to produce accurate statistical data to support his contentions. Anything less would make him guilty of stereotyping and maligning the religiously observant community.

My own experience suggests that there is no basis whatsoever for the learned professor's contentions. In fact, it is often precisely many non-observant Jewish men who are the least likely to accede to community persuasion to consent to a *get*.

John T. Syrtash
Toronto

Erase the blot on Canada's good name

The parodies of justice started by the crystal ball-gazing Mackenzie King persist to this very day where Nazi war criminals are concerned.

This country doesn't have to carry a blot on its image as a haven for Nazi murderers. It is high time for the government to show some guts, and strength to be rid of the cowardly Nazi rabble of other countries living here.

S. Schweitzer
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Jerusalem reunited, 30 years ago

Images that last...

This photo montage attempts to record for the reader some of the ethereal moments recorded forever into the history of mankind when the IDF recaptured the Old City of Jerusalem 30 years ago, the 28th day of Iyar 5727, June 7, 1967.

Reading clockwise: IDF commanders entering the Old City, Gen. Uzi Narkiss (left), commanding officer, central command, Gen. Moshe Dayan, minister of defence, Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, commander in chief; Paratroops storm the walls of Jerusalem, IDF chief rabbi, Gen. Shlomo Goren, a sefer Torah on his shoulders, is with them; Troops advancing through the alleys of the Old City; Three weeks after Jerusalem was recaptured, Rabin received an honorary doctorate on behalf of the IDF from the Hebrew University in a ceremony on Mount Scopus, the site of the original university that was cut off by the Jordanians in 1948; The president of the State of Israel, Zalman Shazar at the Wall; Units of the IDF enter the Zion Gate on their way to a victory review on the Temple Mount; An emotion-filled celebration as soldiers begin to arrive at the Wall; Narkiss (left) and Col. Motta Gur, commander of the paratroops, review the paratroops on the Temple Mount.

[All photos reproduced from *The Story of Jerusalem*, Am Oved Publishers Tel Aviv 1967.]

Opinions

Labor party passes the torch

As this column goes to print, the Labor party in Israel is electing its new leader. I'm not risking much by predicting a victory for Ehud Barak, who is by far the leading contender. But the four-man race has had its surprises, not least of which is the quality of all four candidates.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

Barak, who will run as Labor's candidate for prime minister in the next election, was parachuted into the Rabin cabinet in the summer of 1995, one year after he left the position of chief of staff of the IDF. It was clear already then that Barak would be a contender for the top slot in 2000 and that he would be supported by Rabin.

Barak is a calculating strategist, whose world view was shaped by decades at the helm of elite fighting units, and who carries with him the aura that military leaders still enjoy in Israel. His performance as a politician over the last two years has received mixed reviews. During and after the failed Labor campaign in the 1996 election, Barak pushed, unsuccessfully, for a harder, more critical line against Netanyahu — contrary to the approach taken by Haim Ramon, who led the campaign team. Barak is viewed as winning material by many members of the Labor party, but he is not necessarily the candidate they like the best or trust the most.

Barak's antithesis and passionate opponent is Yossi Beilin. One of Shimon Peres' closest confidants for two decades, Beilin's reputation has been built on his strength as an astute, shrewd politician who has often been ahead of his time in his proclamations on foreign and domestic issues. He has been relentless in his pursuit of an agenda for peace between Israel and its neighbors, and was one of the architects of the Oslo accord with the PLO.

A cerebral intellectual, who is as comfortable in academe as in the toughest political arena, Beilin has been passionate in his vision of the challenges facing Israel as a state no longer at war. He has said that he decided to run against Barak to provide a serious, clear alternative and to ensure a substantive debate on the issues.

Efraim Sneh, a former senior IDF commander and cabinet minister, was actually the first to toss his hat into the ring after the party's defeat in the last election. Sneh enjoys enormous popularity in the party rank and file, and positions himself as a "centrist" on security and social policy issues. The prevailing wisdom is that he is running to secure his position in the next Labor cabinet, rather than due to any real differences in outlook with Barak. He is perceived as a man of integrity and experience, but he lacks the charisma and telegenic qualities that are requisite for today's political leaders.

The surprise of the race has been Shlomo Ben-Ami, the articulate historian and former Israeli ambassador to Spain. Ben-Ami, who was first elected to the Knesset in 1996, has emerged as the party's social conscience and as an authentic voice calling for change in the way that Labor relates to the diversity of the Israeli polity.

As a childhood immigrant from Morocco, Ben-Ami speaks passionately of the need to develop a new dialogue among Israelis, and a new social agenda, without which Labor will not be able to break the existing coalition of Likud, Israelis of Middle Eastern origin and religious parties.

All four men are serious, experienced individuals and together they present a formidable combination of backgrounds and achievements. Their race has been held in the shadow of the failed efforts, by outgoing leader Peres, to secure himself a seat of continuing influence in the party. Barak, who opposed any attempt to have two foci of power at the helm, outmanoeuvred Peres in a move that many view as a portent of the blunt style they fear for the future.

For the Labor party, this election of a new leader marks the passing of the torch to the generation that was born into the state. In Likud, this happened with the election of Benjamin Netanyahu as leader, while in Labor, Barak will be the first leader who is not of the "founding fathers."

Both large parties, and most of the smaller ones, are now led by a younger cadre of leaders. Some would say that they are the right breed to lead the country into the 21st century. Others bemoan the loss of a sense of history and vision that marked the older generation. The kings are gone…long live the kings…

Religious faith and politics

What relation, if any, should there be between a politician's personal religious commitments and his or her suitability for holding office?

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

In an interview with the *Globe and Mail*'s Jan Wong (May 22), Reform party chief Preston Manning reportedly made some interesting and perhaps unguarded comments. For me — a liberal democrat and a Jew — they proved troublesome on two counts.

First, the quotes. Manning was asked to comment on his own religious faith — a fundamentalist or evangelical brand of Christianity.

Manning indicated that he feels that all the other great religions are in error, and that Christianity holds a monopoly on religious truth: "I would like the different religions to sit down and attempt to find out the objective truth. We can't both be right. In the area of the spiritual, there are absolutes, too."

A second quote suggested somewhat awkwardly that his personal relations with the unchurched are motivated in large part by a desire to steer them onto his correct path: "The great hope is that people I meet, if we get to know each other well enough, I could tell you how to enter into it." This is a clear missionary reflex.

The first reason these remarks were troubling was their possible implications for non-Christian Canadians. The Reform party has been dogged throughout its history by allegations of racism and intolerance. The one constant has been the public pronouncements by Manning — whose father Ernest had played a role in reducing the presence of anti-Semites in the Alberta Social Credit party — condemning those expressions of intolerance. Manning sought to position himself as a populist, but not as a "red-neck."

I had often tended to give Manning himself the benefit of any doubt. But these comments suggest that Manning's own commitment to religious tolerance might not be as deep as I had hoped. The undertone of anti-French sentiment in the recent campaign adds to this suspicion. The spectre of a Canadian version of Pat Robertson, the fundamentalist candidate for the Republican party, might not seem as far-fetched. How sympathetic would a Manning government be to a variety of human rights concerns, including those specific to the Canadian Jewish community? Fundamentalism of any stripe might undermine minority protections.

The second reason for my concern was the inverse of the first! Was I displaying an unfair distrust of any deeply religious politician? Was I simply prejudiced against such views, finding them outmoded and illiberal, or just out of place in the Canadian political arena?

I also may have feared that Manning would be unable to separate his personal religious convictions from the public requirements of his office. Just such prejudices had long harmed Catholic politicians in North America, dating back to Democratic presidential nominee Al Smith in 1928. It was felt that Catholic politicians might be more loyal to the Vatican than to their country. And how would they decide today on the abortion issue if the law and their religious convictions clashed? Needless to say, these variants of the charge of dual loyalty continue to plague Jewish politicians, when loyalties to Israel or to "Jewish interests" are suspect.

True religious freedom means that no one should be penalized from holding public office by dint of their personal religious convictions, by the law or by societal prejudice. We do not have a truly religiously neutral public space; Christmas and Easter, not Chanukah and Pesach, are national holidays. This is a minimal intrusion of religion.

But there is also nothing wrong with political leaders claiming to be guided by religious values. American civil rights leaders were animated by their religious beliefs. Legal scholar Stephen Carter's *The Culture of Disbelief* argues that a misreading of "separation of church and state" has trivialized the role of faith in American public life.

Obviously one has to be cautious. Orthodox Jews would generally not espouse the doctrine of sole objective truth, à la Manning. (The seven laws of Noah represent a set of mainly person to person laws which, if followed by non-Jews, would qualify them as deserving a place in the hereafter. Non-Jews can be saved.) Yet as recent struggles in Israel have shown, issues of religious and secular intolerance have infected the religious and political scene there.

So how should Canadian Jews react to comments such as Manning's? They suggest a high degree of vigilance, lest these private religious convictions edge into public positions regarding minorities and human rights. Manning's public views are, so far, a far cry from those of American Patrick Buchanan. It will be up to Manning to see that the difference persists. The jury is out.

Two Jews made a difference

It was 61 years ago that Adolf Hitler received his first public setback. The Olympic Games were taking place in Berlin, and the Fuehrer had come to watch highly touted athletes win prestigious events like the 100-metre dash. However, it was a black man from the United States, the incomparable Jesse Owens, who ran away with the trophies. The Fuehrer refused to shake hands with him and left the stadium in disgust. History has remembered Owens as the symbolic victor over racial prejudice and, eventually, over the Third Reich. Today there is, in Berlin, a Jesse Owens Boulevard.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Near it runs a street that until recently was called National Sports Road (Reichssportfeldstrasse), and it has become the subject of a controversy over two Jewish athletes.

Their names were Gustav Felix Flatow and Alfred Flatow and they participated in the first Olympic Games ever held. They went to Athens in 1896 and came away with laurel wreaths (Olympic medals were awarded later on). At the time, they gained the status of heroes in Germany.

To the Nazis, of course, they were not heroes, but merely despised Jews. In 1942, both of them were transported to Terezin, where Alfred, 73 years old, died of hunger and Gustav suffered the same fate several years later.

For several years, a drive was underway to honor these two Olympians in some fashion, and a suggestion was made to rename the National Sports Road and call it Flatow Boulevard. But more than half the inhabitants of the street opposed the name change and the matter dragged on for some years.

Recently, however, the plan has succeeded and the change has become final. Now the Jewish heroes of 1896 have a street named after them, which runs next to the boulevard that bears the name of a black man who gained victories 40 years later. Together they form a memorial, not merely to athletic excellence, but to the renascence of decency and fairness.

Gustav Flatow's son Stefan survived Terezin. He is now 80 years old and was interviewed by the *Berlin Rundschau*. When asked what he felt when he saw the new street signs go up, he said: "I remember how my dad, who once was an enormously strong athlete and Olympic victor, died of hunger within four weeks after reaching Terezin. He weighed only 40 pounds when he breathed his last breath. Yes, there were those who opposed the new name, but there was an enormous outpouring of sympathy that came my way, which made me very happy."

The street which now bears the name of Flatow will hopefully contribute something to the re-evaluation of history and the self-confrontation of Germans — even those who opposed the change of name.

* * *

Shavuot, the festival commemorating the Revelation at Sinai, begins next Tuesday night. I take this occasion to wish my readers a Chag Sameyach umevorach.

The Kirshner File

Parliamentary commission probes Switzerland's past

Jacques Picard feels the weight of the burden. "It is a big responsibility," he said, referring to his membership in a nine-

By Sheldon Kirshner

man Swiss parliamentary historical commission charged with investigating Switzerland's ambivalent role during and after World War II.

For about the past two years, Switzerland — an Alpine country of stunning beauty commonly associated with chic ski resorts, fine watches and tantalizing chocolates — has been at the centre of an increasingly bitter international controversy concerning its past.

Swiss banks have been charged with pocketing the funds of Jewish account holders who perished in the Holocaust. Switzerland's national bank has been accused of trafficking in looted Nazi gold. Swiss industry has been censured for having sold Germany munitions and weaponry and thus prolonging the war. The Swiss government has been taken to task for having turned away thousands of Jewish refugees and thereby consigning them to certain death. In short, Switzerland's morality and neutrality have been severely questioned.

This catalogue of accusations, which has tarnished Switzerland's image, prompted the Swiss parliament last December to establish a historical commission. Its mandate is to study all aspects of Switzerland's policy during that time frame.

The commission, which is headed by Swiss historian Jean-Francois Bergier and includes four non-Swiss members, has an unlimited budget and has been given five years to produce a final report.

To facilitate its work, parliament took the unprecedented step of lifting Swiss banking secrecy laws. "We have been given full access to public and private company archives," said Picard, a 44 year-old Jewish historian who is coordinating the entire effort. He was born in the Swiss city of Basel and his book, *Switzerland and the Jews*, caused a national sensation when it was published in German in 1994. "Everything is open to us. In this respect, we have more power than the courts."

Picard, whom I interviewed on an express train bound from Bern to Basel, was asked to join the commission on the strength of *Switzerland and the Jews*, which has yet to be translated into English.

Factual rather than moralistic, the volume precipitated a nationwide debate and was probably influential in persuading Kaspar Villiger, the Swiss president in 1995, to issue an official apology regarding Switzerland's treatment of Jewish refugees.

According to Picard, a historian at the Biel College of Technology, Switzerland compiled a mixed record on this question. Thirty thousand Jewish refugees were admitted, but an equal number were cast aside.

A graduate of the University of Freibourg and Bern University, Picard doesn't buy the mythology that the army alone defended Switzerland's neutrality.

Hemmed in by Germany and Italy, the two major Axis powers, Switzerland was able to preserve its neutral status not only because of its vaunted armed forces. Switzerland was useful to Germany because it was a financial and intelligence-gathering centre. It represented the interests of 10 Allied states in Berlin as the war raged. It allowed the passage of German trains to Italy via its mountain passes. It exported a variety of dual-use civilian and military equipment to Germany. In Picard's view, Switzerland profited handsomely from this trade.

Neutrality defended by various means

Suggesting that Switzerland was opportunistic in its foreign policy, Picard said it tilted toward Germany when it was strong and toward the Allies when they were on the ascendancy.

As for public opinion, he believes that the average Swiss was anti-Nazi but not necessarily pro-Jewish.

In his opinion, Switzerland has begun to face its past, but "still has a long way to go."

To some degree, Francois Loeb, the only Jewish member of the federal parliament in Bern, is in accord with Picard.

For too long, he said, Switzerland was too smug about its wartime role. In the last few years, however, the Swiss have come to appreciate that some of the decisions made during that period "were clearly wrong and conflicted with Switzerland's humanitarian tradition."

A middle-of-the-road politician whose family owns a department store chain, Loeb advocates a balanced approach. True, Switzerland refused to admit Jewish refugees, and true, a Swiss official, Heinrich Rothmund, convinced Germany to stamp a "J" into the passports of German and Austrian Jews so that they could be stopped at the border.

But by the same token, Paul Gruninger, the police chief of St. Gallen, let in 3,600 Austrian Jews by issuing them forged documents, while Carl Lutz, the Swiss consul in Budapest, saved thousands of Hungarian Jews. Loeb neglected to mention that Gruninger's courage cost him his job as well as his pension.

Loeb is clearly uncomfortable with the fact that Swiss weaponry flowed into Germany. But he claims that Switzerland had no alternative but to supply the Germans, and points out that the Allies also bought Swiss material, most notably optical equipment for their aircraft.

Few countries, he noted, emerged from the war with "clean hands." The Allies did not bomb the rail lines to Auschwitz, and Allied powers, including Canada, were reluctant to accept Jewish refugees. (To take his argument one step further, one should point out that Canada admitted fewer Jewish refugees than Switzerland.)

As for the post-war era, Loeb is certain that Swiss banks should have been more forthcoming and less legalistic in their handling of Jewish dormant accounts.

Ulrich Schluer, a right-wing parliamentarian from the village of Flaach, near the German border, heatedly denies that Swiss neutrality was profit-oriented.

"Switzerland wanted to keep its independence and to do this it had to ensure people had jobs and food. Certainly, there were Swiss people who had ulterior motives. But it was a question of survival."

Until 1940, Swiss feared Nazi invasion

Being surrounded by a ring of fascist countries, and being a small state, Switzerland had no choice but to trade with Germany, Schluer said. And until about 1940, Switzerland was in danger of being invaded by Germany, which had drawn up a plan (Operation Tannenbaum) for that very purpose.

Describing the plight of Jewish refugees as "a very tragic part of Swiss and European history," Schluer rejects the assumption that Switzerland's policy was grounded in anti-Semitism. "Swiss people... wanted to do the best for their country, and this is not anti-Semitism."

In Bern, the capital, I discussed these issues with a senior Swiss diplomat who prefers to remain anonymous. He made two points:

Swiss banks, in the aftermath of the war, should have liquidated their German assets, including their holdings in Nazi-plundered gold. The Swiss government was insufficiently sensitive to the moral dimension of its neutrality.

"But now," he said, "we should clarify our history. We haven't done enough to shed light on our past. We're serious about establishing the historical truth."

As part of this process, he concluded, Switzerland should go ahead with a previously announced plan to set up a $4.7 billion (US) foundation to assist victims of poverty, oppression and genocide. But it may well be defeated in a referendum. "Right now," he said glumly, " the mood in the country is negative."

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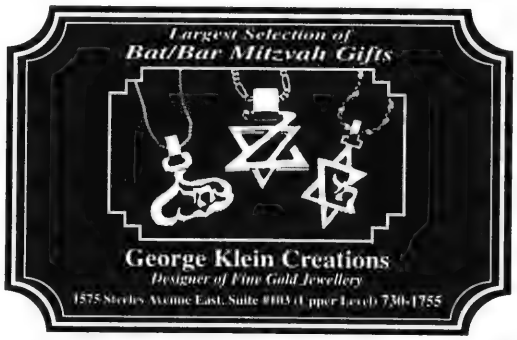
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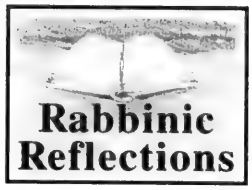

Study of Torah nurtures the soul

By RABBI JOSEPH KELMAN

Shavuot is the holiday when the Jewish people formally became a nation by accepting the Ten Commandments and the Torah at Mt. Sinai. Yet unlike other biblical holidays the actual date, the 6th of Sivan, is not recorded in the Torah.

This is to remind every single Jew, old and young, that the words of the Torah must be studied and observed throughout the entire year. Every time we open the Ark to replace the Torah, we sing and/or recite the words, "It is the Tree of Life." Indeed the proper observance and understanding of the Torah and its teachings nurtures the soul and guides our physical, social and family activities.

Shavuot is celebrated at the end of the Sephira, 16 days after Lag b'Omer, which commemorates a period of time in Jewish history when the Roman authorities forbade the study of Torah and the observances of its major mitzvot. Today we are living in a time when throughout the world, even in formerly Communist Russia, Jews are free to study, examine and fulfil the mitzvot relating to the Almighty and to fellow human beings. At the same time, this freedom has brought with it serious challenges that have to be met.

On one hand there has been a happy explosion of thousands of young people and adults now engaged in Jewish studies in larger number than even before World War II in Eastern Europe. Unfortunately, there are too many Jews who do not see the Torah or Jewish studies as very important in their lives.

This same concern was expressed in a recent article in the *Jewish Week* by Prof. Samuel Heilman where he compares the paradoxical Jewish experiences in America by quoting the classic famous opening lines of Dickens in his novel *A Tale of Two Cities*: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..."

Unlike the early immigration period it is no longer hard to be a Jew in America. We have no problem building synagogues, even filling them at many milestones in the calendar year. There are more day schools than ever before. There are a tremendous number of scholarships and serious students in the yeshivot as well as in Jewish programs in more than 300 universities in North America. No one would have thought this possible 50 years ago. If this is so, why do we have legitimate concerns about the state of North American Jewry as we approach the 21st century?

At a time when most American Jews have received a good secular education, the majority of them do not open up a Jewish book or spend any time studying their Jewish heritage. In the prayers and the kiddush, we call Shavuot Zman Matan Toratenu, which means a time when we receive the gift of Torah. This gift is the glorious inheritance that must be passed down from one generation to another.

The word zman (time) is a significant and key word in the perpetuation of proper Jewish life for all members of the Jewish family. When children are young, their parents find time for them to go to day or Hebrew school, either because they are committed Jews or want to celebrate the bar or bat mitzvah with their children.

Why is it that after this milestone, so many Jewish teenagers — with their parents' consent — suddenly cannot find any time to participate in formal and informal Jewish programs of study and related activities.

Today there is the Internet, computers and records, so that adults and even young people attending colleges or universities can be involved in Jewish learning. Regrettably the vast majority of students attending universities do not participate in any kind of Jewish programming, there or elsewhere.

May the coming holiday of Shavuot serve as a reminder to all members of the family to make it Zman Matan Toratenu.

Good can flourish within depths of evil

By RACHEL TURKIENICZ

The holiday of Shavuot brings to mind the Book of Ruth and its wonderful story of bonding and Jewish affiliation. The book ends with a projection of Ruth's descendants, culminating in the birth of David the future king.

Ultimately, the Messiah will issue from the Davidic line and thus Ruth is the ancestral beginning of our final redemption.

There is an obscure aspect of Ruth's lineage that deserves attention. Ruth begins her life as a Moabite woman. She is from the people of Moab and is referred to as such even after her conversion to Judaism. It is this Moabite connection which is often ignored. Who are the Moabites and how did they produce the woman who will give us our Messiah?

The Bible traces the Moabite nation to the biblical figures of Lot and his daughters. The story plays out in the city of Sodom, the epitome of evil in that generation. Sodom is destroyed by G-d with a hailstorm of fire and in the final sequence of events, only Lot and two of his daughters survive. The daughters believe that their father is the only living male in the world and they worry that humankind will end. One can understand their concern, since only 10 generations previously, the entire world was destroyed by a flood and only Noah and his family survived.

Therefore, with the best of intentions, these women intoxicate their father and each of them lies incestuously with Lot. Both women are impregnated by their father and both women give birth to sons. It is one of these sons that fathers the entire Moabite nation. The premeditated act executed by these women would clearly be defined as rape in today's world. The intoxication was deliberate with a stated sexual intent.

There is an interesting balance struck in the story between the first and last times we meet these women. The Bible first mentions Lot's daughters when an angry mob of Sodomites threatens to storm the house and molest G-d's messengers. Lot offers his two daughters to the mob to do with them as they choose. Lot ultimately becomes the victim of the very same crime for which he had offered his daughters. And yet, these women are not punished for their deed — the commentaries tell us that their intention was so good as to mitigate their actions.

The conflict between intention and action which arises with Lot's daughters is resolved in the person of Ruth. Ruth's actions are the fulfilment of her intentions and it is this union that can produce the Messiah.

At the holiday of Shavuot when we celebrate our receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai, there is an important irony. We travel backward from our future final redemption, through our history to King David, back to Ruth, back to Moab, back to Lot.

Ruth and her foreign matriarchs teach us of the possibilities that can arise even from within the depths of evil. The midrash states that "G-d said to Abraham: I have searched the world entire and have finally found the seeds of redemption — they are planted in Sodom."

JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

Why Judaism matters

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

I run a prayer service on Shabbat morning, and not long ago one of the congregants said to me with great urgency: "Dr. Malamet, one of my closest friends is an atheist. She is healthy, has a nice house, a wonderful husband, beautiful kids. I have a hard time telling her why religion should matter to her. What does a person like that really need God for?"

Over the years I have been asked this question may times in one form or another. It is the key religious question, I think, of contemporary life. For a great many people, the issue is not whether one religion is right and the other wrong, but rather, why should I really care about any of this? Why should a spiritual life play a role in my structured and secularized life of work and family and entertainment? So I will tell you what I told my congregant over the course of several weeks.

Judaism is not just a substitute for other things. If you want to get your emotional problems worked through, then in all likelihood a skilled psychotherapist can help. One doesn't need religion for this. As an institution to promote social change? There are lots of secular institutions that can promote and work for good causes. One doesn't need to be connected to a synagogue or church to protest in the streets or sign a petition. No, the reason religion becomes important is because of the human need for transcendence, for a higher dimension to reality. Without God and the spiritual life we are diminished human beings. We are less.

But we are utterly uneducated about this side of life. Many of us had a brief religious education, but often found it alienating, or worse, oppressive. So at the ripe old age of 13 or 14 — perhaps a bit later, perhaps earlier — many people abandoned or rejected the place of God/ religion/prayer in their lives. Spurred by distasteful memories of synagogue or Hebrew school, we decided that the spiritual life was last in line behind sports, movies, music and sex, and later on, marriage and work. What an age to make such a momentous choice!

And the fallout from this is that we become expert in many areas of life — everything from computers to RRSPs to global warming to how to write a business letter to how to plan your diet — but we are not taught to consider one basic question: What does life mean? Why, after perhaps reaching my stated goals, am I still left with a certain restlessness, as though something is still not falling into place?

When you think about it, satisfying answers to these questions are hard to pin down. But it is a Jewish educator's business to talk to young people about precisely these matters. It is not enough for a student to find out about what we do on Pesach or learn how to daven or master a passage of Talmud. There are machines that can tutor you in how to read, how to write, how to study. But only a human being can teach how to think about life.

The time has come for teachers to lay it on the line with our children and show them why Judaism is not just a "lifestyle" — it is life. If we look up at the end of the year and realize that it's been an exercise in information stuffing, if we don't go beyond the text as teachers, if we don't struggle with our students on the questions that really matter, then we have no business being in the classroom.

Studying Torah all year

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

On Tuesday night we celebrate Shavuot, and recall G-d's giving of the Torah to the Jewish people at Mt. Sinai. **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/shavuot.htm]** So what better time to resolve to learn more about the book central to Jewish life? If you'd like to continue to study Torah year round but can't attend a regular class, you can still be part of a virtual one — on the Jewish Highway.

There are dozens of online commentaries available on parshat hashavuah — the weekly Torah portion — from almost every perspective imaginable.

From A Byte of Torah, The Electronic Torah Weekly **[http://ifrit.web.aol.com/mld/production/yiabmove.html]**, to Torah Hayim — Living Torah Study for Reform Jews **[http://shamash.org/reform/uahc/torah/tindex.html]** to the writings of Dr. Ismar Schorsch, Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, **[http://www.jtsa.edu/pubs/parashah/index.html]** to the Virtual Beit Hamidrash **[http://www.virtual.co.il/education/yhe/]**. And if you'd like to do your learning in Hebrew (and you have Hebrew fonts installed), then try out Bar-Ilan University's Parshat Hashavua Page **[http://www.biu.ac.il:80/JH/Parasha/]**. Bar Ilan also maintains an English site at **[http://www.biu.ac.il:80/JH/Eparasha/]**.

There are two different ways to receive information. You can either visit a Web site on a regular basis to check out that week's material **[http://www.shamash.org/tanach/dvar.html]**. Or you can join a "list."

Once you sign up, that week's commentary will be automatically e-mailed to you. Some lists are one-way only — you receive a weekly mailing. Others allow you to respond and offer your own insights. Most of these lists are "moderated," which means there is someone in charge to make sure the correspondence remains on topic – and civil. For a selection of lists, see Virtual Jerusalem's list of lists **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/lists/torah.htm]** and Shema Yisrael at **[http://www.shemayisrael.co.il/parsha/index.htm]**.

I have not attempted to evaluate any of these sites. The best way to decide if a commentator is for you is by subscribing or visiting on a regular basis.

The most comprehensive list of links to parshat hashavuah commentaries on the Internet can be found at Torahnet **[http://shamash.org/reform/uahc/torahnet/]**.

You really have to marvel at the dedication involved in compiling a page like this. Yasher koach to Eric Simon and everyone else involved at the Union of American Hebrew Congregations Web site!

If you prefer to LISTEN to a lecture rather than read one, try out 613.org: The First World-Wide Jewish Audio Since Mount Sinai. You'll find the parsha classes at **[http://www.613.org/parasha.html]** and more audio lectures at Think Jewish International **[http://www.thinkjewish.com/series.html]**. (You'll need the free RealAudio player to hear these lectures **[http://get.real.com/products/player/download.html]**).

And for something different, go to Torah Tidbits **[http://www.cyberscribe.com/tt/]** and click on Parsha Pix & Stats. Every week, you'll get a screen full of pictures that relate in some way to the Torah portion. Sometimes that relationship is straightforward; sometimes the connection is a bit cryptic. As the site says, "ParshaPix are a great way to go over the parsha with your children, challenge them before they challenge you."

So learn, discuss and enjoy. But as you travel the Jewish Highway, please remember that what you print will often include G-d's name.

Respect the sanctity of the material.

Next time, I will look at how you can read the Torah on line and survey Internet resources for b'nai and b'not mitzvah.

Until then, have a happy Shavuot.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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Co-ordinator of Religious Studies, York University

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- Liaison with Parents & Shul Board
- Marketing of Youth Programs and Special Events

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Stuart Razin

Police units' killers joined SS Galician Division: Littman

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian authorities are doing virtually nothing about the "largest uninvestigated pool of accused war criminals," states a recent article in *Response*, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's quarterly magazine.

As many as 2,000 members of the 14th Waffen-SS Volunteer Grenadier Division, also known as the Galician Division, were allowed to settle in Canada after 1950 and since that time they have lived "undisturbed" in Canada.

"The division was composed largely of former members of auxiliary police units recruited by the Germans to serve as executioners of the Ukrainian Jewish population," states the *Response* article, written by Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

Littman said he has researched the division over a 15-year span, studying archives in Germany, Britain, the United States and Canada. In addition, Polish and British historians have published scholarly work about the division's activities.

That research confirms that "most of the members of the division were former auxiliary policemen operating as part of Nazi einsatzgruppen," mobile killing units that rounded up and shot Jews and Communists behind the advance of German forces.

The article points out that after the battle of Stalingrad, in which the Germans lost enormous numbers of men, SS leader Heinrich Himmler agreed to permit Ukrainians into the SS. Members of Police Battalion 201, which cooperated with Einsatzkommando 5 of Einsatzgruppe C, were the first recruits. That unit, in turn, was drawn from two Ukrainian-staffed battalions, Roland and Nachtigall, that followed German forces into the Soviet Union and took part in pogroms against Jews.

In addition to Battalion 201, the Galician Division recruited personnel from the 31st Sicherheitsdienst, Ukrainian Auxiliary Police Battalion 204 and SS-Freiwillige Grenadier Regiments 29, 30 and 31.

"Before joining the division, these police units, operating behind the battle lines, had murdered thousands of men, women and children in Lvov, Tarnopil, Lutsk, Kremianets, Voldymyr, Odessa, Izamil, Mikolaiv, Brailow, Vinnytsia, Luminets, Pidhaitsi and Ustalych," Littman writes.

The division was captured by British forces in Austria at the end of the war and transferred to Italy. The British Home Secretary urged Canada to take in 2,000 of the men. After receiving assurances the men had been subjected to security checks and there were no war criminals among them, Canada accepted them.

The presence in Canada of members of the division prompted a letter of protest to Justice Minister Allan Rock. "Given their participation in Hitler's Final Solution, it is shameful they should continue to enjoy the benefits of Canadian citizenship," Littman states.

He called on war crimes investigators to cross-check their names with the names of the 1,882 recipients of SS pension in Canada.

"We want to look at each individual case as a matter of simple justice," he said.

The *Response* article got mixed reviews from historian Alti Rodal, who agreed "it's certainly likely that people from police units and Roland and Nachtigall could have moved into the SS." But, she continued, that must be determined on an individual by individual basis.

Rodal, who served as director of historical research for the Deschenes Commission, said it's possible the Galician Division recruited men who had participated in atrocities against Jews. She agreed with Littman that the British "did very flimsy and inadequate screening.

"I agree they should be investigated but it's wrong to call them, as a unit, murderers."

Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit, said the involvement of police units in atrocities could be true, but his investigators require specific allegations against individuals.

"We will have our historians review the article to see if it includes anything helpful," he said.

Rights body to examine 'Zundelsite'

[Cont'd. from page 3]

cision whether to permit three Jewish organizations to participate as interveners in the hearing. B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and the CHRA are all seeking to participate in the hearing, arguing they have a special interest and unique expertise to offer the tribunal.

Citing its expertise in monitoring hate propaganda and anti-Semitism, lawyer Marvin Kurz said "the League sees Zundel as one of the leading purveyors of materials that expose Jews to hatred and contempt" and would like to see him stopped.

Christie opposed the applications and unleashed a verbal barrage on the three Jewish organizations. B'nai Brith came in for a scathing attack as Christie argued the organization had made common cause with Anti-Racist Action (ARA) and so, in effect, condoned statements shouted at ARA rallies to burn and kill Zundel.

He later attacked the CHRA's application, pointing out that Citron, its current vice-president, is one of the complainants. In addition, he said, Citron has a strong animus against Zundel and has opposed him since the early 1980s when Zundel faced loss of his posting privileges for allegedly sending hate material in the mail.

Later, Citron said "we wouldn't even know Zundel if he hadn't engaged in hate propaganda for all those years." His material "demonizes Jews and me in particular." Citron has filed a libel claim against Zundel for allegedly defamatory materials published about her.

Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, said the centre is attempting to intervene because "Zundel's use of the Internet is a concern for any human rights agenda."

He suggested the case will set a precedent in connection with the application of human rights legislation to the information highway.

Eddie Taylor, legal counsel for the commission, said "this is the first case regarding the Internet. We're confident that section 13 (1) of the Canadian Human rights Act is broad enough to cover the Internet as a telephonic transmission."

It's the commission's contention that use of telephone wires and a modem (the device that links computers to telephone lines) brings the communication within the section's ambit, he said.

Taylor said it is likely the case will go to the Supreme Court, a process that could take years. A British Columbia human rights case involving telephone answering machines operated by the white supremacist Liberty Net will go to the Supreme Court in the fall for argument. That case began before a tribunal eight years ago, he said.

The most severe sanction Zundel could face is a cease and desist order. Should he fail to comply with it, he could be held in contempt and face one year in jail.

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CITY STEPS OUT FOR ISRAEL

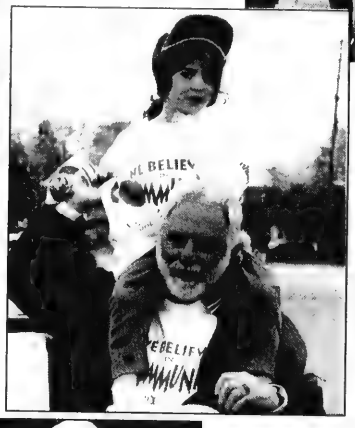
A record number of community members hit the pavement on Sunday, May 25th, for UJA Federation's Walk for Israel, raising $150,000 for immigrant children arriving in Israel. Close to 10,000 dotted Bathurst St. on two walk routes which ended with a community festival at North York Centennial Centre.

(Photos: Stephen Frost)

A Sterling pair. Walk '97 Chair Carole Sterling, with son Cory, prep for the big day.

As far as the eye could see, walkers made their way down Bathurst Street.

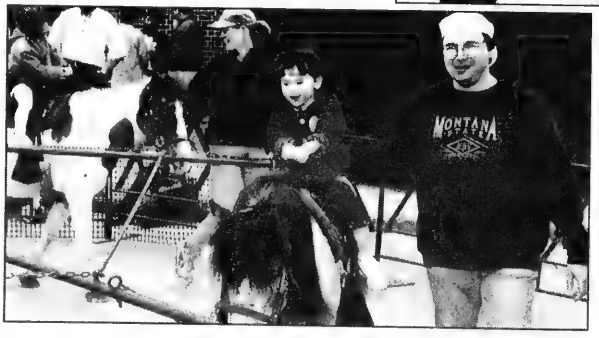
Festival Co-Chairs Marcy Kroach (left) and Tracey Rain plug into the energy at Centennial Centre.



Steppin' Out For Israel

1998 Campaign Chair Leo Goldhar gives a boost to granddaughter Robin as they begin their walk.

Walkers just wanna have fun.



Father and daughter go once around at the festival's pony ride.

Young festival goers partake in arts & crafts activities to wind down after the Walk.

ANNIVERSARY MISSION FILLING FAST

More than 125 community members have already made their date with history by registering for an historic mission.

UJA Federation's Mission '98, February 23 - March 4, celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary includes airfare, five-star hotel accommodations, breakfast and many additional meals, all touring, guides, entrance fees, porters and transfers. The cost is $2,498 per person, with a minimum campaign contribution of $250 per person for each of the next two years.

Participants will experience the sights and sounds of Israel from Metulla in the north to Jerusalem, south to Eilat and dozens of places in between. The itinerary will be customized for those who have already visited Israel and first-timers like Morris and Marilyn Ray.

"We've never been to Israel before and this is a great opportunity for us to finally see what our friends have been talking about for years," says Marilyn.

Many of those registered for Mission 98 visited Israel last year on the hugely successful Mission 3000 with 1,100 participants from across Canada. "Mission 3000 was the most well-organized, well-thought out and well-executed mission my wife and I have ever been on," notes Harvey Atkin. "It whet our appetite for something bigger and better."

In addition to popular highlights, Mission 98 participants will be able to visit sites of special interest in smaller groups. Special 50th anniversary festivities across the country will adorn the mission intineray.

Naomi and Lionel Larry have a special reason for going on Mission 98 ten years after participating on the first UJA Federation mission to Israel. "I'll be turning 50 as well," explains Naomi, "so my husband and I decided there was no where else we want to be."

"This is a unique opportunity to celebrate our commitment to Jewish community and a landmark in Israel's history," says Mission Chair Sandra Brown.

יובל החמישים לישראל
ISRAEL 50TH JUBILEE
YOUR DATE WITH HISTORY

All participants must be 18 years of age. For more information call the Mission '98 hotline at (416) 631-5698.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

BROWN STEPS DOWN WITH FAITH IN THE FUTURE

Next week ***Sandra Brown*** *will complete her term as President of UJA Federation. Her presidency enhanced a long tradition of strong communal leadership. In an interview with* Community Matters *she takes a look back at the last two years with pride, hope and a reaffirmation of UJA Federation's role in guaranteeing a bright future for the Jewish community.*

Q: What goals did you want UJA Federation to achieve when you took office in 1995?

A. I saw our objectives as comprising a four point program which focused on internal and external restructuring and repositioning, financial resource development and strengthening ties with Israel. I was particularly concerned with building community through closer ties with synagogues, diverse elements of the Jewish community and other organizations, as well as improving the way we tell people about what UJA Federation does. All of these, I believe, will pull our community together and make it stronger.

Q: How much closer has UJA Federation come to realizing these goals.

A. I think we've come a long way, especially in the area of community-building. We've spent the last two years reaching out through joint programming, expanded communication and coalition building around some very important issues, such as budget cuts and the Branson Hospital closure battle. In campaign, we've opened the lines of communication with communities we've never reached before and introduced new exciting initiatives such as the York Region telethon and Youth Symposium. UJA Federation's first mission to Morocco just returned and was very successful. Put simply, I believe more people know who we are and what we do and want to be a part of it.

Q: What new initiatives are you most hopeful and excited about?

A. Our Legacy campaign, although a large undertaking, will ensure future funding for our precious Jewish infrastructure. I am also very impressed with the growth and development of our Junior UJA program which teaches children, from an early age, about the importance of feeling part of a community and helping each other through tzedakah. I'm also glad to see the Gift of Israel program off the ground because I believe very strongly that young people will feel closer to their Jewish roots given the opportunity to visit Israel.

Q: What were some of the highlights of your term?

A. I feel priviledged to have been invited to represent UJA Federation at so many different events. I really saw how the community worked and I was always pleasantly surprised. I wish others could be exposed to the big picture. I was also proud to have participated in the Jewish Agency's annual meeting in Jerusalem along with many of my colleagues and to see the Three Year Vision succeed the way it has.

Q: Any disappointments?

A. We still have a lot of work to do in many ways but that will come with time I'm sure. I am a little disappointed with the limited access we have to government despite our joint efforts with Canadian Jewish Congress. Ours is an important voice that we must fight to make heard.

Q: How has this experience affected you personally?

A. It's been extremely gratifying for me to have been a part of this important organization. To me UJA Federation is a catalyst for Jewish life in our community. It's also very heartwarming and empowering to know how many people share my concerns, especially our dedicated volunteers and staff.

Q: What are your parting words as President?

A. We need to have more pride in our community and work together to meet the challenges before us. We are truly one of the finest Jewish communities in the world.

KOSCHITZKYS RECEIVE SADOWSKI AWARD

Henry and Julia Koschitzky

Julia and Henry Koschitzky are the first couple to receive one of the Jewish community's most prestigious volunteer recognition awards.

The Toronto husband and wife team are recipients of the 1997 Ben Sadowski Award, which recognizes individuals with long standing records of senior community service within UJA Federation and the larger Jewish community.

Henry and Julia's dedication to enhancing Jewish life in Toronto, Israel and Jewish communities around the world, has led them to assume leadership positions in many major Jewish organizations.

Julia has just completed her term as Chair of the Keren Hayesod World Board of Trustees, during which she travelled the entire KH world, from Argentina to Hong Kong, raising millions of dollars for Jewish Agency projects. Next month she will be presented with the 1997 Israel Goldstein Prize, Keren Hayesod's highest honour.

In June 1992, Julia finished a two-year term as President of UIA Canada.

Julia chaired UJA Federation's Women's Campaign in 1985, the general campaign in 1988 and, two years later, helped to direct the historic and highly successful Operation Exodus, which raised $45 million for Soviet Jews emigrating to Israel.

Julia still maintains regular involvement with the UJA/UIA-funded Jewish Agency and currently sits on both the Jewish Agency Board of Governors and Executive. She is also active with several other charities and organizations including Mt. Sinai Hospital, Associated Hebrew Schools, the *Canadian Jewish News* and UJA Federation's Legacy Fundraising Cabinet.

Henry Koschitzky's deep commitment to Jewish education has led to numerous leadership positions including President of Associated Hebrew Schools, Founder and Vice President of Toronto's Or Chaim and Ulpanat Orot schools, Chairman of the Board of Jewish Education and member of Yeshiva University's Board of Directors. Henry, a Rhodes scholar and devout Talmud student, who founded with his brother and parents, the Orot College for Women in Israel, was also instrumental in creating a professorship endowment at York University's Centre for Jewish Studies.

Henry's long-time involvement with UJA Federation and UIA Canada includes many years on both Boards of Directors and active participation in UIA's Hineni circle for major campaign contributors.

GRANOVSKY LEGACY SYMBOLIZED IN AWARD

David Engel

UJA Federation's highly respected David Engel has been chosen as the first recipient of the Phil Granovsky Award for Campaign Excellence.

The award, created in memory of the legendary community leader and activist who passed way earlier this year, honours individuals who exemplify the best in UJA Federation campaigning. Phil Granovsky and his brother Irving were the first million dollar UJA Federation contributors.

Granovsky supported UJA Federation for more than 40 years. He played an integral role in early campaigns surrounding the birth of Israel and later headed up major UJA/UIA funded projects such as the Phil Granovsky Family Auditorium in Kiryat Shmona. He and his wife Shirley also sponsored a special Jewish Agency flight bringing Soviet Jews to Israel in 1991.

Engel's continual fundraising efforts and high campaign visibility throughout his more than ten-year involvement with UJA Federation, have led to a second term as Vice-Chair of the annual campaign which raised $35.5 million last year.

A graduate of UJA Federation's Leadership Development Program, David quickly worked his way up to chairing UJA Federation's Marketing Division, the Young Leadership Network and the Walk for Israel. He also has been a USDS Board member for four years, having previously served on the school's executive.

In 1995, the depth and spirit of Engel's commitment to UJA Federation was affirmed when he spearheaded the "Delta Force," a drive to improve volunteer and donor relations. New directions included personalized thank-you letters and one-on-one campaign training. The businessman and father of three even assumed the persona and garb of community-minded super hero, "Delta Dave," to launch the initiative with style.

AWARDS RECOGNIZE COMMUNITY SERVICE

At the June 9 UJA Federation annual meeting, awards will be presented to honour individuals who have dedicated years of service to Toronto's Jewish community. Their long hours of work, creativity and commitment have touched so many lives.

SHEM TOV AWARDS

These awards are presented annually to leaders representing the highest levels of excellence in volunteer service to Toronto's Jewish community.

Shem Tov Award winners (from left, seated): Peter Shenfield, Marlene Axmith, Yvonne Martell and (from left, standing) Morley Wolfe, Michael Bowman and Ronald Hoffman.

MARLENE AXMITH
UJA Federation Women's Campaign

Marlene's dedication to community is reflected both in her professional career as Assistant Director for the Baycrest Centre Campaign, and her extensive involvement with UJA Federation, which includes chairing the 1996 Women's Campaign. Marlene also serves on the Boards of Jewish Camp Council, Jewish Women's Federation, Beth Tikvah Synagogue, and Jewish Family and Child Service.

MICHAEL BOWMAN
Jewish Family and Child Service

Michael, a partner at Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt, is President of Jewish Family and Child Service. His twelve year involvement with JF&CS includes chairing the Child & Youth Services Committee and the York Region Services Committee, and serving as a member of the Family Rehabilitation Committee. A graduate of UJA Federation's Leadership Development Program, Michael is active in Shaar Shalom Synagogue.

RONALD HOFFMAN
Reena Foundation

Ronald is a lawyer and Vice-President of Gamma North Peel Laboratory Ltd. He is the Chair of Reena Foundation, a charity with which he has been involved for eight years. Ronald has also served on the Executive of the Jewish National Fund and as President of Adath Israel Brotherhood, Vice-President of the Canadian Council for Conservative Judaism and Chair of the Canadian Foundation for Masorti Judaism.

YVONNE MARTELL
Bernard Betel Centre

Yvonne is Program Coordinator for Senior Adult Services at the Bathurst Jewish Centre and President of the Bernard Betel Centre. She has been a Board member at the Bernard Betel Centre since 1983. Yvonne co-chaired UJA Federation's Shalom Toronto program, 1993-1995, and sits on the Board and Management Committee of Yeshiva Or Chaim.

PETER SHENFIELD
Jewish Vocational Services

Peter, an executive recruiter for Baker Harris/A.T. Carney Executive Search & Co., is the Immediate Past President of Jewish Vocational Services. In addition to his volunteer years with JVS, Peter has worked with the Human Resource Professionals Association of Ontario for twelve years, serving as President in 1989.

MORLEY WOLFE, Q.C.
Jewish Camp Council

Morley, the President of the Jewish Camp Council, is a provincial Deputy Judge and Justice of the Peace. He has held almost every position on the Board of JCC and continues to be a hands-on volunteer within the Council. His other community involvement includes B'nai Brith Canada, and Canadian Jewish Congress.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

These awards were established to encourage young women and men to assume community leadership roles. They are presented to individuals who demonstrate extraordinary community commitment and service.

DOV ALTMAN

Dov is the manager of property administration for Toronto's Economic Development Corporation. A UJA Federation Leadership Development graduate, Dov is a UJA Federation Board member, a long-time member of UJA Federation's Social Planning & Allocations Committee and past Chair of the Group and Recreational Services Sub-Committee. Dov also chairs the New Leadership Division at the Canadian Shaarei Tzedec Hospital Foundation and is Vice-Chair of the BBYO Board of Directors.

EILEEN SILVER

Eileen, an alumnus of UJA Federation's Leadership Development Program, has been President of United Synagogue Day School since 1995 and a USDS Board member since 1989. In addition to serving on the Board of Jewish Education and on BJC committees, Eileen is active in Beth Tzedec Congregation and co-chairs the synagogue's Little Minyan alternative service.

(Photos: Paul Appleby)

UJA FEDERATION 1996/97 BUDGET

1996/97 INCOME

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN GROSS	**$33,534,000**
Designated Gifts	1,404,000
Less:	
Provision of doubtful pledges	(2,180.000)
Annual Campaign	(3,072,846)
Planned Giving & Capital Campaign	(633,482)
Credit Card Commissions	(120,000)
NET FROM ANNUAL CAMPAIGN AVAILABLE FOR ALLOCATION	**$28,931,672**

1996/97 ALLOCATIONS

OVERSEAS ALLOCATION AVAILABLE FROM ANNUAL CAMPAIGN **$13,260,000**

ISRAEL AND INTERNATIONAL

- Jewish Agency for Israel
- Alliance Israelite Universelle
- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
- American Joint Distribution Committee
- Organization for Rehabilitation and Training
- Organization Sociale d'Entre'aid

DOMESTIC ALLOCATION AVAILABLE FROM ANNUAL CAMPAIGN **$15,526,053**

UNALLOCATED RESERVE **$145,619**
(subject to Board discretion)

DOMESTIC ALLOCATIONS

NATIONAL

• Campus Agencies	
Network	$2,181
CIFAE	4,361
Campus Services-Model	65,851
Campus Services-Grant	42,520
• Canadian Jewish Congress	1,270,384
• National Unity (CJC)	21,805
• Immigrant Services	
JIAS Administration	544,253
Immigrant Relief	497,154
Jewish Telegraphic Agency	10,903
Travel Fund	20,715
• Adjusted communal allocation due to cap on small community contributions	2,209
TOTAL	**$2,482,336**

INTEGRATION

• Bernard Betel Centre	$13,833
• Jewish Vocational Services	48,005
• Bathurst Jewish Centre	158,536
• Schools	
Associated	66,124
CHAT	6,095
Orah	19,892
• Furniture Bank	12,758
• Russian Tuition	200,000
TOTAL	**$525,243**

HUMAN SERVICES

• Bernard Betel Centre	$75,916
• Jewish Vocational Services	421,350
• Jewish Family & Child Service	1,518,835
• Bathurst Jewish Centre	200,532
• Bloor Jewish Community Centre	75,600
• Jewish Information Service	94,494
• Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa	56,667
• Senior Care	29,222
• Reena	50,345
TOTAL	**$2,522,961**

CONTINUITY AND CULTURE

• Action Committee for Jewish Continuity	$300,000
• Bathurst Jewish Centre	$162,428
• Bloor JCC -Theatre	2,010
• Ontario Jewish Archives	$17,560
• Oskar Asher Schmidt Museum	13,195
• Holocaust Remembrance Committee	49,516
• Committee for Yiddish	9,030
• Jewish Campus Services -Central Office	$174,362
Jewish Student Federation -York University	114,502
Special	15,000
Jewish Student Union -University of Toronto	97,650
• Jewish Camp Council	$42,581
• Jewish Family & Child Service	53,775
• Bathurst Jewish Centre-Camp	45,160
• BBYO	$35,154
TOTAL	**$1,131,923**

JEWISH EDUCATION

• Board of Jewish Education	$780,539
• JESNA	4,830
• Elementary Schools	4,757,344
Associated Hebrew Day Schools	
Bialik Hebrew Day School	
Eitz Chaim	
Leo Baeck Day School	
Netivot Hatorah Day School	
Or Ha'emet Sephardic Day School	
She'arim Hebrew Day School	
United Synagogue Day School	
• High Schools	1,845,745
Beth Jacob	
Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto	
Ner Israel Yeshiva	
Or Chaim	
Ulpanat Orot	
• Supplementary Schools	21,831
• Midrasha L'Morim	42,988
• Orah School	25,751
TOTAL	**$7,479,028**

UJA FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO

• Administration, Operations & Programs	$1,346,472
• Special Items	38,090
TOTAL	**$1,384,562**

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

ENDOWMENT FUND FOCUSES ON COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Organizations dedicated to the preservation of Yiddish language and culture were big winners in a recent round of grants allocated by the Endowment Fund of UJA Federation.

A total of $220,000 was awarded to eight projects associated with social services, education and culture.

"Our biggest problem is that we have far more applications for grants than we are able to give," said Alan Sandler, UJA Federation's vice president of Community Planning & Allocations.

A substantial grant was given to the second *Ashkenaz* festival, to be held at Harbourfront Centre at the end of August, because, according to Sandler, the 1995 festival was "a tremendous attraction for the community."

Bruce Rosensweet, executive director of Nayeh Velt Cultural Initiatives, which sponsors *Ashkenaz*, billed as the world's largest festival of new Yiddish culture, said the endowment grant represents an endorsement of *Ashkenaz* by the mainstream community. "For us, it's a level of recognition we've been looking for from UJA Federation.... We came out of nowhere. We built this thing out of nothing."

A second project promoting Yiddish, the Toronto Yiddish Education Centre, was also an award winner. Ethel Cooper, chair of the Yiddish education committee, was "thrilled" to get the grant, she said. "This gives us an opportunity to take the existing school further."

She said the Committee for Yiddish has been operating a heritage language program, jointly funded by the education boards of North York and York Region, for 75 children on Sundays at the Finch campus of Associated Hebrew Schools. The program attracts Jewish children from all religious streams, who have no other opportunity to learn Yiddish. "There is a growing interest in Yiddish language and culture at all levels," she noted. "People recognize that Yiddish must be carried on."

Two other approved applications are geared to creating employment opportunities for immigrants and welfare recipients. One project, jointly submitted by Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS) and Jewish Vocational Services (JVS), assists clients from JF&CS to become financially self-sufficient through re-employment. JF&CS recruits the clients while a JVS professional prepares them for the work force with job-readiness training, before connecting them with potential employers.

"We're delighted to get the grant. It's a priority in the community to help people find employment," said JF&CS executive director Gordon Wolfe. "The highest level of tzedaka is helping a person to be self-sustaining. By being self-sufficient they maintain their dignity."

Another employment project, sponsored by JVS and Jewish Immigrant Aid Service (JIAS), will match immigrants who have achieved a high proficiency in English with three month co-op placements in the community.

Perry Romberg, executive director of JIAS, said the grant will allow the agency's small pilot project to expand.

Others receiving Endowment Fund grants include the Israel Experience and Education Framework, a JF&CS and Reena-supported program to assist people with developmental handicaps and their families, the *Jewish Toronto* Web Site and Dr. Yaacov Glickman who is preparing a publication on Jewish ethnic survival in Canada.

In 1995, the Ashkenaz Festival kicked off with a colourful parade along Toronto's Harbourfront. This year's parade will run from City Hall to the Lakeshore once again. (Photo: Nir Bareket.)

The community is invited to

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our Legacy

• THE UJA FEDERATION ANNUAL MEETING •

Monday, June 9, 1997 - 7:30 p.m.

Leah Posluns Theatre
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FEATURING

- The first look at our unprecedented Legacy Campaign
- A community tribute to the late Phil Granovsky ז"ל
- Presentation of the first annual Granovsky Award to a community volunteer demonstrating extraordinary commitment to UJA Federation campaigning
- Recognition of Sadowski, Leadership Development and Shem Tov Award winners
- Introduction of our newly-elected President

UJA FEDERATION

Greater Toronto Area

UJA Walk draws 8,000

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — An estimated 8,000 people donned their walking shoes for the annual community Walk for Israel sponsored by UJA Federation.

For the first time in its 29-year history, the walk encompassed two routes, both culminating at North York Centennial Centre. The 5-kilometre morning route originated at the Promenade Mall in Thornhill, while the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) was the starting point for the new 2-km afternoon route.

Gilda Niman, chair of the south route march, said the new route was added to give the supplementary schools, most of which hold classes Sunday morning, a chance to participate in the walkathon.

About 1,000 people took part, she said. "The spirit was just as evident at 12:30 as it was at 10:30."

An additional 2,000 people joined the marchers at the arena for a lively community festival with continuous entertainment and activities for participants of all ages.

UJA Federation spokesperson Howard English estimated that at the height of the festivities there were 10,000 people at the arena.

He said the walkathon is the community's largest event.

Carole Sterling, chair of Walk '97, praised the efforts of the many volunteers and the UJA staff who made the walk such a success.

She also called upon the community to get ready for next year's march from City Hall to Ontario Place to mark Israel's 50th birthday.

David Stein of United Synagogue Day School feeds a baby burro at the Walk '97 Festival petting zoo. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

The festival was a gigantic party with food, music and non-stop entertainment. DJ Corey Mandell, a festival co-chair, hosted the festivities. The live music concert was performed by a roster of professional entertainers: the Simpletones, the Stars Band with Liberty Silver, Matt Dean, Shelly's Band and Kim Doron.

Children participated in a wide array of activities, including virtual reality video games, a batting cage, bingo, arts and crafts, a petting zoo, a jumping castle and pony rides.

Children also played an important role in the walkathon which added $150,000 to UJA Federation coffers. Jaime Filer, and Jaimie Bregman of Leo Baeck Day School, and Arielle Hancu of United Synagogue Day Schools (USDS) were the students who raised the most money this year.

Filer, 9, has been among the walkathon's top child fundraisers for the last four years. She said the amount of money she raises increases every year because she keeps improving her fundraising techniques. She no longer asks people if they want to sponsor her, she said.

"Now I ask how much they want to sponsor me for. I know that this way they can't say no.

"It makes me very proud to know that even though I'm a little kid I can still make a contribution."

Chesed seen key to Jewish unity

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish unity will happen when Jews act towards each other with kindness, compassion and respect, asserts philosopher Rabbi Paysach Krohn.

Rabbi Krohn gave the fourth annual Sam and Sarah Kerzner Memorial Lecture, presented by Eitz Chaim Schools and endowed by their son, Joseph. The talk was at Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation in Thornhill.

Rabbi Krohn, a mohel, is best known for a series of four books of inspirational tales, including *The Magid Speaks* and *At the Magid's Table*.

He gave his message in parables: the noted rabbi, close to death, who asked to be moved from the home for the aged where he was living to a far less pleasant place in Jerusalem, so the chevrah kadishah wouldn't have to carry his body such a long way; the man from Brooklyn who kept raincoats in his house so Shabbat guests wouldn't get wet walking home in the rain; the newsletter from the small settlement of Kiryat Sefer, offering help to others ranging from chickpeas for a family who didn't have time to buy food to celebrate a baby's birth to mousetraps to folding laundry

"It's not enough to hear about and see that someone is in trouble. You have to take action."

There is an obligation to return lost objects to their owner. One is not allowed, he said, to "hide yourself to avoid having to perform this mitzvah."

Take action

And one is not allowed to hide from lost people, people with problems – the sick, the poor, mourners.

One is not created for one's own benefit, the rabbi said. "G-d didn't give you talents for your own honor, but to help others."

Rabbi Krohn said that when he was going to Lucerne, he was asked to look in on a lonely, totally paralyzed patient in a nursing home.

"That patient was Yonah Melina, a man disabled in one of the terrorist bus bombings." Rabbi Krohn promised that in every speech he made from then on, he would mention Melina and encourage people to write him. Hundreds of people thus learned about this man, and wrote him and prayed for him. He is now in a nursing home in Israel. And people are still writing and praying for him.

Rabbi Krohn had several suggestions for the audience. First, he said, take a memo pad and don't go to sleep unless you have done an act of chesed (loving kindness).

(Even if you did five acts, write one, he advised. "You will keep on doing one.")

Also, he said, "every time you daven the Shmoneh Esrei, daven for someone else – not for 20 people, but for one or two. And daven as if it is your father, your mother, your brother or your sister you are praying for. That is achdut – real unity."

The audience of over 1,000 was welcomed by program chair Marvin Sigler. D'vrai Torah were given by Aliza Sturm and Yaakov Kipper, Grade 8 students at Eitz Chaim Schools.

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Greater Toronto Area

Emunah Women pass torch to a new generation

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The torch is being passed to a new generation at Emunah Women of Toronto.

At the recent installation of officers, three members of Re'ut, the organization's youngest chapter, Laurie Teperman, Aryella Weisz and Renee Shields, joined the executive as vice-president fundraising, vice-president programming and office committee chair respectively.

Other officers elected this year included Edie Kalb as president, Sara Rachlin as treasurer, Esti Yeres as vice-president membership, and Lisa Parshan as recording secretary.

The installation formed part of Emunah Women's annual mother-in-Israel dinner. This year's event raised over $20,000 for Emunah projects in Israel, which include nurseries, day care centres, schools, and women's shelters.

Kalb said in her installation address that the suggestion that relations between Israel and the Diaspora will somehow change because of the peace process and the improving Israeli economy will not be true for Emunah.

"Emunah doesn't see itself as an organization that gives charity. We see Israel as an extension of our nation, and of our city . We will always see it like that, and so it is our responsibility to ensure Jewish continuity there by filling Israel's physical and spiritual needs."

Guest speaker Pnina Herzog, widow of former ambassador to Canada Yaakov Herzog, and chair of World Emunah, said that while Jews have always had an "unshakable belief that there will always be a better tomorrow," they must recognize and deal with danger signals to our survival.

These danger signals, she said, are not necessarily concerned with war and peace. Rather, she said, they are assimilation, extremism "at both ends of the spectrum" and ignorance "of who we are, what we are; our culture and our heritage."

The answer, Herzog said, lies in Jewish education.

Unlike in past days, the gates to gentile culture are open to Jews; in most places, Jews have equal rights, and the non-Jewish world is more moderate and tolerant.

Some see that as a threat and claim that Jews should avoid coming to grips with contemporary culture. Others, on the other hand, claim that there should be complete integration into secular culture.

"I believe that Jewish education should combine contemporary culture with our own culture and Jewish values. It should teach moderation, tolerance, dialogue and ahavat Yisrael."

She praised Emunah women not only for providing shelters for battered women, but for establishing programs that will prevent woman abuse in the future.

She urged the nearly 300 women present to work to increase membership in the organization by encouraging study, by involving younger members and by taking advantage of the special talents and skills of members.

During the month of Elul this year (September), Emunah is encouraging a month of study. Herzog said groups that will be open to all segments of the community will get together once a week to study.

The program was held at Inn on the Park. Dinner chair was Rita Weinberger. Greetings were brought by Israel consul general Jehudi Kinar and by Kurt Rothschild, chair of World Mizrachi and national president of the Canadian Zionist Federation.

From left, Emunah Women of Toronto officials Rita Weinberger, Hannah Schusheim-Beigel and Edie Kalb and guest speaker Pnina Herzog.

Advt.

THE BORINS BEAT

I told you I'd name names!!! This offering will be short and sweet, to fit my allotted space so that loyal readers like **Herman Ladovsky** of **United Bakers** fame and **Joel Daiter (Daiter's Creamery)**, **Steven Roth** (C.A.)'s Dad, **Bev Wise (Homelife Partners Realty Inc.)** and **Paul Richmond (Impact Insurance Brokers Inc.)** can read the larger print!!!

Recent birthdays I've acknowledged (& now you can too): **Tom Ungar, Marty Goldfarb, Gary Reinblatt, Yettie Goldstein, Al Werger, Janet Werger, Ted Rogers, Lawrence Bloomberg, Bruce Bronfman, George Cohon's** big 60th, **Albert J. Latner's** 70th and belatedly (oops) **Paul Godfrey.**

And to **David Sugar, Bill Grusberg, Ben Winbaum & Julie Goodbaum . . .** I'll definitely see you at **Lizzie's 14th Annual Fund-Raising Dinner,** at the Bob Abate Community Rec Centre on June 19th. Call me for tickets.

A special thanks to the wonderful and ubiquitous **Dr. Karen Mock,, National Director, League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada,** for keeping me up-to-date on their continued dedication to combatting racism, bigotry and anti-Semitism. Yasher koach old friend!!! . . . and speaking of **B'nai Brith,** the **LMO Lodge** with **Gary Starr, Countrywide Silverstarr Realty Inc.** (416) 218-1117 have a special charity golf tournament planned this summer to support **Reena** and B'nai Brith . . . July 31st at Glenway Golf Club. Since we broke this hot story other lodges have been calling your humble scribe to also assist REENA!!!

The Second Annual JNF/Reena Golf Tournament takes place June 18th at **Royal Woodbine Golf,** an 18-hole championship course . . . the home of **Terry Miskolczi,** "Canada's Golf Doctor". Register by calling **Lil Jacobson at** (416) 638-7200 and ash her about becoming a Golf Tee sponsor.

Recently, at **United Bakeries,** it was great talking to **Larry Berdugo (Independent Insurance & Financial Services), Harry Gorman (Wycliffe Int'l), Elaine Todres (Baycrest Foundation)** and **Sheila Engel** (spreading joy). I must ask **Carol Seidman** (Mount Sinai Foundation) about the prizes her lucky hubby **Peter** has won recently.

It was a pleasure having a "senior moment" with **Dr. Ellie Cass,** my all-time favourite mohel & wine expert and the much younger, **Jamie Slavens** at **Vito & Sam's,** hairdressers to the stars. We reminisced about our old friend and neighbour, **the late Glenn Gould.**

Good luck to **Rosalie Moscoe** . . . husband **Ray (TES)** is a fellow clown . . . on her new **"Health in Harmony",** wellness consulting.

Great hearing from **Symcha Brodt (Symcha Transportation Group)** about his receiving an internet message from **Mendel Brodt,** a long lost relative now in Uruguay.

Ask me about my shul friend (Adath Israel) & avid CJN reader, **Harry Rosenbaum (Great Gulf Homes)** and his stories about their neighbour, the EMERGENCY TASK FORCE.

Join **Heather Hoffman** & **Joel Cherry Weinberg,** Co-Chairs of **Ashkanaz Gala,** for a magical evening of "new Yiddish" music, literature, song and humour that, I'm sure, will surprise and delight you with its depth, power and joy . . . including appearances by: internationally acclaimed author, **Mordecai Richler;** renowned Yiddish violinist, **Alicia Svigals of the Klezmatics;** Master of Ceremonies, **Al Waxman;** Toronto's own **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band,** on **Monday, June 23rd, 1997** at **The Ford Centre for the Performing Arts Recital Hall.** All Gala patrons will receive a complimentery copy of: **Growing Up Jewish,** edited by **Rosalie Sharp, Irving Abella** and **Edwin Goodman. Linda Frum** just called to up-date me. Comedian **Sara Felder** from San Francisco has been added. For tickets call **Linda** at (416) 961-4840

Don't you love those great PANFINANCIAL ads in the CJN. It's always nice seeing **Nathan Disenhouse** about town.

Jerry Borins is the Capital Campaign Director for the Reena Foundation's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre, a highly visible, fully accessible facility located in the City of Vaughan. The Centre will ensure people with developmental handicaps realize their full potential. The $7.7 million campaign will be successfully completed in 1997, Call Jerry at (416) 787-9554 ext. 3074 to discuss your support and the dedication opportunities still available.

REENA ANNUAL DINNER RAISES RECORD AMOUNT

Over 1,000 friends and supporters of Reena attended last week's annual gala dinner/dance to pay tribute to Miles Nadal, president and CEO of MDC Corp. A record $800,000 was raised for the Reena Foundation. From left: foundation chair Ron Hoffman; Nadal; former federal finance minister Michael Wilson; and Gerald Wilks, Reena tribute committee co-chair. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Quality of family life stressed at JF&CS meeting

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A family's Jewish content is more important than the form the family takes, leading educator Arna Poupko told last week's annual meeting of Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS).

Today's Jewish family "may never again resemble the traditional" two-parent model, Poupko said. "Far greater" is the threat of Jewish content and commitment — or the lack of them — in the family, she warned.

Judaism and the Jewish people "can rise to the challenges of any form the family takes, but [they] will not be able to survive lack of content," said Poupko, who plays a leading role in Montreal's Jewish education scene.

"Far more important than who is fulfilling aspects of the Jewish home, is whether they are done," she said. "Given the facts on the ground, we need to work with content."

Delivering an optimistic assessment of the Jewish condition today, Poupko said a Jewish family, whatever it looks like, "needs rooting in charming, noble, dignified and poetic Jewish values... The reason Judaism is compelling is not just about religion. It's about business ethics, conduct, intimacy and a sense of obligation."

Poupko believes the Jewish family will survive "because the Jewish people will survive."

Even though JF&CS had a balanced operating budget in 1996, continuing and past government

Richard Cummings

budget cuts are hitting hard, said outgoing president Michael Bowman.

And 'social service agencies' budgets "will continue to be eroded when the needs of the community are at their highest."

The number of children in the care of JF&CS reached an all-time high last year at 97, the meeting was told. As well, the agency distributed $1.3 million to over 2,000 people living in poverty.

Last year, JF&CS investigated 425 allegations of child abuse, and 300 abused women received counselling and support. The Jewish community is not immune to violence against women and children, says the agency's annual report.

In all, JF&CS served 2,760 cases last year.

Executive director Gordon Wolfe said society as a whole is experiencing increasing family breakdown, fewer resources and "kids under siege... Every signal we're getting is demanding we focus on profound change," he said.

Richard Cummings was welcomed as the new president of JF&CS for a two-year term. New board members are Harry Blaier, Georgina Cannon, Elsa Chandler, Sharyn Salsberg Ezrin, Cliff Nelson and Susan Shainhouse.

Wolfe paid tribute to agency staffers Dorothy Gelfand, Elliott Larman and Dorothy Singer for their 25 years of service.

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Moderated by Avis Favaro, CTV News Health Reporter, COLON CANCER: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW takes place from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Mount Sinai Hospital's Ben Sadowski Auditorium, 600 University Avenue, Level 1B.

Featured Speakers:

Fran Berkoff
RD, Consultant Dietician/Nutritionist MSH

Dr. Ron Burkes
Acting Head, Division of Hematology/Oncology MSH

Lisa Droppo
Director of Quality Management and Patient Relations MSH

Dr. Steven Gallinger
Surgeon MSH and Scientist of Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 9 is deadline for June 19 issue and Monday, June 16, is deadline for June 26. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, June 7

BENEFIT CELEBRATION

Benefit celebration for Morris Winchevsky School and Camp Naivelt hosted by **Sharon and Joe Hampton,** featuring **Theresa Tova, Rhea Tregebov, Michael Wex, David Wall,** klezmer band Chutzpah!, Hartzedike Lider group, Walter Hall, Edward Johnson Building, University of Toronto, 80 Queen's Park. $25. 789-5502.

SHABBAT SERVICES

Danforth Jewish Circle, a progressive congregation in Riverdale area, Shabbat services with **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein**, 10 a.m., Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Ave. Child care provided. **Lisa** 463-1286 or **Anna-Rae** 465-8949.

YOM HA'ATZMAUT '97

Marco Ben-Shimon presents Yom Ha'atzmaut '97 and Jerusalem Day Celebration with Israeli folkdance choreographer **Danny Uziel**, 9 p.m., Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-771-0363.

SUNNYBROOK MINYAN

Sunnybrook Liberal minyan, 10 a.m.-to noon, kiddush following, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. Pastoral services, 480-4421.

Sunday, June 8

THE DYBBUK

Jewish Film Society screens the Yiddish classic, *The Dybbuk* , 4 and 7:30 p.m., at Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackman Hall. Single tickets go on sale 3:45 and 7:15 p.m. **Bill Emery** 924-6211.

FAMILY SHUL PICNIC

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Young Families Group picnic, pony rides, barbecue, drinks, crafts, lunch sold, relays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Irving Chapley Park, Elder Street. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441 or **Beth** 785-0338.

STORYTELLING & SONG

Storytelling and song for To Save a Life project to help six Afghan refugees with **Ritasue Fisher, Phyllis Angel Greenberg, Roberto Li Volsi**, 7:30 p.m., Darchei Noam Synagogue, B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. $12.50 at door or David Menelsohn 488-8393.

ISRAEL DAY FESTIVAL

Presented by Canadian Zionist Federation to celebrate the sights and sounds of Israel through family entertainment, music, dance, children's arts and crafts and more, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Mel Lastman Square. 633-3988.

DURHAM REGION

Jewish families of Durham region, a Jewish social group in Ajax, Pickering, Whitby and vicinity, celebrate Shavuot with a barbecue, fun and games for the entire family. RSVP 905-831-6508.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Come listen, come tell, 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

GIANT GARAGE SALE

Bargains galore in clothes, jeans, books, toys, shoes, at sale organized by Shachar chapter, Hadassah-WIZO, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., 10 Albion Close, Thornhill. **Freda** 905-731-0066 or **Lenore** 905-889-3865.

Monday, June 9

HUMAN RIGHTS

The annual Dr. Dorothy Sone and Abby J. Sone Memorial Lecture by **Prof. David Novak**, University of Toronto, on The Jewish Contribution to Human Rights, 8 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue.

LENKINSKI MEMORIAL

Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation second Louis Lenkinski Memorial Lecture, Canadian Jewry Reacts to the Holocaust by **Dr. Frank Bialystok**, 7:30 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

A NIGHT OF ADRENALIN

Shaarei Tefillah Congregation in

[Cont'd. on page 23]

IGA Kosher
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pkg. of 12
1.89

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, JUNE 1 UNTIL SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

conjunction with the Uptown Shul and NCSY, A Night of Adrenalin, all-night learning, Shavuot night, midnight-5 a.m. followed by services and breakfast. Men, women, teens invited.

ALL-NIGHT TORAHTHON

Celebrating the giving of the Torah on Shavuot, a traditional all-night Torahthon, Why Study All Night? Food for the Soul and Body, at Beth Tzedec Congregation in conjunction with Beth Haminyan, starting 8:45 p.m. with Minchah, Maariv service and closing 5:30 a.m. with Shacharit-Musaf service.

And What Else Is New

BIKE FOR BAYCREST

Raise funds for Baycrest Centre and be eligible for prizes at Bike for Baycrest, Sunday, June 15 (Father's Day), Seneca College's King City Campus. The 60 km event and the Corporate Challenge start at 9 a.m., the 14 km and 30 km routes at 10 and family events at 10:30. Sponsored by Baycrest's Leadership Development Group. Register 789-7438 or at site one hour prior to events.

STROKE RECOVERY EVENT

Bathurst Jewish Centre Stroke Recovery Group seventh annual banquet with dancing, entertainment, Wednesday, June 25, 6-9:30 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Trish Trojman** 636-1880.

BONDS TOUR TO ISRAEL

Israel Bonds North American New Leadership Delegation to Israel for young Jewish professionals, ages 28-42, July 6-16, offers exceptional privileges including trips to Israel Defence Forces bases, meetings with top government officials, opening ceremonies of the Maccabiah Games. Toronto delegation chair is **Gary Morris**. Registration/information, **Marcia Ross** 789-3351 or 1-800-771-9301.

ASHKENAZ GALA

Mordecai Richler, Al Waxman, Alicia Svigals (of the Klezmatics) and Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band are part of the line-up for the June 23 fundraiser for Ashkenaz '97 at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. $100. Ticketmaster 872-2222 or Ford Centre box office.

SURVIVORS CONFERENCE

Hidden Children/Child Survivors annual conference, Sept. 19-22, Miami, Fla. **Hanna** 635-2883, ext. 2883.

PROGRAM FOR TEENS

Jewish Family & Child Service and Learning Disabilities Association of York Region new program for teens who have difficulty with relationships. A group to develop improved social skills and self-esteem to be held in Promenade Mall at JF & CS office, beginning September. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform minyan is a group of liberal Jews which offers a warm, egalitarian worship service every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. (at Bloor), Room 204 upstairs. Everyone — singles, families and children of all ages welcome. A religious school for children also takes place. Next service is June 7.

ORAYNU SCHOOL

Oraynu Children's School is accepting applications for the 1997/98 school year. Fun instruction in Jewish history, culture and humanistic tradition, kindergarten to Grade 7. Classes begin September. **Naomi Boulton** 364-7002.

DICTIONARY

Harduf's Transliterated English-Yiddish and Yiddish-English Dictionary, 741 pages, Yiddish entries arranged according to English alphabet from A to Z, dedicated to the memory of Abraham Finkler. Authored by **David Harduf**, published by Israel Book Shop, Brooklyn, Mass. (fax 617-566-0006), and printed here in Toronto.

ARTISTS WANTED

Artists wanted for Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning Jewish Woman's Gallery, Sunday, Sept. 14. If you have ritual or Judaic objects you would like to promote, 905-764-1329.

YEDIDAY SHABBAT

Planning humanistic High Holy Day services which will include some traditional material. Services will proceed subject to adequate interest. 488-0688.

TORAH TO TEXTBOOK

Torah to Textbook in Toronto Exhibit, sponsored by Friends of the Sesquicentenial Museum, runs to Sept. 30 at Toronto Board of Education, 155 College St. Exhibit focuses on the Jewish community of Toronto and its contribution to education from the middle 1800s to the present. **Arlene Freeman** 630-3672 or **Bev Brophy** 762-4350.

TRIBUTE EVENING

Weizmann Women & Science evening of tribute to **Dr. Allan and Carol Gordon** Wednesday, June 18, 6 p.m., Sheraton Centre Grand Ballroom. Proceeds will establish the Carol and Allan Gordon Scholarship Fund in Women's Health Research at the Weizmann Institute of Science. 733-9220

BBQ & BOAT CRUISE

Thursday Night Out Group barbecue, boat cruise, fireworks competition, for people 26 years and up, Saturday, June 14, 7 p.m.-midnight. Partial proceeds go to Jewish Family & Child Service's Send a Kid to Camp. Tickets at Edwards Record World, 2359 Yonge St. Reserve **Jordana** 927-9818.

JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Bereavement Group, coping with grief, living alone, changing relationships, begins June 19; Living with Your Teens, realistic expectations, communication, appropriate consequences, begins June 16; Looking Ahead, loneliness, guilt, new relationships, begins June 17. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

LIZZIES OLDTIMERS

Lizzies Oldtimers Association fundraising dinner (the sun is rising on the new Lizzies), Thursday, June 19, at Bob Abate Community Recreation Centre, 485 Montrose Ave. (at Bloor W.) cocktails 5:30 p.m., dinner 7 p.m. $35. **Harvey Bronstine** 905-886-6580 or **Norm Cornack** 749-6735.

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 5, lecture, Netanyahu and Rabin by **Yehuda Marla**, shalich, Hashomer Hatzair; June 12, Shavuot, no activities. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Kingston July 15; boat farm Aug. 5; Ottawa Aug. 17-20 (7 kosher meals); eight-day deluxe trip to Catskills Homowak Hotel early September. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club: Stage West for *Shirley Valentine* June 25; Stratford for *Camelot* Sept. 3. Tickets at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. or call **Belle** 633-5841 or **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Niagara June 16; Oscardo factory June 25; Catskills Raleigh Hotel July 21-27; *Jolson* at Royal Alexandra Aug. 28; upcoming trips, Washington's Holocaust Museum and more, dates to be announced. 395-7881.

North York Senior Walkers Sunday morning walks in Metro Toronto parks at 9 a.m. Great walks, beautiful parks, enjoyable company, refreshments. 241-2932 or 244-1490

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Edith Altschuler discusses Jewish Artists of the 19th and 20th Centuries, 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 10. Members $1, non-member $3.

Parkinson's Support Group meets Tuesday, June 10, 1:15 p.m. **Ruth.**

Movie *Up Close and Personal* Sunday, June 8, 2:15 p.m.

Dance with Creative Band, Sunday, June 8, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m.Wednesdays. June 11 closed for Shavuot. **Anna**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Book now for your no stress September birthday party. The room, instructors, food, cake and loot bags are provided. Birthday party themes include crafts, sports, pool, Fun Centre. Ext. 248.

Toddler daycare spaces available in July. Summer schedule includes swim twice per week. Ext. 248.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

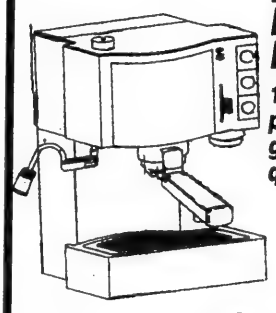
Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Thursday, June 5, 2 p.m., classic Yiddish film (1939) *Mirele Efros* with subtitles. Refreshments following; Thursday, June 19, visit to Redpath Sugar Museum, tour with talk on Redpath family and sugar production. Bring picnic lunch. Meet at Bloor JCC 9:15 a.m. or front gate of museum 9:45. Travelling by TTC. Reserve. **Judy**

ICRF OFFICERS

Israel Cancer Research Fund newly appointed officers: **Mark Liss**, president; **Nancy Fleisher**, vice-president; **Victor Seeman**, treasurer; **Annette Wine**, corporate secretary.

SHAARE ZEDEK GOLF TOURNAMENT

The seventh Shaare Zedek Hospital/Solursh Feldman & Partners Annual Open, Thursday, June 19, at Kleinburg Golf and Country Club. Proceeds to purchase equipment for Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the hospital in Jerusalem. From left: Bernie Abrams, national president, Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation, and co-chairs Stephen Caffrey, Evan Sone and Brad Fox. Absent is associate chair Mark Klingbaum. For information, Sheila Dropkin 781-3584.



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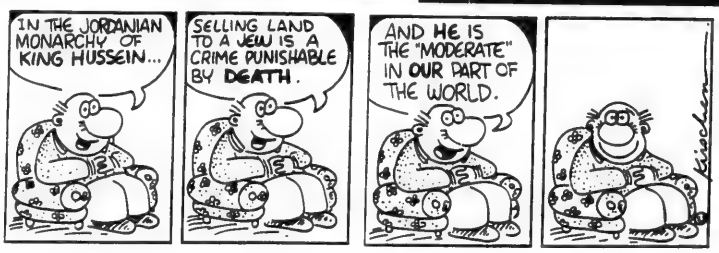

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Thursday & Friday	8 a.m.-10 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sunday	9 a.m.-6 p.m.

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

"יונת האהבה" - דבש לנשמה.

חוה אלברשטיין לא זקוקה לדברי פתיחה והיכרות. כולם מכירים אותה. בשנות הששים והשבעים היא היתה האורים והתומים של הזמר העברי. אחר כך, בסוף שנות השבעים, באו ועלו זמרים וזמרות חדשים עם סגנונות חדשים ובמשך שנים ארוכות לא הצליחה להחדיר שירים חדשים לתודעה הכללית. כולם המשיכו לשיר את שיריה הישנים, אך החדשים נשכחו תקליט אחרי תקליט. ואני דווקא מצאתי את תקליטיה משנות השמונים הולכים ומשתבחים. בשנות השמונים הוציאה את התקליט "מהגרים" שכתבה בו את כל הטקסטים. השירים היו רגישים ונפלאים ועסקו בהרגשתם של מהגרים בכל מקום בעולם. אחר-כך בא תקליט "לונדון" המאוד מצליח ששוב הביא לתודעה את האופי הכל-כך רגיש שלה. עכשיו אני מקשיב ל"יונת האהבה", תקליט מומלץ כמתנה למי שאתם אוהבים באמת. שירים של התפכחות, על קושי החיים, על הנחמה שבאהבה, ובעיקר - שירים של אישה בת חמישים שלא מנסה להיראות ולהישמע בת עשרים. זה כל כך יפה , כי זמרים וזמרות מזדקנים הרבה פעמים מנסים להתחנחן לבני עשרים בסלנג שלהם, בקצבים שלהם. יש שם שיר אחד נפלא על ספינת דיוגים שחותרת בלילה, ועליה "דיוגים קשי יום", ובים "דגים קלי לילה", "ומותו של זה הוא חייו של זה"".

חוה אלברשטיין בת חמישים פלוס - ממש דבש לנשמה, ממש מרק עוף למוח.

"חיי אהבה"

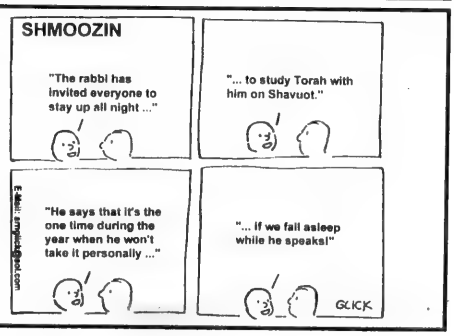
בין כל הז'אנרים שהתפתחו בישראל בשנים האחרונות בולט סגנון כתיבה נשי, תוקפני, כאילו להגיד - אנחנו לא שונות מהגברים. אל תבינו לא טוב - יש הרבה כתיבה נשית נפלאה (בתיה גור, שולמית הר-אבן ורבות אחרות) אבל הספר הכי מדובר בישראל עכשיו ושנחטף כמו לחמניות הוא דווקא מהסוג הראשון. "חיי אהבה" הוא שם מטעה, כי אין בספר שום אהבה, אלא אם התכוונה הסופרת לתרגם מאנגלית ''לעשות אהבה'', שהיא כמובן פעולה גופנית שאינה בהכרח מלווה באהבה. הספר עוסק באשה בעירה, נשואה מבית טוב, שפוגשת בבית הוריה גבר בן ששים, חבר נעורים של אביה. פגישה מקרית זו מעוררת בה מיד סקרנות ומשיכה אל הגבר שאת סופה אתם יכולים לתאר לעצמכם. הכתיבה עצמה רהוטה, מעניינת, בלשון פשוטה ולא חגיגית אבל מעשיה של אותה צעירה יכולים לאכלס סרט כחול ממוצע. ואין שם אהבה, אין אפילו משיכה, הכל עניין של השפלה, עינוי והלקאה, ואין אתה מבין מה עניין שמיטה למיטה. בקיצור - אין שום הגיון במעשים. כמובן אפשר לומר "טוב, אבל הסופרת התכוונה למשהו יותר עמוק", מצטער חיפשתי ולא מצאתי. תגידו - טוב, בטח סופרת סוג גימל. לא ולא! צרויה שלו היא כלת פרס ראש הממשלה לשנת 1996. בקיצור: ראו הוזהרתם. (הוצאת כתר, 1997)

סוף היהדות החילונית?

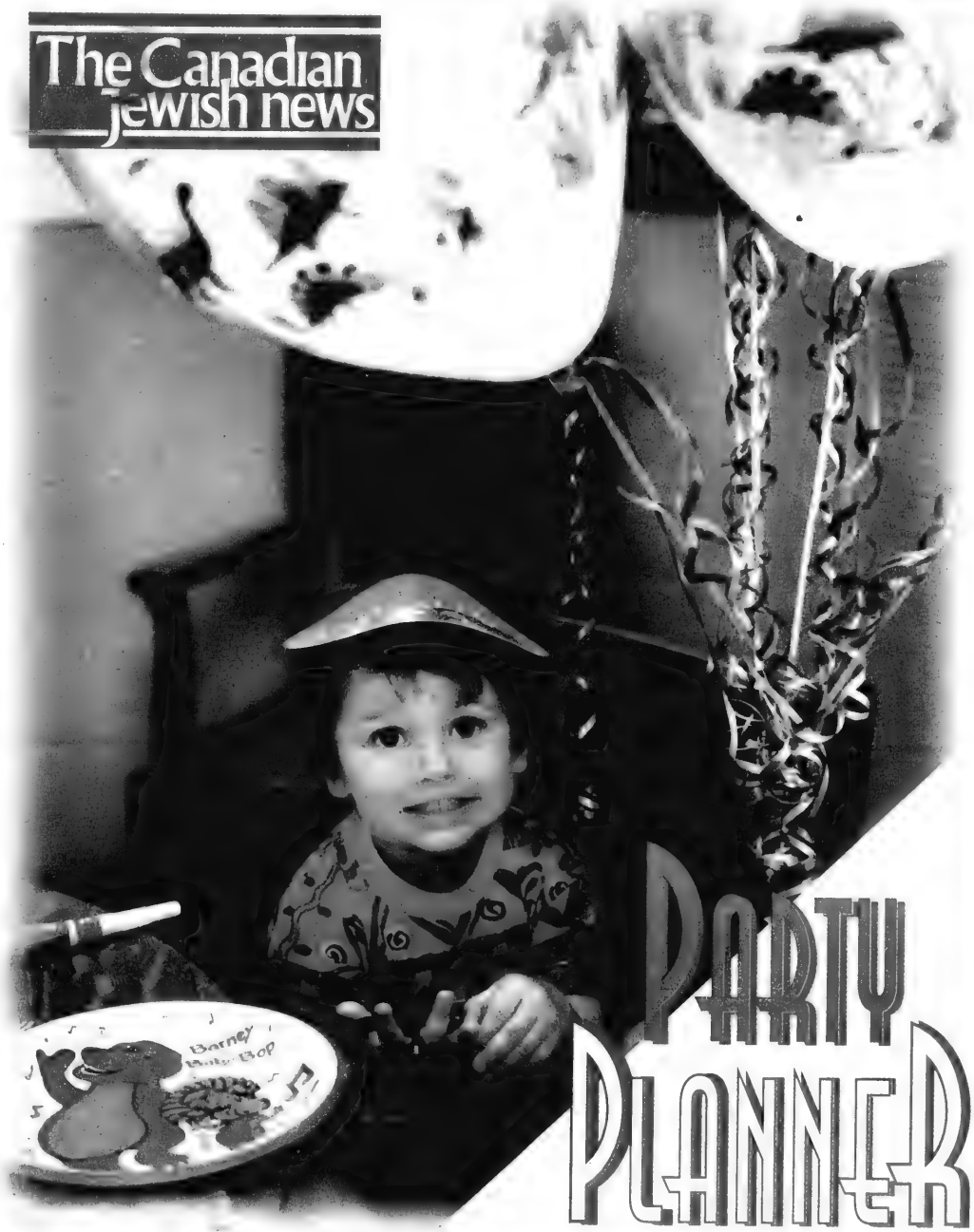
נחום רוול (Ravel) מגיב על הטור של 24 באפריל, שבו דיברתי על ההתבוללות של ילדיהם של ישראלים חילוניים: "לדעתי ליהדות חילונית יש עתיד רק במדינת ישראל". מה דעתכם!

משהו טוב לחגים:

אם יש לכם ילדים שמנגנים פסנתר, או אם אתם מנגנים פסנתר בעצמכם ובא לכם להשתמש בו לחזור למקורות שלכם, יש לי משהו חדש בשבילכם: צבי טאוב, מוסיקאי מקומי, הוציא חוברת של שירי חגים לפסנתר, עם עיבודים מאוד קלים ויפים. אצלנו כמו אצלכם חוגגים את חגי ישראל עם שירים. אם יש לכם פסנתר - החוברות האלה יעשו לכם את החג! (בהוצאת Formats and Bytes).



The Canadian Jewish news



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CONSULTANTS

Heidi Gruenspan 12
Judy Stein Consultant 15
Lynne Meredith Elkind 27
Marla Kay 29
Raquel Sananes-Grad 15
Risa Gold (Oziel) 24
Sarah Cherry 8

DECOR

Artistic Creations 10
Happy Days 15
Ka-boom Special Events 23
Perlit Novelties 33

ESTHETICS

Beauti Control-Sandra Meleca 27
Kim Abrams 26
Marla Baker Make Up Artist 24

FASHION

Adele Wechsler 24
Beatties 12
Celebration Shoes 8
Edith's Fashions 35
Hat Box, The 29

FLORISTS

Designs By Karen Baker 24
Dozen Roses 32
Floral Studio, The 22
Greenleaves & Petals 16
Van Bassen Flowers 17

GIFTS

Karats Fine Jewellery 9
Marvellous Mess 14
Needle Art 9

INTERACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Freedom of Sound 13
Ka-boom Interactive Parties Inc. 20

INVITATIONS

Barbara Mortfield Invitations 32
Elegant Invitations 14
Heather Hennick - Original Invitations 20
Invitation House 10
Main Event, The 25
Muroff Impressions 27
Printed Word, The 15
Stationery Plus/Gilda Lefton 12

KETUBOT

Ketubah, Haftorah by Karny Vorona 15
Ketubah Ketubah 6

MISCELLANEOUS

Collage Creations 8
Eva Goldfinger, Jewish Clergy 27
Iceculture Inc. Ice Sculptures 27
Magic of Jason Palter, The 26
Rinx, The 13

ONE STOP PARTY SHOPS

Kosher & Natural Foods 33
Liteworks Novelties Inc. 11
Party Supply Depot 22

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Horvath Photography 15
Mark Stern Photography 26
Nathan Borenstein Photography 20
Party Shots 25
Photography by Isaac 32
Photos By Arnold 33
Signature Photography 5
Stuart Moscoe Photography 33
Sylman Photography 4

PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS

Outback Jack 8
Tri-Versa-Global 31

MUSIC

A Starsband Production 4
Aqiita & Friends 20
Ambiance Flute and Guitar Duo 25
Boris Neiman 24
Fabulous Harvey Seigel Band/Speak Easy Jazz Band 7
Fern Lindzon Piano & Vocals 26
Hu-Tsa-Tsa Klezmer Band 24
Ivory & Silver Piano/Flute Duo 17
Kenny Simon Band, The 25
Kloda Productions 3
Larry Rodness Orchestra, The 33
Mandell Entertainment Group 18/19
Mickey Lewin Band 26
Mila Kanev Band, The 23
Mister Disc Jockey 36
Murray Alter & His Orchestra 14
Nu-Rhythm Band 31
Paramount Entertainment 21
Paul Zurin Orchestra, The 10
Russ Myers Band, The 27
Shelley Miller Band, The 16
Shelly Ovdat 17
Stan Hiltz Orchestra, The 22
Times Square Entertainment Group 29

RENTALS

Aurora Party Rentals 24
Chair Decor etc. 22
Chair-man Mills 13
D & D Rent-All 33
Higgins Party Rentals 26

VIDEO

ABC Video Productions 20
D.M.S. Video Productions 9
Images International 8
Redstone Pictures 24
Twins Photo Video 12
Video Affairs 14
Video Excellence 31
Video Productions By Josh 29

Food Glorious Food

FOOD/CATERERS

Centre Street Deli 14
Malmar Fine Foods & Catering* 27
Paradise Banquet Centre* 32
Partners Catering Inc. 6
Rose Lazar Catering Services* 8
Sonny Langer's Vegetarian Dairy Catering .20
Tri Elm Catering* 31

FOOD/WHERE TO PARTY

Acqua Ristorante & Bar 29
Atlantis Complex 16
Baycrest Hospitality Services* 16
Beth Radom/Freda Tobler* 20
Elmwood Banquet and Meeting Centre 23
Estates of Sunnybrook 17
Jacobs Catering Ltd.* 23
Marriott Eaton Centre 6
Medieval Times 10
Novotel North York Hotel 12
O Mei Restaurant 13
Ontario Science Centre 34
Pickle Barrel 28
Rock 'n Diner, The 14
Royalton Banquet & Convention Centre, The* .25
Scaramouche Restaurant Pasta Bar & Grill 25
Sutton Place Hotel, The 7

FOOD/SPECIALTY

Chocolate Charm* 17
Chocolate Moose, The* 8
Levitt's Kosher Foods Inc.* 7
Open Window Bakery 9
United Distillers 34

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PARTY PLANNER

Celebration Showcase a must see

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Consult the experts, sample great food and hear some of the best bands and DJs at Celebration Showcase '98, Le Parc, Markham, Nov. 18, 4 to 10 p.m.

Produced by Beryl McLeod and Raphy Amar, president and owner of Beverly Hills Caterers, the exclusive kosher caterer at Le Parc, the showcase is a must-see for anyone planning a simchah.

"This show includes professionals from every aspect of party planning including florists, photographers and videographers, limousine drivers, musicians and decorators. As well, it will introduce people to our kosher catering services and give them the opportunity to see the banquet halls available when they plan their party with us," says Amar.

Trade show includes pros of all types

The show, which is free of charge, "will give visitors a chance to see how we set up our sweet tables including fruit carvings and ice carvings. We want them to see what we're all about."

Beverly Hills Caterers is under supervision of the Kashruth Council, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, (COR). In addition, Le Parc's kitchen has "state-of-the-art facilities and equipment that allow it to serve from 200 to 2000 people," Amar says.

Hors d'oeuvres, some of which visitors to the showcase will sample, include the traditional, such as potato knishes, sweet and sour meatballs and potato latkes; Italian, such as mini pizza with grilled chicken, fried zucchini fingers and tomato and pesto; or Chinese, such as mini-egg rolls with plum sauce, beef teriyaki or tempura vegetables.

Pasta dishes will also be sampled, says Amar, and some of Beverly Hills' specialties include fettuccini, spaghettini and bow tie pasta in such sauces as bolognese, basil pesto sauce, veal sauce, or sun dried tomatoes, pesto and pinenuts.

Amar also offers a variety of dinner entrées ranging from roast prime rib eye of beef au jus and roast brisket of beef with mushroom sauce to rack of lamb aux fines herbes, stuffed rock cornish hen with wild rice and Atlantic salmon or fresh red snapper.

"Visitors can peruse our menus, talk to us and air some concerns at the party show. People today just do not have the time to shop around. The purpose of this show is to present everything to them under one roof and let them chat with various people about their party needs. It also gives our exhibitors an opportunity to show their stuff. It's a winning formula," Amar says.

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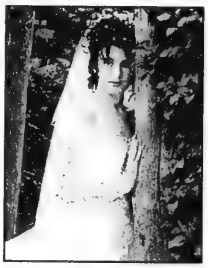
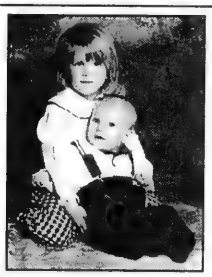

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PARTY PLANNER

Making in-laws disappear (and other neat tricks!)

By SIMONE JOSEPH
CJN Staff

He can make your bat mitzvah girl float in the air. He can saw your groom in half. He can even make your in-laws disappear.

Jason Palter, a ventriloquist and magician, (410-JSON (5766)) provides entertainment for celebrations such as bnei/bnot mitzvah and anniversary parties.

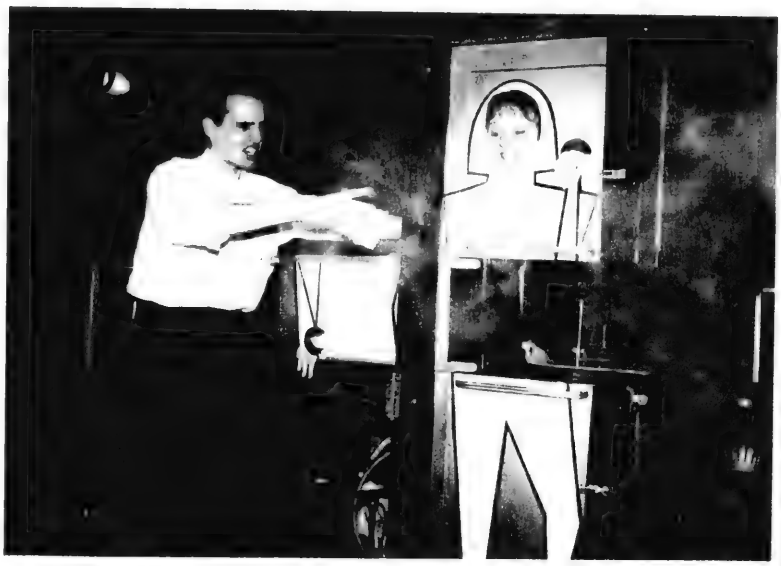
Each performance is a light-hearted, comedic show, whether it's for kids, adults or a business crowd. "It is more of a comedy as opposed to a serious, glitzy Las-Vegasy type show", he says.

According to Palter, some people want to spice up their simchahs with something unique because "they're all the same...They have the speeches, they have the dancing, they have the dinner or the lunch — that's it. It's the '90's. People are looking for something different," he says.

Palter's performances range from close-up magic, which involves performing small-scale magic tricks such as card, coin and rope tricks, to stage shows which include lots of audience participation and may incorporate large-scale magic illusions and ventriloquism.

Stage shows tend to be 20 to 30 minutes long while close-up magic, which works well with larger audiences, is based on an hourly rate and can last from one to four hours.

Palter says it is important to remember an audience's attention span. "I always leave them wanting more and I always want people to say 'wow that was good, we want him back.'"



Jason Palter cuts a trusting (and perhaps non-paying) client in half. (Just kidding!)

Bnei/bnot mitzvah or wedding packages start at approximately $175. Cost is based on such things as type of performance (close-up or stage magic), length, customization (Does something special have to be designed or constructed for the show?), size of the audience or travelling time.

Palter's shows often focus on the guest of honor. Recently, he performed at a bat mitzvah and did a half-hour show of comedy, magic, mentalism and interaction with the audience, which ended with the illusion of a floating bat mitzvah girl.

For an upcoming wedding, the bride-to-be has asked Palter to create the illusion of sawing her groom in half and putting him back together.

He often custom-designs tricks. For a bar mitzvah boy, he might play a card trick in which he predicts which card the boy will choose. When he takes the card out of his pocket it has a mazel tov message and it is dated and signed. He has also been known to make a bride or a birthday boy appear on stage.

Palter will perform for almost

[Cont'd on page B27]

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PARTY PLANNER

Party favors make personalized gifts

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Choosing party favors for your bar mitzvah guests does not have to be a daunting task says Lou Hoffer, who owns Tri-Versa-Global with Steven Levitt (905-771-6494).

In business for 10 years, the pair specialize in imprinting over 30,000 promotional products ranging from mousepads and baseballs to mugs, frisbees and water bottles.

"The days of offering only shirts and boxer shorts as take-home gifts are over," says Hoffer. "Hosts need to shop according to their budget, and we have something to suit everyone."

Levitt, the resident graphic artist, is equipped with a computer system complete with color scanner, says Hoffer, so that all gifts are personalized on the premises. "There is a faster turn-around this way. Clients can come in, choose their gifts and have the artwork done quickly."

The showroom is so jam-packed, he says, it takes at least an hour to inspect everything the company offers. "We've even done personalized, embroidered robes as a bride's gift to her bridesmaids."

Hoffer and Levitt are happy to work with party planners so that they can choose gifts according to a party theme.

Outback Jack (top) and Tri-Versa Global (left) offer lots of ideas for party favors.

"If the party is revolved around a beach theme, for instance, we can provide personalized beach balls."

Hoffer says that although they can provide gifts at the last minute, he suggests coming in at least four weeks in advance to ensure that there is time to have the artwork checked. "We make sure everything is perfect before it goes out the door."

Cartoon fans will love a personalized print of Outback Jack (530-9551) and his family, involved in a variety of activities.

Distributor Mark Litman says the "family-oriented cartoon characters come complete with the parents and four children in a variety of poses. One scene has the family in the bathtub. The towels are monogrammed with the guest's or bar mitzvah boy's name."

Litman comes to a party with the various prints set up on a velcro board and he personalizes each one by computer.

"The guests just love it. It's something they'll hang on their wall and have forever," he says.

A unique idea, says Litman, is to order the prints ahead of time and use them as place settings.

The prints can come in an acrylic, gold or silver metal or matted frame. "Hosts can choose before the party or they can give their guests a choice. Everything depends on their budget."

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PARTY PLANNER

Kenny brings experience to Ruffles Hair Design

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

When it comes to hair color Kenny has seen it all.

With more than 30 years of experience, Kenny the hair technician at Ruffles Hair Design (226-3205), located at 5997 Bathurst St., just south of Steeles Avenue, says the basic method of dying hair hasn't changed that much since 1966 when he began working.

"The chemicals are basically the same. Bleach is bleach. Color is color."

But ideas and techniques have changed, he adds. "Now highlights are done on natural-colored hair. They're done on any kind of hair."

He says that temporary color that lasts six to eight weeks before fading is relatively new. Temporary color can hide grey streaks, but a permanent with dye is needed to cover hair that's gone all grey, he notes.

Kenny uses a vegetable-based dye without ammonia and "strange chemicals" – it's been on the Canadian market four to five years – for covering grey hair.

Bleaching makes the hair more porous so that it absorbs color more easily, he explains. Generally he recommends touching up the roots every four weeks.

As for perms the new ones are much milder and it's possible to perm any kind of hair, but one must still be careful when applying color to permed hair to avoid damaging the hair, he says.

Hair color goes in and out of fashion. This year Kenny says that red, copper, gold and earth colors are very popular and shading done with highlights is also a trend.

He advises brides to look as natural as possible on the big day. They can add a few highlights or temporary color to enhance their natural color. He also suggests that brides wear their hair long because it's more feminine.

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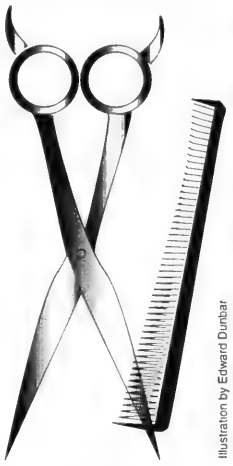

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Mandell Entertainment launches own web-site

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Corey Mandell, one of the most popular DJs among the pre-teen set, is considered by some to be king of Toronto's bar mitzvah party circuit.

Mandell has parlayed his popularity into a successful party entertainment business offering a variety of services which include interactive DJs, dancers, party planning and decor.

The Mandell Entertainment Group, (905-886-4000) now in its sixth year, is one of the largest DJ companies in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), employing more than 100 full- and part-time staff. The number of staff has tripled in the last three years, Mandell notes.

He recently expanded operations across the country, opening satellite offices in Montreal, Calgary and Vancouver and now he's poised to penetrate the international market via cyber-space. This month he'll be officially launching an interactive Web site called the Party Network [http://www.thepn.com].

"We're offering a virtual party planning site for the bar and bat mitzvah market," he says. "The site runs 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"People can go on line and research different elements for their party. We've listed photographers, DJs, bands, halls, decorators florists.

By clicking onto the names of the people and companies listed on the Entertainment Network, users will be able to access their Web sites and get a more in-depth appreciation of what the companies have to offer, Mandell says.

"There's unlimited information on line."

Provides tips on party topics

He's been testing out the network for a year and so far there have been 8,000 visits to the site, he says.

The Party Network provides tips on such topics as party planning, candlelighting and theme decorating. People can ask questions on line and a party consultant answers 10 of the most asked "generic" questions every week, Mandell says.

Mandell Entertainment also has its own Web site with a photo gallery. It can be reached at [http://www.mandelldj.com] and "has had thousands of hits" (people who clicked on his site), he notes.

He also has a unique offer for the b'nei mitzvah children who use Mandell Entertainment for their parties: Each of them will get their own Web page through Mandell's site for three months prior to the big event.

They can leave messages for friends and people can RSVP for the party through e-mail hook up, Mandell explains. His staff will be editing the pages before any information is posted, he adds.

While bnei/bnot mitzvah are its mainstay, Mandell Entertainment also gets more than 100 bookings a year for corporate and special events, he says.

"Some corporations heard about us through the grapevine and took a chance on us. We've held on to those contracts year after year."

During the summer when the bar mitzvah business is slow, Mandell's DJs tour predominantly Jewish summer camps north of Toronto. They'll also be touring in Quebec this summer.

Roots sponsors these tours. Roots owners Michael Budman and Don Green " thought it would be a great idea to give something back to the kids," Mandell said.

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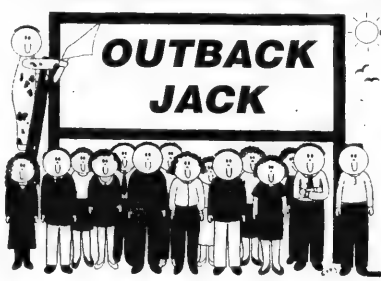

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PARTY PLANNER

Vegetarian cookbooks reflect global diversity

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Whether you eat to live or live to eat, a cookbook is always a useful addition around the kitchen.

The cookbooks under review, whose accent is on vegetarianism, reflect the diversity of our global village.

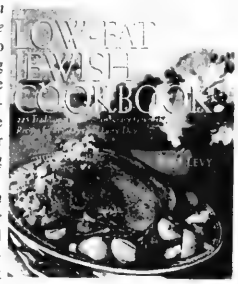
The Jewish Vegetarian Year Cookbook (Micah Publications, $24), written by Roberta Kalechofsky and Rosa Rasiel, caters to the needs of readers who have definitely forsaken meat. The authors are knowledgeable and their recipes are easy to follow. This is food that shmecks.

The Low-Fat Jewish Cookbook (Crown Publishers, $24.95 US) debunks the myth that kosher fare is fattening. Faye Levy offers delicious, low-fat versions of 225 classic favorites and contemporary dishes for everyday cooking, holidays and entertainment.

Matthew Biggs's Complete Book of Vegetables (Raincoast Books, $29.95) is an all-in-one book which offers sound advice on cultivating and cooking vegetables. Complemented by more than 500 beautifully reproduced color photographs, this sumptuous book contains some 200 recipies.

Veggies will be pleased with the new series of elegant and lavishly-illustrated vegetarian cookbooks distributed by Raincoast Books of Vancouver.

The Vegetarian Table: America ($29.95), written by Deborah Madisop, is inspired by time-honored regional cooking which any cook can add to his/her repertoire. The 75 delectable dishes here run the gamut from soups and salads to entrees.



The Vegetarian Table: France ($26.95) brings to life the tantalizing cuisine of the French countryside. Georgeanne Brennan is your guide to dining with savoir faire.

The Vegetarian Table: Italy ($24.95) covers all the bases, including antipasti, first courses and main courses and side dishes. Julia Della Croce's book can turn a meal into a feast.

The Vegetarian Table: Mexico ($24.95) draws on pre-Columbian and Spanish culinary traditions. Victoria Wise shows you how to work magic with vegetables, grains and fruits.

The Vegetarian Table: North Africa ($29.95) is redolent of cinnamon, saffron and ginger, several of the major spices which grace Maghreb food. Kitty Morse introduces readers to such mouth-watering dishes as cheese puffs, spinach phyllo cigars, Algerian chili and couscous with dried fruit.

Thai food, which is increasingly popular in the West, is based on fresh ingredients and exotic flavors, as you will learn when you delve into *Charmaine Solomon's Thai Cookbook* (Raincoast Books, $24.95). This first-rate guide to Thailand's flavorful cuisine is supplemented by graphically enticing photographs.

Herbs, be they basil, coriander or parsley, add zest to any meal. In *Jekka's Complete Herb Book* (Raincoast Books, $19.95), Jekka McVicar, an authority in the field, explains how to grow a herb garden and how to seamlessly blend herbs into a wide variety of inventive dishes.

The Penguin Book of Food and Drink (Penguin, $32.99), edited by Paul Levy, is an anthology of astonishingly fine writing on gastronomy. For example: Claudia Roden writes stylishly on Middle Eastern food. Nobel Prize laureate Elias Canetti describes the heady aromas of fresh bread. Edward Behr ruminates on the goodness of salt. Richard Olney rhapsodizes about wine and cooking. A.J. Liebling explores the joys of a good palate.

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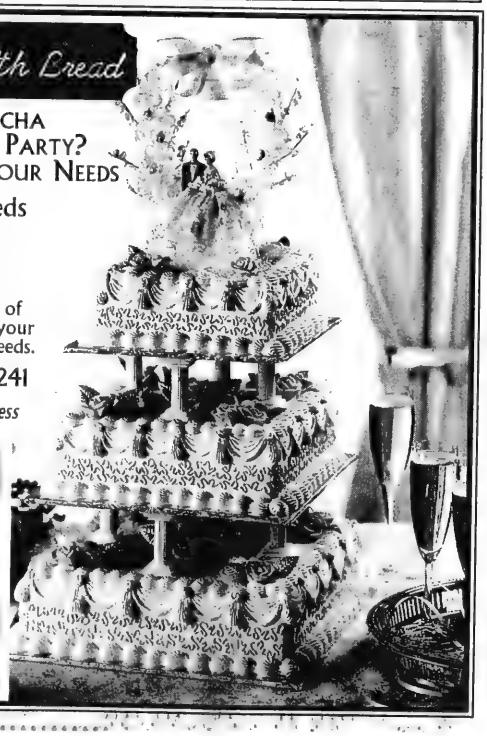

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PARTY PLANNER

Use referrals when choosing a kosher caterer

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

How do you choose a kosher caterer? Joe Elmaleh of King Solomon's Table (416-630-0303), Linda Sugar of Adath Catering (416-638-6522) and Sari Gorman of GMB Culinary Productions (416-322-3279) all offer tips on making a wise choice.

Use referrals from friends as a guide, Sugar says, but you should also get references from other professionals who work with caterers, like photographers.

To make a decision, come taste for yourself, says Elmaleh. Clients should shop around and make the competition work to their advantage.

All three caterers agree that quality of product and service means not only kashrut and nutrition, but variety and style of presentation, as well as respect for diet consciousness and allergies. Chefs today must be more inventive, Elmaleh says.

Food is both the most important item at your simchah, says Elmaleh, and the most costly, but it should be accompanied by good service. Your caterer should take as much care in assigning the wait staff, as in preparing the food. Insist on quality service regardless of budget.

Be more innovative

Older companies have a longer track record and more experience. On the other hand, says Gorman, a new company may be more receptive to new ideas. Elmaleh and Sugar find that competition is spurring older caterers to be more innovative.

Many synagogue caterers, Sugar says, have operated for generations; they are often family businesses where the children have learnt from the parents. These caterers don't over-book, they have fine silver and other amenities. Moreover, the revenue stays within the community. Using a shul-affiliated caterer at another locale is also fairly reliable, she adds.

A spread produced by GMB Culinary Productions.

An in-house caterer with their own hall, Gorman notes, will have everything available where you need it. This is important, especially in cool weather. In the summer, you can choose your venue more creatively. Weddings, Sugar says, are still mainly in shuls. Bnai mitzvah are more likely to be held in different kinds of venues.

Besides rapport between caterer and client, Gorman values good working relationships with florists, decorators and other professionals at a simchah. This helps your event run smoothly, and encourages more innovation in things like floral design and overall ambience.

Of course, you also want flexibility. This includes dealing with common demands like separate menus for kids and adults, as well as the ability to cater any event from an informal picnic to an elegant garden wedding.

Sugar emphasizes personal attention to detail and advises looking for a caterer who stays at your function until it is over.

She recommends booking weddings six to nine months ahead, or as soon as you make the engagement; bnai mitzvah, two to three years, or 18 months for non-members.

For busy summer dates, says Gorman, book six months ahead, and allow for up to four consultations, depending on your event. Booking two years ahead is not too soon, Elmaleh says, for a simchah as big as a wedding, but don't complete plans for the menu till a month or six weeks before.

Other kosher caterers advertising in this Planner are:
Malmar Fine Foods & Catering 416-638-0091
Paradise Banquet Centre 416-661-6612
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PARTY PLANNER

It all begins with an invitation

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Give your guests a glimpse of the party weeks before the actual event.

"An invitation sets the scene," says Renee Cons-Rosenzweig, owner of The Main Event, (638-9373). "When people open that envelope they get a feeling for what is coming," she says.

Cons-Rosenzweig, who sells invitations from over 30 catalogues, says that when people come to see her, they often have no idea what they want.

"First on the agenda is budget. When we get an idea what they can spend, then we proceed."

Flipping through up-to-date catalogues, clients get a feel for the latest trends, she says.

"Popular now are the plastic see-through cards, written in silver and adorned with sparkles. They portray a light, cheerful mood. We are also seeing a lot of different shapes.

"Bar mitzvah invitations tend to be more colorful and trendy, while brides seem to stick to the more traditional. They often choose white or ivory fold-over cards, written in black. Of course, there are also a variety of textures or embossed borders. There is really no end to the creativity that can be put into an invitation."

Marla Kamin, a graphic designer and owner of Elegant Invitations (963-8813), does her own calligraphy and says that it "adds something special to the whole package. When people receive an envelope that is written in an elegant script, they know the type of party they will be attending. Even a plain, white card, if it comes in an envelope lined in fuchsia, can make a statement.

"People can go all out or keep things nice and simple. A fun thing to do is to reflect the theme of the bar mitzvah on the invitation. A sports theme for instance, can have baseballs or logos on the invitation.

"A small budget does not have to stand in the way of a classic invitation," she stresses.

Kamin, who also has a variety of catalogues, says that clients need not stick to one invitation from the book. "We can base our ideas on the book, but take something from one invitation, something else from another, until we have a product with which everyone is happy."

Cons-Rosenzweig suggests that people order their invitations at least three months in advance because "there has to be time allowed for processing. Invitations should go out at least six weeks before the party."

And above all, she says, "when you see a proof, check it, check it, and check it again. If you find something you want to change, you want to find it in the proof."

Other invitation designer/printers advertising in this Planner are:

Barbara Mortfield Invitations 905-738-1232

Heather Hennick-Original Invitations.....905-881-5736

Invitation House 416-593-0519

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Printed Word, The ..416-484-4600

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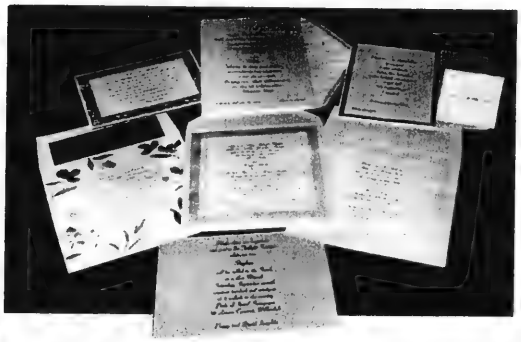

Invitation samples from Elegant Invitations (top) and The Main Event (bottom).

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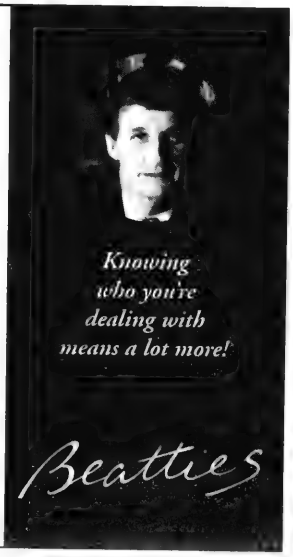

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PARTY PLANNER

Consultants take care of all those little details

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

The party consultant could be called the one-stop party shop.

"Come to see me when you decide to give a party and I can take everything from there – from the first phone call until the guests leave at the end of the evening," says Raquel Sananes-Grad (398-0217).

A "born organizer," Sananes-Grad says that she has two types of clientele. "I can provide an initial consultation and steer them in the right direction or I can remain with them every step of the way. People can use as much or as little of my services as they require. I can be many things to many people."

Having a trouble-shooter when planning a simchah can relieve hosts of a lot of unnecessary stress, she says.

"I had one client who ordered invitations that did not require envelopes. When it came time to address them, however, they realized that the invitations could not go through a laser printer.

"After panicking, she approached me and I suggested having labels printed and put on the invitations. It was a simple thing but it put my client's mind at ease knowing I was looking after the problem."

Another time, she says, she saw a florist unloading flowers at the synagogue and realized immediately that they were bringing the wrong order. "I took care of the mix-up and the bridal party never found out. It was just one less thing to worry about.

"A bride goes through a lot of mixed emotions and taking care of small details is the last thing she needs. That is exactly what I am there for. A missing seating card or a rip in a bridesmaid's dress may be a small thing for me to fix, but for the bride, it seems enormous. I come to the wedding with everything, including my kitchen sink, and I am prepared for any event."

Choreographing the wedding day is something else the bridal party needn't have to worry about, Sananes-Grad says. "I am there from morning until the sweet table opens. I am with the bride when she dresses, when she is having her makeup applied and throughout the photography session.

"I provide the professionals with an outline of the evening and I make sure it is flowing smoothly. The band leader knows when to play the wedding song, when to break for dinner, when to play the horah and when to announce the speeches. I also make sure the photographer is taking the right pictures, the caterer is running on time – I don't leave anything to guesswork. When I'm there, the hosts can enjoy their own party."

Other consultants advertising in this Planner are:

Heidi Gruenspan 905-738-5030
Judy Stein Consultant .....
.....905-764-2728
Lynne Meredith Elkind .....
.....416-487-5334
Marla Kay 905-882-2042
Risa Gold (Oziel) ..905-882-5044

Singers generate good vibrations

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Entertainment is one key to a successful simchah and a feature which adds to the entertainment is a singer.

The vibes generated by good music are contagious, evoking tears and laughter. While electronics can eliminate the need to hire a big band for a large party, it can't replace the voice.

If you plan to hire a singer, Boris Neiman (905-889-3643), and Aelita of Aelita and Friends (222-7573), have some tips for you.

You can put some trust in a reputation, because it takes plenty of time and work to build. References and referrals from friends give some idea where to start looking but ultimately, says Aelita, the singer's style and repertoire have to please you.

Hear a prospective singer live, Boris insists. Stage presence matters as much as the voice. Tapes and videos can be edited and a reputable singer will suggest venues where you can audition them.

While a singer needs talent and charm, hard work is equally important, Aelita says. So is the right combination of love for one's work, business sense, and the capacity to have fun

For the singer, as it is for you, your simchah should be both a joint venture and a labor of love.

The singer should be flexible, work well with musicians and other entertainers as well as people such as caterers and party managers, and be able to integrate their role with every other aspect of the event.

Tact matters too. At a wedding, for example, a singer has to take into consideration the tastes of two extended families.

[Cont'd on page B15]

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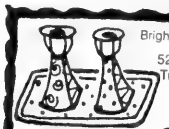

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The perfect band sets the perfect party mood

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

For a successful simchah, choose your band with care. Paul Zurin of the Paul Zurin Band (905-770-3084) ranks the band as high as the caterer. David Buchbinder of the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band (416-703-6894) believes that music does more than anything else to make the mood of a simchah.

With so many more bands than there once were, it's hard to choose. Buchbinder emphasizes the importance of knowing in advance what you and your guests want. Are you planning an elegant affair, a bang-out party or something in between? If you want a specific band, or have specific tastes, you already have a good idea where to look, Zurin points out.

Most bands get their business from people who already know them. If they've been around a long time, they're probably legitimate, with plenty of experience and good references. Even so, read the whole contract before you sign, to avoid misunderstandings.

Zurin and Buchbinder agree there are different ways to assess the band. Hearing them at a party is good, but how will they sound at *your* event? On the other hand, if you hear a tape, you'll still want to know how they sound live.

Zurin advises looking for a diverse repertoire and a band leader who's open to fresh ideas. Also, look at the band's talent as a whole, more than individual musicians' excellence. They are there to provide fine dance music, so individual musicianship takes a back seat.

Buchbinder, for his part, distinguishes between a function band and a performance band. At most simchahs, the band is not the centre of attention. Its function is to play background music at dinner, and dance music later. Performers, on the other hand, are the centre of attention for a set or two.

The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band.

Band members must work well with each other, with other party professionals such as the caterer and videographer — and of course, with you. Consideration for your needs is paramount, but while you are the ultimate boss, you need input from the band leader to make things work well.

A good leader should radiate confidence. And though one of his tasks is to keep you comfortable, he should also be up front with you about unexpected developments (for example, if the lead guitarist takes ill, or a piece of equipment is not working).

Get value for your dollar, advises Zurin. Price shouldn't be a major factor, though it often is. Bands which seem too big can adapt for any affair or budget. A nine-piece band can compress into a trio, even a one-man band and a small group can expand for a special occasion.

Buchbinder and Zurin both recommend booking a year ahead, or earlier if you can. Dates such as prime summer Sundays go fast and besides, you need time to plan well.

Other bands advertising in this Planner are:

A Starsband Production 1-800-498-8444
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Fabulous Harvey Seigel Band/ Speak Easy Jazz BA 416-782-9202
Fern Lindzon Piano & Vocals 416-445-9780
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Kenny Simon Band, The 416-638-2549
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Mickey Lewin Band 905-881-7972
Mila Kanev Band, The.....416-665-2450
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Good DJs specialize in fun

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Evan Aranoff of Kloda Productions (748-5282) advises you to be sure of what you want in a disc jockey.

Then, after some face-to-face meetings, pick one who listens to you. Look for courtesies and conveniences like 24-hour backup service and an emergency phone number. Rapport is even more vital.

Singers' playlist should appeal to all guests

[Cont'd from page B13]

Both Boris and Aelita put high value on versatility. A good singer can work well alone, or with any size band, from a duo or trio for an intimate gathering, to eight or 10 musicians for a gala — at every kind of event from formal to elegant, from private party to corporate function — and within any budget, be it lavish, modest or in between.

Hitting it off with you, though, is the key, according to both Boris and Aelita and developing good rapport can take several meetings. Your singer should consider your simchah important enough to prepare specially and the repertoire should be diverse, with something to appeal to every guest.

This special effort to please every guest makes for a successful party. The good feeling it creates for one person spreads to the others.

"Besides that," Aelita laughs, "learning songs in many different languages and styles keeps me versatile." The singer, she says, is the liaison between audience and orchestra.

Boris considers liaison essential to a successful event. Like the band leader, the singer must be an entertainer as much as an artist, with a feel for the composition and mood of the audience, and the ability to interact with them on and off stage.

A year, even a year and a half in advance, is not too early to book your singer, says Aelita. Boris emphasizes the importance of consulting with your singer a few weeks before the event, to make sure all the details are taken care of.

"We specialize in fun," says Aranoff and any good disc jockey should be able to say the same. Experience is an important factor and gives a company a track record but freshness, newness and readiness to innovate are essential too. Even the planning should be fun, and allow room to improvise.

Do you want a traditional DJ, or a total entertainment package? Kloda can provide sound, lighting, decor, interactive games, virtual reality, fun foods, and novelties like take-home wax impressions of your hand.

100 percent effort

Then too, every simchah has its own unique character. Do you want a DJ who is more low-key (for a wedding), or someone who puts on more of a show (for a bar/ bat mitzvah)? If it's an adult event, but with kids present, do you need separate entertainment?

A good DJ gives every event one hundred percent effort. He treats any event, whether it's a gala affair or a small party, as a once-in-a-lifetime occasion, always looking to make a good first impression. Find a disc jockey with this attitude, and you'll say afterwards: "a good time was had by all."

***

Before you hire a DJ, advises Bruce Citron of North American Disc Jockey Services (750-3750), meet the person the company will send to your event. Audition him at another venue — and if you like him, make sure his name is the one on your signed contract.

Also, look at the music list and make sure that what's on it is the same as what will be played at your party.

Get referrals from your friends. A reputable company will also provide a list of references. Usually, the technical aspect is not a problem, especially if you hire someone with experience. Rapport is just as important as technical expertise, yet harder to establish.

Even the best music is no good with a poor DJ and yet a good DJ can provide first-class entertainment even with limited equipment and music.

Thinking about the tone of your event, decide what you want your DJ to project. Should he be very animated, for example, or elegant and low-profile?

While some DJ's can act as MC's, and vice versa, they are not the same thing so make sure you are clear in your own mind about what you want. And book at least three months ahead, so you get the company and person you want.

Another DJ service advertising in this Planner is Paramount Entertainment 905-508-8530

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PARTY PLANNER

Mr. DJ does more than just spin discs

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Total interactive entertainment is a fairly new idea; but it's catching on. Ed McMurtry of Mr DJ (905-886-4488) and Edwin Allen Productions, has pioneered this concept here, and has solid advice for anyone choosing an entertainment coordinator for a party.

Interactive theme parties are the most rewarding to create

You want everything to mesh well, but in the stress of preparing, you can overlook details. The coordinator minimizes stress, while making all the elements mesh so that everything feels natural. He is a Renaissance man, with an overview of everything from technical details like eliminating microphone feedback to getting everyone to work together to make your simchah a work of art.

Set your standards high, McMurtry urges. It's downright unacceptable, he says, for the caterer and the DJ to get into a tiff about timing; and even erstwhile competitors like DJs and live entertainers can cooperate amicably. Nor is this a matter of money. At high-end functions, total entertainment and perfect coordination have become a must, but you can have quality on a modest budget.

Of course, your coordinator should also be something of a diplomat. Every professional at your simchah, from florist to videographer, wants his or her art to shine, both out of professional pride and for the sake of referrals. The coordinator has to get top performance from all professionals, while making sure they work together well.

Don't assume that it's enough to spend money on even the best band, caterer, or other professional. Each stage of the party should flow into the next. A change in music tempo, for example, in the movement from eating to dancing, should feel like a natural shift.

The more diverse the crowd, the more variety to plan for. Where there are three generations present, for instance, as at a large wedding, you may want a juggler for the small kids, virtual reality for the adolescents and a dance band for the older generation.

In harmonizing all these elements, a good coordinator knows, for example, that you don't ask everyone to sit down to dinner before the parents of the bride and groom are at the head table; so he warns them — and the musicians or DJ — a little ahead of time, and makes sure they are seated first.

Interactive theme parties, says McMurtry, are the hardest to create — and the most rewarding. Nothing is more satisfying than for everyone to enjoy your event as if they were really part of *West Side Story*, or had spent an evening on a Greek island.

The more improbable the theme, the harder the work to make it plausible. Can you imagine an underwater theme, for example? What about transforming something as staid as a corporate awards presentation into an event so exciting the invitees, at the end of the evening, are looking forward to the next one? McMurtry's done it.

It's a demanding, fast-changing field. Choose someone who takes part in trade fairs and organizations like ISES (International Special Events Society), works with other professionals and does everything possible to do whatever is state-of-the-art in the field.

As to how far in advance to book, McMurtry identifies three variables: time, expense and quality. You can get high quality on a modest budget, but not on short notice; or high quality on short notice, but not on a low budget. In any case, best book as far ahead as you can, he says. This cuts stress and gives you and the coordinator time to spark the inspired ideas that will make your celebration one-of-a-kind.

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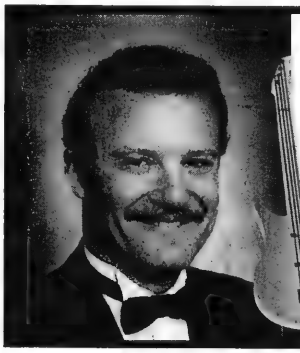

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PARTY PLANNER

Wedding gowns:

What's old is new again

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

What's old is new again in bridal wear, says fashion designer Adele Wechsler.

Wechsler (416-787-5768), who specializes in custom designed fashions, works out of a shop at 1912 Avenue Rd. She is often called upon to design more informal wedding gowns for her clients, she says.

Informal gowns and dresses are often chosen by older brides or those remarrying, she says "They tend to be more sophisticated. They want something more reflective of their personality."

She notes that there's a return to classic-style wedding gowns popular in the '40s and '50s. The look, which she calls the Grace Kelly cut, is characterized by cleaner lines, simple fitted bodices, short sleeves, narrow shoulders, boat necks and A-line or circle cut skirts

Wechsler says some first-time brides are also choosing to get married in pastel-colored rather than white dresses, which was also a trend in the '40s and '50s.

She works closely with her clients to find a look that suits them, she says. "Our specialty is working with clients on a one-on-one basis to develop a design that's personalized We customize it right down to the color."

She says she often uses a variety of materials – chantilly lace, silk crepe, silk satin, chiffon and/ or French lace – to create a texture look.

Before cutting a garment, the fabric is draped to the body, a technique which adds "fullness and softness without getting volume," Wechsler explains. "This allows the garment to silhouette the body without being fitted."

She says these days she's cutting many skirts on the bias because it gives the garment a slim line that is more flattering.

Popular among her clients are gowns made of layers of chiffon with a tunic style top, vests over chiffon tunics, and brocade and couture lace jackets over chiffon skirts.

Wechsler also creates a lot of dresses for mothers for whom she suggests "a more understated look."

Many brides come back to Wechsler to have their gowns dyed, for use for other occasions.

"We also do a lot of dying of shoes, hats and evening bags." She carries a full line of accessories including hats, head pieces and shoes.

Moda Sposa (905-882-8880) located at 7787 Yonge St. in Thornhill, is a traditional bridal shop offering a full range of wedding gowns, bridal accessories and bridesmaids dresses.

Shop owner Winnie Chin says bridal gowns are simpler and less embellished with fitted bodices, and there are also a lot of princess style or empire waist gowns.

An Adele Wechsler wedding gown.

She says designers are showing more short sleeve and sleeveless dresses with cap sleeves or halter style, as well as scoop necks. "There is an emphasis on the waist." As for trims, ribbon is being used on hems and veils while beading has been toned down, but some brides still ask for a very embellished look, she says.

Long trains are not as popular as they used to be because they are heavy, and a little cumbersome, Chin says.

Chin buys her dresses from many American designers with show rooms in Canada. Some of the lines she carries include Jim Hjelm, Galina, Bill Levkoff and Alfred Angelo. She also does custom work for brides "who can't find what they're looking for," she says.

The most popular materials are Italian satin, silk peau de soie, matt organza and tulle, she notes.

Chin says bridesmaid dresses come in a wide array of colors, which include soft new colors like lavender, champagne and stone, and stronger colors like lilac and tangerine. Colors that continue to be very popular are navy, plum and chocolate.

Other fashion/clothing places advertising in this Planner are:

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A smashing idea

By SIMONE JOSEPH
CJN Staff

Imagine giving your cousin a frame which incorporates pieces of her great-grandmother's china. Or giving your wife a decorative bowl which includes the key from your first home.

Margot Marcus, owner and originator of Margot's Smashing Designs (905-881-3565), handcrafts unique, customized mosaic giftware for bnai/bnot mitzvah, weddings, baby showers and other occasions.

Marcus makes picture frames, bowls, teapots and trinket boxes, using broken china, pottery, jewelry, keys or other sentimental items to enhance the design.

The mosaic pieces offer "an interesting, eye-catching, colorful, intriguing giftware item. The harder you look at it, the more interesting things you discover," she says.

The appeal of Marcus' designs is that the gifts are unique and personalized. For instance, when designing a frame for a bar or bat mitzvah, Marcus may include the name of the child and the date of the bar or bat mitzvah.

She says a frame for a bar or bat mitzvah would also include "Handmade clay pieces that would signify the occasion. That might be a Torah, a book, a Star of David or a chai."

Marcus says she also includes items that reflect the individual's interests or hobbies — "a computer, a hockey stick or ballet slippers. And these hand-made clay pieces are integrated into the mosaic," she says.

Marcus can color coordinate a frame to match an invitation or imitate the calligraphy in the working of the frame. Also, she can frame an invitation to commemorate a celebration.

Customers often bring the material to be used in the mosaic.

"They bring me something, whether it's a piece of china or a charm or a pin, that they want to have included and the mosaic becomes even more meaningful," she says.

Marcus believes that giving one of her designs "shows that you've taken the time and trouble to choose something that is completely fitting to that individual or that occasion.

"It's also something that they're not going to receive a duplicate of," she says.

Margot's Smashing Designs range from $20 to $250. For example, a five-by-seven frame is $45 plus tax, a teapot is $80, a trinket box is $30 and a candy dish is $18. Larger items, such as tables or mirrors are available, with the cost increasing proportionally to the size of the piece and the amount of work put in.

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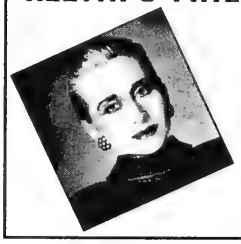

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PARTY PLANNER

Professional photos ensure life-long memories

By STUART MOSCOE
Special to The CJN

After the cake has been eaten and the band has gone home, your photographs will bring back memories for years to come. It is therefore especially important to choose a photographer who will capture your family and friends on film for you to enjoy. Photography by a full-time professional will ensure that the images are produced properly, with care and attention to detail.

The keys to a good photograph are expression, lighting, pose and background. The camera your photographer uses is not as important as his skill.

Expression is the most important part of the photograph. If the expression is pleasing, then the picture will be appreciated. Since your photographer must elicit positive expressions on numerous occasions throughout the photo session, a good rapport must exist between the photographer and his subjects.

Lighting must also be arranged with special care. With proper lighting, a photographer can emphasize your attractive features and minimize imperfections. The photographer may use natural light or electronic flash depending on the situation.

Your photographer may also use one or more lights. The use of multiple lights demands the use of triggering mechanisms to fire the auxiliary lights at the same time that the shutter is released.

Poses should be comfortable, but more importantly, look comfortable from the camera's position. You might feel awkward but look good. Your photographer must show each person how to stand in the photo to fit into the overall composition.

Often clients say they don't want to look posed. This is because they have seen photos of large groups of people who have not been shown how to stand.

The background is the most underrated part of a photograph. Your photographer must be be able to choose an appropriate background for the photography and should discuss that choice with you before any photographs are taken. In this way, there will not be any unpleasant surprises.

Some locations don't lend themselves well to photographs. In these instances, your photographer should recommend using a painted canvas or muslin background. Before photos are taken, you should see samples made with this background to ensure that you like it.

People who do not like painted backgrounds should make their feelings known when they contract with the photographer so that a different location for the photography can be discussed. Locations in the Toronto area that look good in photographs include the University of Toronto, Sunnyside Pavilion, the Guild Inn and Alexander Muir Gardens. Another option is to have the photos done at the client's home.

Know who's shooting the pictures

Some studios have associate photographers who take the photos at the whole affair or at the reception. You should know the person who will take the pictures on your day and make sure you see his work before you contract with the studio.

The cost for photography should be about 10 to 20 percent of the overall budget for your affair. Remember, the cost usually takes into consideration other expenses, such as retouching and laminating or lacquer spraying your photographs (in order to protect them for many years).

Unfortunately, since most of the albums available here are imported from the United States, photography costs have jumped dramatically in the last few years as the Canadian dollar has fallen.

New styles have emerged in the last few years such as all-candid coverage with no posed pictures, fashion style coverage, black and white, sepia color and selective hand coloring of black and white images. Most studios can provide black and white, sepia color or selective hand coloring of black and white photographs.

The no posing/all candid method of photography is now becoming popular. The advantage is truly candid, photojournalistic coverage without the bother of having to pose for photographs. The disadvantage is that some people might be missed by the photographer. Candid coverage requires that your photographer shoot many pictures in order to capture everyone. Also, you will probably end up with a significantly larger album to accommodate all the extra photos.

A combination of candids and portraits is what most studios try to provide. The portraits are taken before the reception and the candids are taken at the reception.

Fashion oriented wedding photography works well when the location or background supports this style.

Many couples are surprised to find out that some studios now offer wedding registration. Guests can then give photographs, albums and frames as gifts.

When choosing your photographer, check with family and friends to see if they have used the photographer in the past and if they were pleased with the results. In the end, a photographer should be hired because you like the quality of his work, his personality and the service he provides.

Stuart Moscoe is a professional photographer in Toronto (416-784-3686).

Other photographers advertising in this Planner are:

Horvath Photography 416-487-3443
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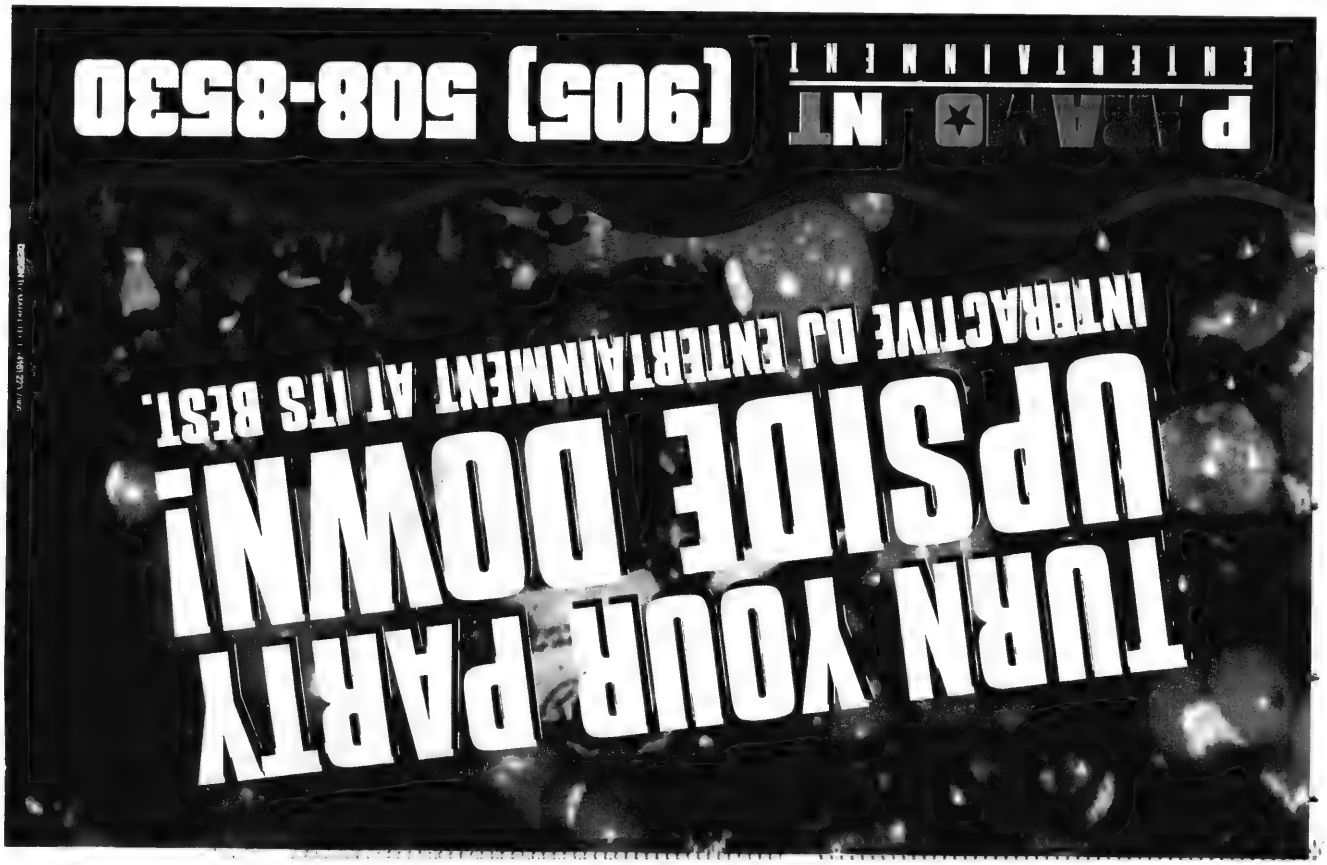

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An interior shot of the Sutton Place Hotel.

Adults can have a ball

Having fun is no longer just for the children

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

So you think kids just want to have fun? Check out some party places where adults can have a ball as well.

At the Ontario Science Centre (429-4100), guests can sit back in the new Shoppers Drug Mart OMNIMAX Theatre and enjoy more than 13,000 watts of wrap-around digital sound and images, placing viewers right in the middle of the 24-metre dome screen.

Hosts can choose the current film or select one from a library of Imax films.

A current film, *Special Effects*, tells the behind-the-scenes story of how movie-makers create their special effects and it follows them at work on such films as *Star Wars* or *Jumanji*.

After the screening, you can hold a reception at the new Novopharm Lobby, recently designed by architect Eb Zeidler. Don't worry about the number of guests – the lobby can accommodate from 20 – 1,200 people.

By hosting an event throughout the Ontario Science Centre, you and your guests have access to over 800 exhibits, programs and live demonstrations. People can stroll through a rain forest, test their fast ball or try out the computers.

At one series of interactive exhibits, guests become the forensic investigator, examining a simulated crime and helping the police find the suspect. Housing staff is always available to perform demonstrations and several locations can be set up throughout the building for food and beverages.

If it's an elegant setting you're after, try the two-storey Procter & Gamble Great Hall. With a capacity of 400, the hall has floor to ceiling windows and overlooks the Don Valley. Also available is the brand-new banquet hall, the Imperial Oil Auditorium with full audio-visual capabilities, the S.C. Johnson Wax, Canadian Pacific and Compaq theatres, or a variety of board and meeting rooms.

Guests can lose themselves in cyberspace when they attend a party at the Electric Bean (481-2100), a cyberspace cafe at Yonge and Eglinton, full of Internet-friendly computers, play stations and virtual reality pods. Would-be skiers can

[Cont'd on page B23]

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PARTY PLANNER

Party places: They're not just for kids

[Cont'd from page B22]

swish and swoosh down the slopes in the virtual reality of the Alpine Racer or cowboys can become top-gun fighters in Terminal Velocity. Chat rooms can also be set up with chatters from around the world.

Several different types of parties can be arranged at the Electric Bean. A small group, of 20 people or fewer, can meet in the classroom, a private, enclosed room. The space is suitable for training classes, workshops, product demonstrations and launches, boardroom meetings and special interest groups.

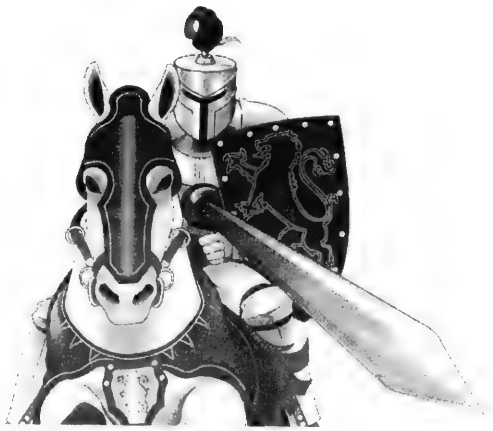
When hosts rent the Atrium and the classroom, guests enjoy an intimate meeting place and a spacious mingling area. The Atrium, an open area that can accommodate up to 60 people, is perfect for catered events and parties.

The Ground Floor is a unique space for the ultimate cyber-event. Reserve up to 50 computers connected to a dedicated line for Internet access and everyone is set for the evening. Instructors are available on request for all types of gatherings and computers can be customized.

Guests are transported back to the 11th century when they party at Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament (260-1234), featuring knights and elegant horsemanship. The Toronto Castle, which opened in 1993 in the former Arts, Crafts & Hobbies Building, Exhibition Place, was transformed into a castle with a ceremonial area seating 1,350 people.

The program begins the moment guests enter. They are greeted by the Count of Perelada and his countess who preside over the banquet, games and tournament.

Each guest receives a color-coded crown corresponding to their champion knight who represents them during the ceremonial procession, medieval games and battles.



Guests enter the Hall of Arms where authentic medieval artifacts are displayed. These include the crests and coat of arms of many European families, plus suits of armor and weaponry. Everyone loves seeing Andalusian stallions in their display stalls.

During the feast, (kosher food is available), displays of horsemanship are performed, followed by jousting and battles to the death. The winning knight then has the honor of choosing his queen of love and beauty. After the two-hour show, guests can dance in the Knight Club. General admission is $41.95 for adults and $26.95 for children 12 and under, and group rates are available for 15 or more people.

Enjoy innovative contemporary cuisine combined with personal service and flawless attention to detail when you make a party at The Sutton Place Hotel (324-6430).

"The hotel works closely with GMB Caterers to customize kosher events and it has hosted everything from seders to bris ceremonies," says Lori Cooper, public relations manager.

Parties can be arranged to suit every budget, she says, "and hosts can choose items which are important to them for their special birthday, anniversary, engagement or wedding including a tailor-made menu, three-tiered wedding cake or a spacious honeymoon suite."

Large parties can be held at Stop 33 ballroom which features a panoramic view of Toronto's skyline or the Queen Victoria and Royal Sutton ballrooms. Other, smaller rooms are ideal for parties from 10 to 300 people.

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Marriott Eaton Centre 416-597-9200
Novotel North York Hotel 416-218-3867
O Mei Restaurant ..416-635-5050
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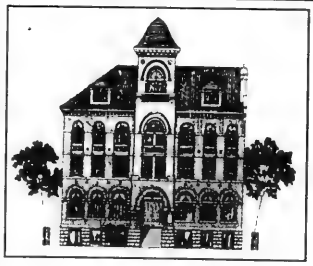

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Get your videos shot by pros

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Think again before you ask Uncle Harry to videograph your simchah, says Brian Korson.

The owner of Video Excellence Productions (905-731-4355) says that it may sound like a great way to save money, but the job will just not get done properly.

"Family members get caught up in the activities and forget to take certain shots or else they take too much floor and ceiling.

"A professional videographer remains detached and they know the key things to capture ahead of time. Before the party begins, a professional will have discussed with the hosts the type of shots they are looking for – tables, lots of dancing, guest reactions."

Korson, who recently acquired a new digital camera and editing suite, says that video packages can be arranged to suit most budgets.

"The digital package does cost a little more but it significantly improves the picture's sharpness and colors are more vibrant," he says.

Videos can be "dressed up as little or as much as desired. We can add animation, shots of the bride and groom growing up, highlight summaries of the wedding day, guest credits – there is no end to what we can do."

Evan Trestan, who owns Images International (977-5575) with Shay Schwartzman, agrees that it is "not fair to give the job of videographing to a relative. An uncle needs to be a guest. A videographer's sole job is to capture the event."

He says that his company uses A/B roll editing which is used to dissolve live images. "This is effective in flashbacks, shots between the homes of the bride and groom or between speakers. It gives the video a creative air."

Guests love it

He also works to most budgets and says that packages range from merely shooting an event with little editing done, to the "full blown-package with two cameras and a jumbo 10 ft. x 12 ft. screen.

"What we do with the screen is compile photographs, home video clips and video greetings from the guests and put them all together. We then play it on the screen and it becomes part of the evening's entertainment. The guests just love it.

"Once the giant screen is there, we can also provide live-eye feed and guests can see the whole party. It works just great for speeches or the first dance – it really gives the party a grand feeling," he says.

Because it is important to capture an entire wedding, Treston says, they arrive before the bedecking and then video the photo session.

"During the party we remain as inobtrusive as possible. All our equipment is on remote control and there are no cables on the floor. We also use wireless mikes so speeches sound much clearer. With a mike on the podium, the sound comes from there, rather than from a speaker."

Korson suggests viewing various sample packages before picking one. "Check out videos of various types of affairs, different locations as well as dressed up and scaled-down versions. Make sure, before choosing a videographer, that all his work is professional, despite what package you've chosen."

Other videographers advertising in this Planner are:
ABC Video Productions.....416-265-8313
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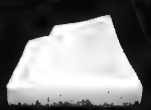

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PARTY PLANNER

Leave party planning to the pros

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

The date is set, the hall is reserved but you just don't know where to go from there. Call Karen Garscadden or Karen Jacobs of Up & Coming Events (905-886-8148). They'll steer you in the right direction.

The pair, in business for nine years "coordinates family or corporate parties, special events, product launches, grand openings or any good old time. We help make the party," says Garscadden.

"At the first meeting [with our client] we start from scratch. It's not our job at that point to give answers, but rather to ask a lot of questions. Do you want something traditional or funky? Is it going to be casual or black-tie? Are there a lot of young kids coming or a bunch of teenagers? All these things impact on our plans."

It is then, she says that they take the interview a step further and decide if the hosts want a themed party or any extra entertainment.

Short cut

"We can arrange for bands, DJs, florists, photographers — any party professional. We can even design invitations and work directly with the printers. In other words, we can take the party from step one until all plans are complete."

Garscadden knows how important it is to stay within budget and she knows which professionals provide basic services.

"We give our clients a short-cut in putting their party together. I save people from shopping around by recommending professionals who work within certain a price range. Sometimes a client needs a small idea just to tie the party together. That is OK too.

"We have resources at our fingertips. We can work with decorators or prop designers to create a desired effect. We don't create the work but we do create the ideas and coordinate efforts with the party designer. A combination of our creative skills and their technical skills makes for a great party."

One of their most memorable parties was a 50th birthday. "Everything from the give-aways to the music was from the '50s and the guests came dressed in themed clothes such as poodle skirts. We even had a hula hoop contest."

At a cottage party, guests were sent T-shirts with the invitation and were asked to wear them to the party. "Some people decorated their T-shirts and some wore them plain. They loved the casual atmosphere."

Someone from their staff is always at the party to make sure it is running smoothly, says Garscadden. "People have big parties once or twice in their lifetime and we want to make sure they are happy."

A treat for all Montreal Wannabees

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The special flavor of Montreal has come to Toronto, with Levitts Kosher Food outlet, on Alness Drive in North York.

Knishes, pickles and frozen challahs are just a few of the treats that former Montrealers and Montreal wannabees can get to give their parties that zing.

Knishes, which are not fried but baked, come in different varieties, like pizza, spinach, potato and kasha. Cocktail-size knishes are especially nice for entertaining, said operations manager Mona Pasternak.

Smoked turkeys are a nice touch, and can be ordered whole or in quarters. They come vacuum packed, to preserve freshness. Levitts also has lamb patties, frozen steaks, deli meat in bulk, and of course hot dogs and hamburgers for the barbecue.

Great Montreal Bagels

"We even have Montreal hot dog and hamburger buns, and those great Montreal bagels," Pasternak said.

For those who don't want meat, Pasternak suggests fish: smoked salmon, salmon, mackerel, trout, whitefish or carp, all prepared by Levitts in Montreal.

Levitts offers one-stop shopping for a party. Besides their own products, they can supply salads, paper goods and baked goods. "We have pareve brownies that are to die for, they are so chocolatey," Pasternak said.

It is best to give a week's notice, she said, to ensure the best service and selection.

Levitts is at 791 Alness, west of Dufferin between Steeles and Finch. It is open six days a week, including Sunday. Telephone 416-665-5224.

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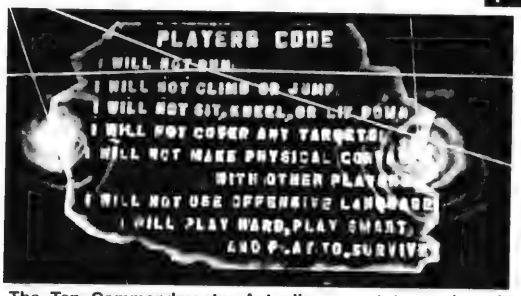
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I WILL NOT MAKE PHYSICAL CON
WITH OTHER PLAYE
I WILL NOT USE OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE
I WILL PLAY HARD, PLAY SMART,
AND P.A.T. TO SURVIVE

The Ten Commandments: Actually, an astute reader will notice there's only seven rules that make up the Players Code at Laser Quest.

Laser Quest:
Next century's hide and seek

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

The kids don their power pac, enter the black-lit, 6,000-square-foot maze immersed in fog and have 30 seconds before the shooting begins.

It's Laser Quest, the 21st century game of hide and seek – and the kids can't get enough, says publicity coordinator Lisa Carrol.

Kids arrive, choose a code name and are taken to a briefing room where they learn the rules and recite the code of honor – no running, no offensive language and always play fair, play hard and play to survive.

"It's completely safe, completely accessible and impossible to get lost in," says Carrol.

The computer-generated power pac, which keeps score of how many times a player is shot or has shot another player, vibrates when someone is tagged and is deactivated for five seconds. Mirrors hang throughout the maze so laser beams are accentuated and there are windows through which players can shoot others on different levels.

"Throughout the 20-minute game, a player can be tagged any number of times so no one sits out," she says.

Birthday party packages include two 20-minute Laser Quest admissions per child, a 2-for-1 pass per person redeemable on a future date, a Laser Quest gift for the birthday child and a private party room.

"The arcade room keeps the kids busy in between games and we also have our front of the house fun, which may feature a magician or face painting. The kids have no down-time at all," Carrol says.

Children do not have a monopoly at Laser Quest. "Many parents and grandparents who come just to watch their kids, find themselves playing as well. More often than not, the kids beat them."

Corporate packages are also available and groups of up to 30 people can rent the playing field for two or three games. The entire Laser Quest facility can be reserved for private parties of about 50 people or more.

Bombs away: Players get ready to do battle in a sort of hide and seek of the future.

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PARTY PLANNER

Magician can make in-laws Disappear

Pick a card, any card! Jason Palter may be a good magician, but he's probably not much fun at poker games.

[Cont'd from page B5]

any age but says that kids under four or five years old do not understand the concept of magic.

"If [the show] is for younger children, I don't do card tricks. There's other stuff, there's more live, vibrant, colorful things and a lot more silliness and wackiness".

However, his performances aren't only for children. He says adults often think a magician is for the kids. "But you know what? Adults really like magic."

Palter, who has been a magician for 17 years and a ventriloquist for 14 years, has performed on CITYTV's *Breakfast Television*, entertained guests at a Maccabi Canada hockey team event and performed at Toronto's Ginsberg & Wong Restaurant.

He became interested in magic at nine years of age, when his uncle gave him a magic set. He says he loves watching someone walk away after he has performed, laughing, entertained and happy.

He is different from other magicians, he says, because he interacts with the audience. "I talk to them. I will be grabbing the microphone, talking and interacting and being a lot more light-hearted".

Palter also performs for corporate events, including trade exhibitions and conferences. He says that at trade shows, magic tricks are a good way to attract people to a booth.

"I use magic as a medium to sell. I will customize your product, your slogan, your idea, whatever it is into some sort of magical effect.

"You've got to be different. You've got to hold people's attention. You've got to grab them and you've got to hold on and people are finding tons of different ways to do it," he says.

Palter says he finds it thrilling to entertain. "I can't describe that feeling of euphoria after I've been to a table and [everyone is] happy."

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PARTY PLANNER

Decorative ketubah a work of art

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

When artist Howard Fox asked his first cousin what he wanted for a wedding gift some 15 years ago, he suggested that Fox make a ketubah for him.

Fox says he was surprised by the request. "I thought you had to be a rabbi or a sofer. So I looked into it. Anyone can make a ketubah."

He found some books on the ketubah and when he discovered its long tradition as a decorative ceremonial art piece, he became enthusiastic, he recalls. "I taught myself to do the Hebrew calligraphy."

His first ketubah, a water color, led to other commissions, he says. "My cousin loved it. And when other people saw it, I got more orders. All of a sudden I was busy making ketubahs."

Fox also began selling ketubahs — he does both water color and lithographs — to local Judaica galleries and then to galleries and Judaica stores across North America.

"I get couples who want to identify [with their Jewish heritage] in some way. The ketubah is an aspect for culturally identifying," he says. "The ketubah offers a nice way of having Jewish-related art. It acts as both art and a ceremonial piece."

Today, Fox lives in Tel Aviv with his wife and young son, but stresses that he continues to work for the North American market. Decorative ketubahs are not popular in Israel, he says.

A renewal of interest

He notes that the decorative ketubah has always flourished wherever Jewish communities have felt secure and thrived economically, such as in Florence, in Persia and in Spain before the Inquisition.

Given the precarious existence of the Jews in Northern and Eastern Europe, Fox says, the concept of art was "trivial in the face of their struggle to survive. These communities were neither secure nor wealthy. They couldn't support the artists culturally or economically."

He points out that there has been a renewal of interest in the ketubah in the United States and Canada because the North American Jewish communities have thrived economically, politically and culturally.

"There's a renaissance in Judaica here," he says.

The decorative ketubah in North America began making its comeback in the late '60s and has become very popular since the economic boom of the mid '80s, Fox says. "People became aware and now it's become fashionable to have a nice ketubah."

Fox's ketubahs can be found at Matana Judaica, 248 Steeles Ave.W.; and at Israel's, the Judaica Centre, 441 Clarke Ave. in Thornhill and 897 Eglinton Ave. W.

Fox is also represented by the company, Ketubah Ketubah, operated by Michael Shapiro (924-4995).

Shapiro, who has an MBA in marketing, worked for the corporate giant Procter & Gamble before venturing on his own. The corporate work was a great training ground for learning business strategy, he says.

And while he knew he wanted to run his own business in a creative field, he didn't really know what he wanted to do. After leaving Procter & Gamble for an extended trip to Israel, he met some ketubah artists.

"I found there were many people who wanted ketubahs and so many wonderful artists doing great work.

This ketubah and the one on page 32 were designed by artist Howard Fox.

And yet is was often difficult for people to find the ketubah that they were looking for."

And so Shapiro set up his company, Ketubah Ketubah, two years ago to market ketubahs internationally, helping buyers from all over the world find the ketubah of their choice. He advertises throughout the United States and Canada, attends Jewish conventions and makes use of the Internet as a marketing tool.

"I recognized that the Internet would be the perfect vehicle to make the ketubah easily available to Jews everywhere... Many of my customers are in places with smaller

[Cont'd on page B32]

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PARTY PLANNER

More to decorations than meets the eye

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Party decoration includes everything from place cards, centrepieces and floral arrangements to chocolate smash cakes. With all this variety, however, there are common elements to consider in choosing decorations — and the decorator.

No matter how good the food tastes and the music sounds, Mira Shimkovich of Perlit Novelties (665-4838) says, the visual aspect is just as vital to a successful event.

Mario Seguin of Floral Studio (504-1850) says that although much of the work is done in advance, the ultimate test is the simchah itself. Flowers, for example, must harmonize with gown fabrics: the purity of satin demands colors, textures and arrangements different from the sensuality of silk.

Bob Levine of Chocolate Charm (787-4256) notes that people want novelty, as well as elegance and sophistication.

Seguin agrees. Decor today is not just ordered from a catalogue, but created in a studio to fit the occasion and the tastes of hosts and guests. The decor is your personal statement, he says. So before consulting a decorator, have an idea of what you want.

Look for someone with a unique, individual style, who enjoys artistic work, Shimkovich advises. But, Seguin says, remember that the decorator's art is at your service. Find someone you have rapport with, learn how they work, make sure they know what you want and then give them room to do it. Levine says his best ideas often come from clients, but also recommends that you listen carefully to your decorator.

Theme-designed decorations by Perlit Novelties.

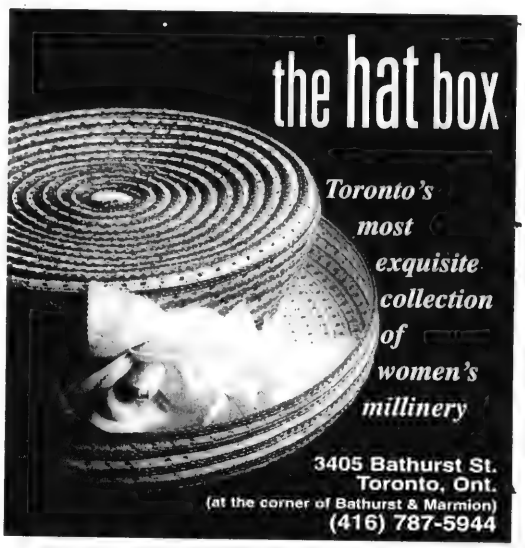
Versatility is an asset

Versatility is an asset, says Shimkovich, especially if you want something out of the ordinary. For example, a specialist in invitations who also does other things like centrepieces may have more interesting ideas and a wider range of products.

Price is a factor too, she adds, but a competent decorator can work within any budget.

Someone who's been in business for several years, Levine notes, will have time to build a track record and reference list, but experience should be balanced by readiness to innovate and openness to new trends.

[Cont'd on page B30]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PARTY PLANNER

There's more to decorations than meets the eye

[Cont'd from page B29]

Referrals from friends, consultants and other professionals can help you choose. Decorators network with their colleagues and other party professionals at venues like trade fairs and in their everyday contacts and they get to know each other.

Book well in advance, advises Shimkovich, up to a year, and avoid last-minute rushes. Usually, says Levine, a few weeks is OK, but book farther in advance if you want a number of more unusual things.

In choosing flowers, Seguin says, reserve popular types up to a year before the simchah, and choose seasonal species if possible. The more complex the arrangement and the less seasonal the flowers, the farther in advance to book, even though the new-style florist does carry a wide variety in great abundance.

Other decorators advertising in this Planner are:
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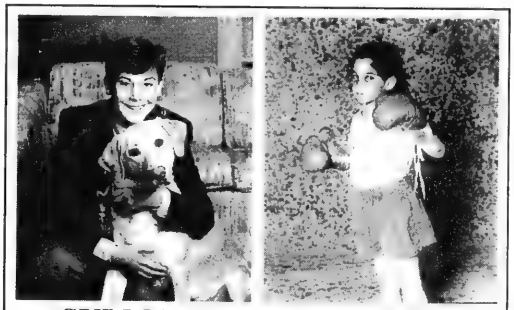

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PARTY PLANNER

One-stop party shopping

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

As planning a function gets more complicated, the arguments in favor of a one-stop party supply house grow more compelling. Why not find all your supplies under one roof, from custom stationery to color-co-ordinated decorations, and not have to schlep all over town?

There may be party favors or keepsakes you want from a specialty house. You'll find, though, that the one-stop suppliers not only have a huge variety of goods themselves, they also network with specialty suppliers for niche markets.

You can always have more than what you see on the shelves. If you ask for something the supplier doesn't have in stock, he probably knows someone who does.

Both Mark Springall of Lightworks (416-665-3329) and Lance Stewart of Party Giant (905-477-1903) agree that networking with colleagues is essential to providing the best products and service. The various firms do compete but the competition is friendly because to serve you well, they have to help each other.

Often, a reputable firm not only supplies items to party hosts, but also professionals such as DJs, party consultants or hall managers. Consequently, in choosing your supplier, a referral from a party professional is as good as one from a friend.

Springall says with all the new products coming on the market, searching out the stock for his shelves is the hardest part of his job. At the same time, he calls it the most enjoyable. Adults can regain their own childhood sense of fun, when they choose supplies for a bar or bat mitzvah.

Nowadays, neon necklaces, raindrop tiaras, inflatable guitars and saxophones, and items that react under black light are in. But a good party supplier, besides following trends, will help find something that makes your son or daughter's simchah stand out from everyone else's.

A lot of variables

One-step shopping does not mean one-time customers. Springall and Stewart both ascribe most of their business to referrals and repeat business comes from honesty and long-term rapport.

Is your supplier, for example, ready to advise you against buying too much? Is he flexible — willing to procure, for example, any quantity of party hats from one to 1,000?

Stewart ranks service as high as product. For this reason, he advises making sure your supplier assigns one person to work specially with you, and provide continuity. If it's a bar mitzvah, for example, this consultant should sit down and talk with you, to ascertain your son's likes and dislikes, and help you make his simchah unique.

You have to deal with a lot of variables in planning a party, Stewart points out. For the party supplier, like any other professional, service means keeping track of details and working well with people such as caterers and organizers, keeping the unpredictable to a minimum.

Another aspect of service is objectivity. A one-stop supplier will have an overview of details, and may notice things you miss. Stewart cites the example of a customer choosing patterned tablecloths which detracted from the patterns of the dishes. The supplier suggested plain cloths and the customer was pleased to see that the dishes showed better.

Springall recommends choosing your supplier four to six weeks in advance. Stewart advises at least two to four weeks, depending on what kind of event. Both agree, though, that a good firm will handle special orders and rush priorities as well.

Other one-stop party shops advertising in this Planner are:
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.....416-789-7173
Party Supply Depot .....
.....905-764-5457

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PARTY PLANNER

Decorative ketubah is a work of art

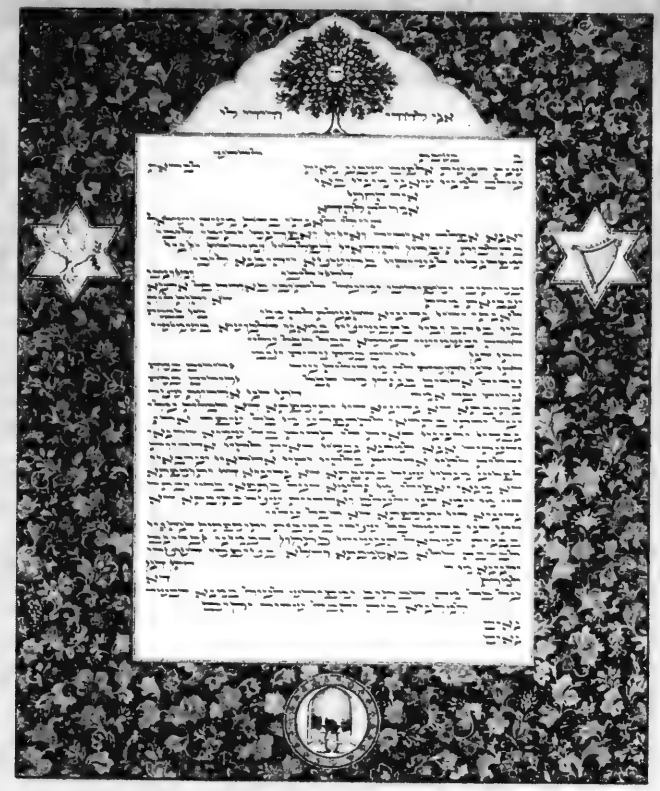
[Cont'd from page B28]

communities with no local source for ketubahs."

He says the catalogue which he mails out through requests on his local and toll free numbers — it's also available on the Internet — appeals to busy young professionals who are happy to shop at home.

Shapiro said there's been a resurgence of interest in Judaica among people of all ages. He also sells a lot of ketubahs as anniversary gifts, he adds.

Toronto-area residents can visit the Ketubah Ketubah warehouse by booking an appointment with Shapiro at 416-924-6997. People from outside the area can order a catalogue or call him at 1-888-KETUBAH (538-8224).



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supplement in the June 19th issue of
The Canadian Jewish news

PARTY PLANNER

Flowers are good for you

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Florist Jerry Smierzchalski says there's nothing like flowers to brighten one's day. Smierzchalski, owner of Dozen Roses (256-2527) at 3503 Bathurst St. in North York and 3227 Eglinton Ave. E. in Scarborough says flowers are suitable for all kinds of occasions because they cheer people up.

In fact, he says he recalls hearing a lecture by a well-known American physician who tells people to buy themselves flowers because they're uplifting and therefore good for one's health.

Smierzchalski says he began to decorate for weddings, bar mitzvahs and other simchahs at the request of customers shopping for fresh flowers in his shop. That aspect of the business, he adds, has grown significantly through word of mouth.

He says people really love the way Dozen Roses presents its flowers. "I work with superb designers. They make unique arrangements and creations."

He offers his customers reasonable prices along with a huge selection of flowers, particularly roses, he says. "We specialize in roses. We carry 20 to 30 different kinds of roses yet we have excellent prices because of the volume we sell."

Roses are popular for any occasion, but there are certain varieties, such as the pale peach-colored osiana and the cream-colored ariana, which are in high demand for weddings, as well as exotic flowers like haliconias and birds of paradise for the head table and sweet table arrangements, Smierzchalski notes.

He says the centrepieces for the dinner tables at weddings tend to be more traditional — generally a round vase with a candle — but his designers have also created some interesting and unusual arrangements using floating candles.

Sylvia Kaburovski of Flowers by Sylvia (905-889-1383) also prides herself on creating original and beautiful arrangement for special occasions and simchahs.

"Our prices are very reasonable," she says. "We give a lot of extras. We always add extra volume, using more flowers in our arrangements."

She says her showroom, located at 100 West Beaver Creek # 20 in Richmond Hill, is open to the public six days a week and she offers daily delivery, as far as Oshawa and Hamilton, of fresh, dry, and silk flowers, as well as baby and other gift baskets.

Flowers by Sylvia is affiliated with the Teleflora, a worldwide wire service, and American Floral Services (AFS) on the Internet. She also has a toll-free line (1-888-845-0550).

Kaburovski, who has been in the floral business for 15 years, says that she likes to use spring flowers like tulips in her centrepiece arrangements as well as gerbera, "a daisy that looks like velvet, and freesia with its multi-colors and lovely scent."

To create a festive mood at evening affairs, she creates topiary trees, floral towers and candelabras, often using roses, orchids and cala lilies, flowers, particularly popular for weddings, she says.

For weddings, arches decorated with flowers are also coming back into style, she says, but the decor in sanctuaries tends to be simple; tulle with an ivy trail is used for the aisles, along with two large arrangements on either side of the chupah or altar.

She also recommends arrangements with spray roses, a mini-rose that "looks very festive," as well as substituting limoneum, a white or purple flowet, for the more traditional baby's breath.

Kaburovski says she gives personal consultation before a simchah and she is on hand with a crew to set up the room. She says she is proud that "we put a lot of care into our work."

Other florists advertising in this Planner are:

Designs by Karen Baker 905-886-8100
Floral Studio, The ..416-504-1850
Greenleaves & Petals 905-709-4080
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PARTY PLANNER

Choosing a rental firm:

Strong competition means choices for consumers

A rental supplier should enjoy working with people. [Photo courtesy of Aurora Party Rentals]

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

There are plenty of party rental firms — there may even seem to be too many. Choosing among a few can be easy, especially with referrals from friends to guide you. Choosing among a few dozen is harder.

This wide range of choices, however, is good. Besides offering more variety of product, it means that the suppliers vie with one another in meeting a higher standard of service. To take full advantage of the increased competition, though, you have to be well-informed.

Of course, range and quality of supplies are important, so are familiarity with current trends and styles of decor. However, both Fern Blustein of Aurora Party Rentals (905-773-7706) and Dennis Higgins of Higgins Party Rentals (416-241-8564) place equally high value on intangibles such as honesty and customer rapport. "You can mass-produce the plates on the table," says Blustein, "but not the service."

Rapport builds trust, and takes much of the stress and worry out of party planning, so choose someone you feel comfortable working with. People's tastes vary greatly and they attach importance to different factors such as decor. Only a supplier who takes the trouble to get to know you can satisfy your wishes.

For this rapport to develop, your rental supplier should enjoy dealing with people. Blustein says that one of the great pleasures of her business is the thanks she gets after a successful event.

She adds that someone who has been in the rental business full-time for some years is your best bet. They will have experience, which is vital in estimating variables like the number of guests, and how many extra items you should have on hand.

A well-established firm also has a track record and referrals, so that you will find it easier to assess the quality of service you can expect.

Both Blustein and Higgins recommend looking for a firm which networks with other firms. That way, if you want something which that company doesn't have, it can get it for you elsewhere. Such a firm will also have experience co-ordinating its work with the other party professionals.

Blustein and Higgins attach great importance to timing, punctuality and organization. This entails planning well ahead, and offering services such as day-before delivery when needed. It makes it easier to deal with changes on short notice.

Look for an all-round, one-stop firm. Not only does it save time, it's much easier to co-ordinate your decor if you get all your tables, chairs, dishes, glasses and linen in one place.

Call at least a month before your simchah, Blustein advises, and give yourself time to develop rapport with your supplier.

Higgins advises giving yourself a month to six weeks for an average party or family gathering, several months or even a year for a wedding. The more time you allow, the less worry you will have to deal with.

Other rental places advertising in this Planner are:
Chair Decor etc. 905-731-9217
Chair-Man Mills 416-391-0400
D & D Rent-All.....416-665-9570

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Greater Toronto Area

Myers helps Russian Jews adapt to life in Toronto

Spotlight

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jessica Backal Myers, public relations coordinator for the Jewish Russian Community Centre (JRC) of Toronto, has a big job cut out for her.

Myers, 30, a graduate of English and communications from York University, would like to see the Russian community become a vital part of Toronto Jewish life.

"With a population of 30,000, Russians are one of the biggest identifiable Jewish groups in Toronto, but for the most part, they have kept to themselves.

"People need to understand, however, that they were brought up in a stifling regime. Living there, they learned to trust very few people and now they are hesitant to reach out and be included because they have been hurt so much. They need to see that the Jewish community accepts them and Toronto, in turn, needs to see the JRC as a valuable resource. We are all Jews and we need to stress unity."

Myers says she would like to see Russians attend more Jewish programs and do volunteer work. "They need to come out of their shell and incorporate themselves into the community."

Born in Mexico and brought up in Toronto attending a Reform temple, Myers and her husband, parents of two young boys and expecting a third child, are *baalei tshuvah*.

"I feel like I am connected to different groups — I can feel the pulse on different sides and I realize that to be part of a community, one cannot remain isolated," she says.

Part of her mandate, she says, is to keep Russian youth in the community. "I need to encourage them to attend such things as our High Holy Day or youth programs. I want them to see the relevancy of the JRC in their lives. The JRC also needs their help."

As event coordinator of such things as the Chanukah candle-lighting ceremony at Mel Lastman Square, Purim carnival and banquet, Pesach seders and an upcoming gala fundraiser, Myers says she is trying to find the JRC "its place in the community. It is Russian first and foremost, but it wants to be seen as a viable organization that can help out in general."

Myers, who held several jobs in private industry before joining the JRC, says, "I love working in the Jewish community. When [my husband and I] were becoming *baalei tshuvah*, people helped us a lot. Working here, I feel that I can give something back."

* * *

The Jewish Russian Community Centre of Greater Toronto (JRC) is planning its Gala Concert '97 featuring Canadian tenor Michael Burgess, June 22 at Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

The gala is a fundraiser for the JRC, an organization that provides education, counselling and social programs for the over 30,000 Russian Jews in Toronto.

Money raised will go to support such programs as adult Torah classes, lectures, daycare, preschool, Hebrew school and High Holiday and Shabbat services.

Also featured in the gala concert will be Israeli musician Yoel Sharabi and Toronto's Nafshenu Orchestra with a special guest appearance by French violinist Jacques Israelievitch, concertmaster of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Concert co-chairs are Leon Aram and Valentin Simanovsky.

For information call 416-222-7105.

Jessica Myers

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On Campus

Philanthropist issues challenge to help Vancouver Hillel

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

VANCOUVER — Morris Wosk has issued a challenge to the entire city of Vancouver, one that will pay off with interest for the city's B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation.

For the campus organization's 50th anniversary this year, Wosk, president and chief executive officer of M.J. Investments Co. and Liberty Investments Ltd., has pledged to match community contributions to Hillel to a maximum of $500,000.

So far the campaign has achieved more than half its goal, with about $350,000, he reported in a recent telephone interview. "I'm sure we'll reach the quota, [but] I told them I would extend it another year if necessary."

A longtime Jewish community leader who has lived in Vancouver for some seven decades, Wosk donated $250,000 in the mid-1980s toward the renovation of Hillel House at the University of British Columbia.

Wosk and his son Mordehai, former executive director of Hillel House (1987-90) and current president of the Vancouver Hillel Endowment Foundation, are being honored at Hillel's 50th anniversary gala dinner (now sold out) being held June 17 at the Four Seasons Hotel.

"It's very important for the Jewish kids to have a home away from home," said Wosk. "I figured if we set up a fund for a million dollars, then they would have the interest from the money every year, and the fund would keep on growing in the future."

Morris Wosk

Jewish studies expands at Waterloo, York

WATERLOO — Starting next fall, students from across Canada will be able to learn about the experiences of Jewish people living among non-Jews throughout the ages.

Two new courses on Jewish studies will be launched in a collaborative effort involving York University's Centre for Jewish Studies and the University of Waterloo's Dean of Arts Advisory Committee on Jewish Studies.

Students will soon be able to enrol in the introductory courses, which will be available through Waterloo's distance education program, one of the largest in Canada. A distance eduction calendar listing the courses will be out this spring.

"We are convinced that there's a lot of interest in Jewish studies," said Prof. Paul Socken, chair of the Waterloo University advisory committee. "These two courses are both comprehensive and accessible to the non-Jewish students as well. This is the first time that Jewish studies courses will be available beyond the borders of a university campus, thanks to distance education."

Called the Jewish Experience: Symbiosis and Rejection, the courses explore the interaction of Jews and gentiles in selected periods from antiquity through the Middle Ages to today, including the relationship between Jews and Arabs. They will be taught by Prof. Martin Lockshin of York University's Centre for Jewish Studies. All texts will be read in English.

Socken said eventually the inter-university collaboration will lead to the offering of two Hebrew language courses by distance education.

The courses are part of a plan to establish a chair in Jewish Studies at Waterloo, he said. A $2-million fundraising campaign is under way to fund the chair.

At Waterloo, the program will be different from others in that it will be primarily for non-Jewish students, as well as offering courses through the distance education program. It will take a wide-ranging approach so that Jewish civilization in all its diverse expressions can be studied and developed as part of a comprehensive program. There will be a focus on the impact of Judaism on world history and religion and on the relationship between Jewish culture and Western civilization.

The Jewish studies program will be part of a religious studies and humanities option at Waterloo. It will offer students opportunities to understand the relationship between Jewish culture and disciplines such as history, philosophy, art and literature.

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From coast to coast

WJCC cuts funding to some beneficiaries

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Despite an increase of $65,000 earmarked for local needs in the 1996-97 Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) campaign, the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) is cutting allocations to two of its three major beneficiaries.

While Jewish Child & Family Service will be receiving about $1,000 more, the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education (BJE) and the new Jewish Community Campus are receiving significantly less.

At $2.96 million, the campaign raised about the same amount as the year before. The increase in contributions to the local community was balanced by a decrease in funds given to Israel.

CJA director Gerry Koffman attributes the cuts in allocations to lower interest rates on investments, transition costs in moving the community institutions to the new Asper Jewish Community Campus (which is opening in a few weeks) and the addition of a new beneficiary — the Jewish Museum of Western Canada – to open this year on the Campus. The museum is to receive $60,000.

The new Rose and Max Rady Jewish Community Centre has received the largest cutback in allocations. This year, the centre is being granted $261,750 as compared to $319,374 last year, an 18 percent decrease. This is despite the fact that the centre is supposed to be offering expanded programming.

"We are hopeful that a large increase in membership at the new location will make up the difference in income for the centre," says Beth Goldberg, the WJCC's vice-president for budgeting and allocations. "If there is a shortfall, we will have to deal with it."

While appreciative of WJCC support and aware of the financial considerations it has to deal with, JCC president Barry Steinfeld expresses disappointment at the extent of the cutback.

"We will have to leave three full-time staff positions vacant until we see how things go," he says. "The community has to rally around Campus and support it if this institution is to survive and flourish."

The BJE is seeing its funding drop from $560,000 to $517,714. That includes $30,000 for a new resource centre/Jewish Public Library. BJE president Dr. Eric Winograd says the deficit will be dealt with by holding off buying new equipment. He vows that neither staffing nor programming will be affected.

Goldberg's budget and allocations committee is strongly recommending that ways be found to improve the CJA campaign. Koffman reports that he and his staff are currently undertaking strategic planning to try to determine how best to get across to people that the CJA is not just a "collection agency."

"We have to maintain contacts with our donors throughout the year," he says. "We also have to find ways to cultivate more people to drive the campaign and we have to better show our appreciation for our workers and contributors."

Holocaust play garners honors

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The two young authors of *Everyone Has a Name*, a play about the Holocaust, and the play's 15-year old leading actress have received regional recognition.

Alana Vertlieb and Niduk Wijayasingha won the award of excellence for writing and Samatha Waxman the award of merit for acting at the recent south-western Ontario high school drama festival in Windsor.

All three are students at Parkdale High School in Dundas, Ont. They were thrilled with their awards but also, as Vertlieb said, "kind of surprised."

Everyone Has a Name was Parkdale's entry in the Sears High School Drama Festival in Hamilton earlier this year, where it was named outstanding production and also earned the excellence in acting award for Waxman.

In Windsor, the play competed against 270 plays, coming fourth in the overall competition. Only the first three will go on to the finals in Kingston later this spring.

The play is about an elderly survivor, played by Waxman, who tells her children about her happy pre-war childhood, as well as her bitter memories of the Holocaust.

Vertlieb, a participant in the March of the Living two years ago, conceived the play as her way of teaching young people about the Holocaust, the best way, as she told the recent Yom Hashoah gathering here, she felt she could express the emotions she felt on that trip to Auschwitz and Birkenau.

The play can be seen in Toronto on June 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Factory Theatre, 125 Bathurst Street at Adelaide. Admission is $5 per person. For tickets call 416-504-9971. The performance is sponsored by the March of the Living.

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Collins reinforces stereotyping: scholar

By ROBERTA STALEY
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — Columnist Doug Collins reinforces anti-Semitic stereotypes that manifest themselves in mainstream society, a Montreal scholar testified at the columnist's human rights hearing.

"The column in question specifically reinforces several well known and well-documented anti-Semitic stereotypes," said McGill University sociology professor Morton Weinfeld, who spoke at the quasi-judicial B.C. Human Rights Tribunal hearing into whether Collins' writings exposed Jews to hatred and contempt.

"The column essentially accuses Jews of being dishonest and untrustworthy (note the provocative epithet *Swindler's List*), of being motivated mainly by greed and money, of controlling the media and Hollywood, and of using the media for deliberate 'Jewish' objectives," said Weinfeld, who chairs the Canadian Ethnic Studies program at McGill University.

These stereotypes "would clearly make employers wary of employing Jews for sensitive positions demanding loyalty and trust. They are the kind of stereotype which would reinforce a glass ceiling against Jewish employees," said Weinfeld, who testified as an expert witness.

Lawyer David Sutherland, who is representing Collins and the North Shore Free Press Ltd., cross-examined Dr. Weinfeld. He said that "Jews have fared reasonably well economically and in terms of advancement in many professions and pursuits."

Weinfeld countered that there are more subtle effects from stereotyping.

The hearing is looking into a complaint by the Canadian Jewish Congress that 76-year-old Collins contravened the B.C. Human Rights Code, which prohibits the public expression of hate messages likely to expose a person or group to hatred or contempt.

The tribunal will also hear arguments about whether the relevant section of the Code violates the Charter of Rights and Freedoms' guarantee of free speech.

The complaint was filed in response to a March 9, 1994, *North Shore News* column by Collins titled Hollywood Propaganda, in which he referred to the movie *Schindler's List* as *Swindler's List*. He predicted it would win an Academy Award because "what happened to the Jews during the Second World War is not only the longest lasting but also the most effective propaganda exercise ever." He also called the Holocaust death toll of six million Jews "nonsense."

The hearing was considerably more sedate than the raucous support shown May 12 at the start of the inquiry. Collins' contingent of 100-plus supporters, many of whom disrupted the first hearing by shouting, groaning or marching around the room with signs, were absent.

Only a handful of spectators, including two security guards and a police officer, were present at the hearing. One onlooker was Lionel Kenner, who has battled Collins on a different front. A retired Simon Fraser University philosophy professor, Kenner filed a complaint with the B.C. Press Council several years ago, contending Collins' articles showed flagrant disregard for the truth when the columnist took issue with conventional views respecting the Holocaust. The council, a watchdog group which mediates complaints from the public against daily and community newspapers in British Columbia, partly upheld Kenner's complaint in 1995.

The 73-year-old Kenner told the *Bulletin* during a break in proceedings that legislation such as Section 2 is needed to ensure individual rights are not compromised by freedom of the press. "The press council supported the telling of lies," Kenner said.

BB rethinks partition option

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) officials have indicated to *The CJN* that the organization will likely endorse the controversial partitionist option.

The viability of the partition option has emerged in recent months, in the wake of the initiative by some Quebec municipalities that have expressed a determination to stay in Canada if Quebec separates.

Last summer, B'nai Brith in Quebec was among 18 organizations that formed the Coalition of Canadian Unity Groups.

Made up of a loose alliance of pro-federalist organizations – including Alliance Quebec, the Equality Party and the Quebec Committee for Canada – the coalition has been lobbying actively to have as many Quebec municipalities as possible pass "unity" resolutions.

While many if not most of such "unity" resolutions have been watered down from their original partitionist references, the Quebec media —anglophone and francophone alike —have uniformly portrayed their backers as being partitionist in their thinking.

According to Robert Libman, the former head of the Equality party and director for BBC in Quebec, there is a "very good chance" that its national body will officially back the "unity" initiative at its annual national convention this month in Ottawa.

Such a policy by BBC would contrast with that of the Jewish community's official representative body, the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

Although also actively pro-federalist, CJC has so far demurred from taking anything other than a "neutral" position on the partition issue, generally advocating a "Plan A" approach to Canadian unity before having to resort to "Plan B."

'Overwhelming consensus'

Libman noted that at an "interim" BBC assembly last February in Toronto, there was an "overwhelming" consensus that the national body should take an official stand on the right of federalist Quebecers to remain Canadian.

In Quebec, BBC did not formally adopt a pro-partitionist stance, but there "seems to be overwhelming support among most of our members for it [the pro-unity resolutions]," Libman said.

That level of support, Libman said, is what has prompted him, other BBC officials and lay members in Quebec to align themselves with the coalition.

Jack Jedwab, CJC-Quebec's executive director, said CJC-Q will continue in its efforts with the Italian and Greek communities to promote a "three-R" approach to national unity: "Reconciliation, Recognition and Renewal" that would include the adoption of some formula, "not necessarily 'distinct society,'" which recognizes "the vital role francophones have and continue to play in the identity and evolution of Canada," in the words of CJC's Political Action Guide.

But CJC has "no intention" of taking a stand on partition, Jedwab said, although he did not rule it out pending the result of a future planned referendum.

"The Jewish community is overwhelmingly federalist, but it is not monolithic [on the partition issue]," he said, while acknowledging that "many individuals in the Jewish community, as individuals, believe that if Canada is divisible, so is Quebec."

But as a position of "Jewish leadership," he said, there is no intention "for the time being" of budging from its neutral stance.

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From coast to coast

La Presse story 'pernicious'

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"The coverage was pernicious, tendentious and insensitive."

Masson told the delegation that he would "analyse the dossier" and explain his newspaper's position more clearly in an Op-Ed piece. CJC-Q would also be given space inside *La Presse* to explain its opposition to the coverage.

Masson also told them that another article in his newspaper planned in the coming days would more clearly show the relevance of focusing in on Jewish identity.

But Sultan indicated that CJC would consider other options, such as filing a grievance with the Quebec Press Council, if Masson's article fell short of a retraction.

The CJC delegation did feel it strongly made its case to Masson that the articles were sensationalistic and that religious identity was completely irrelevant to the coverage of the story, which centred on the arrests by the RCMP of 31 individuals linked to an international hashish-smuggling operation.

The first, front-page article on May 28 carried the headline: "The RCMP strike a deadly blow to a Jewish criminal organization."

A sidebar inside the same issue, about "15 Jewish Gangs Active in Quebec," traced the history of Jewish involvement in the underworld, with references to such notorious figures as Meyer Lansky and Benny (Bugsy) Siegel.

The same article attributed the prominent place of Jews in the underworld hierarchy to their "financial power and especially their invaluable contacts in almost every country in the world."

No other media referred at any time to the Jewish identity of seven of the 31 accused.

Neither did the RCMP, and the articles sparked accusations by Jewish, anti-racism groups and politicians – including B'nai Brith, the Communauté Sépharade du Québec (CSQ), and D'Arcy McGee Liberal MNA Lawrence Bergman – of pandering to ethnic and anti-Semitic stereotypes.

According to Sultan, Masson, while appearing to acknowledge that the inside sidebar may have "gone too far," saw Jewish involvement as relevant since the individuals who allegedly ran the money-laundering scheme are Jewish. He told them the reporter who wrote the story, André Cédilot, had been investigating Jewish links to organized crime for the last three years.

Masson also suggested that the his newspaper was referring to ethnic – not religious – identity in its coverage. He reiterated his view that a newspaper cannot exclude referring to ethnic identity out of a sense of "political correctness" if it perceives it to be relevant to the story.

For Sultan and other critics, however, Masson's position did not hold water. They said ethnic identity is irrelevant to criminal activity and simply reinforces stereotypes.

The Jewish delegation told Masson that *La Presse's* coverage was also inconsistent with a position it took in 1992, when the newspaper condemned in the strongest possible terms a report in a Quebec tabloid newspaper that linked the black community with criminal activity.

"We told him to be consistent," Sultan said, noting that *La Presse* fielded complaints about its "Jewish criminal" not only from the Jewish community but from the general public.

Still, despite being "wrong-headed, pernicious, and insensitive," Sultan did not believe there was any deliberate anti-Semitic intent in *La Presse's* coverage.

"We're not doing anyone a service by using the word 'anti-Semitic' when it is not there," he said. "You have to prove it. You just can't say it."

That position was at odds with that of CSQ spokesperson Elie Benchetrit, who was quoted as calling *La Presse's* coverage an "anti-Semitic attack."

"I am not happy with the CSQ's depiction of this," Sultan said.

The other members of the CJC-Q delegation meeting with Masson included regional chair Reisa Teitelbaum, executive director Jack Jedwab, former community relations chair Max Bernard and vice-chair Arielle Melloul.

THE RABBI OF KINSHASA

Rabbi Shlomo Bentolila, spiritual leader of the small Jewish community of the Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire), with his wife Myriam and their children Deborah Leah and Benjamin. *Please see story on page 1.*

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Contradictory signals on el-Baz peace mission

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Egypt's effort to get the Israeli-Palestinian peace process back on track generated contradictory signals from the two sides last week.

A communique issued by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's bureau after his second round of talks with Egyptian envoy Osama el-Baz said "some progress was achieved."

But chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said "the situation is very difficult" and that there still is "a wide gap" between the parties.

Erekat's evaluation was based on a briefing he received from Egypt's ambassador, Mohammed Bassiouny, who attended el-Baz's two-hour meeting with Netanyahu.

Netanyahu's spokesperson Shai Bazak described the session as "an attempt to define the problems dividing Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA)."

He said el-Baz's contacts with the two sides "will continue," but noted that a date has not been set for another meeting between him and Netanyahu.

El-Baz returned to Cairo immediately after his talks here. He had been expected to confer with Erekat, but their meeting was cancelled and Bassiouny took his place.

"El-Baz had something urgent to do in the Egyptian capital," Erekat said, but said he did not know what that was.

The Netanyahu–el-Baz meeting was also attended by Foreign Minister David Levy, cabinet secretary Danny Naveh, policy adviser Uzi Arad and Levy aide Ya'acov Bardugo.

Erekat saw no chance of an early summit with the participation of Netanyahu, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Erekat attributed the current impasse to Israel's ongoing settlement activity, contending that if it were frozen, "there would be no problem.

"There are 34 outstanding commitments" undertaken by Israel which have not been fulfilled," he continued.

Among those he cited were failure to "dissolve" the civil administration in Judea and Samaria, refusal to "withdraw the military government" in these areas, and evasion of "further redeployment."

Among the other causes of friction were the non-implementation of safe passage between the West Bank and Gaza, and the "inability of Palestinians to drive their cars to Jordan and Egypt."

El-Baz's peace mission was seen by Foreign Ministry sources as a supplement, rather than a substitute, for the mediation undertaken by the United States.

U.S. envoy Dennis Ross is expected to return to the region once el-Baz nails down a basis for a running dialogue or further negotiations between Israel and the PA.

PA involved in murders: Israel

[Cont'd. from page 1]

on intelligence information, police pursued the two cars. The chase lasted for 10 to 15 minutes before police stopped the cars, freed Rajibi, and arrested the six abducters.

Weapons were found in the possession of some of those arrested, he said, adding that two guns were thrown out of the cars during the chase.

At a news conference, Yitzhaki blamed the head of security in the PA for Rajibi's attempted abduction and the murder of Mahmoud Ali Jamhour, the third land dealer killed in recent weeks. Four of the six men involved in the abduction are Palestinian Preventive Security agents, he said.

"It appears the head of security in the PA is directly involved," Yitzhaki said, adding: The Jerusalem police are reported to have evidence linking Palestinian security in Ramallah to the killing of two of the murdered land dealers and to the attempted abduction of Rajibi.

Yitzhaki said police have proof that Jamhour and land dealer Farid Bashiti had been held in buildings known to belong to the PA before they were murdered. "This shows that it wasn't the initiative of one person," he said, adding that it appears that Bashiti and Jamhour were murdered in a building and their bodies dumped elsewhere.

Martin Indyk, U.S. ambassador to Israel, said that the United States condemns the killings "unreservedly."

"These killings must stop," he said. "Beyond the unacceptability of extra-judicial killings, they send a terrible message to Israelis and they're having a damaging impact on the PA's standing in Washington."

According to Ben-Ruby, police have a list of names of land dealers slated for murder, but he refused to divulge the number of dealers on the list. "We are taking measures to try to prevent further murders, but we can't physically protect or be responsible for every citizen," he said.

PA Justice Minister Freih Abu Medein said it is obvious that Israel is responsible for the murders. "I accuse the Israelis, those dealers, those traitors finished their job on the Israeli side. It's obvious Israel has a finger in it," he told reporters.

The accusation by Abu Medien was dismissed by David Bar-Illan, Netanyahu's media adviser, as "a ruse perpetrated by the PA.

"PA Chairman Yasser Arafat did not just turn on the green light for these murders to be committed, but actually sanctioned them," Bar-Illan said.

He said the notion that selling land to Jews is a crime "recalls the Nazis' Nuremberg laws."

Knesset law committee chair Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) called on the government to adopt a policy of land expropriation in response to the murders of Arab land dealers.

With files from Margot Dudkevitch Jerusalem Post Foreign Service.

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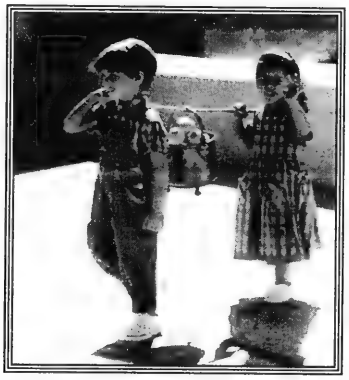

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Response to terrorism discussed

EDGAR ASHER
Special to the CJN

JERUSALEM — The collective worldwide responsibility to fight terror anywhere in the world was the subject of a seminar held recently in Jerusalem under the title, Terrorism: An Update Report. Among the contributors to the seminar was Canadian law professor Irwin Cotler from McGill University.

The seminar is part of a series of similar meetings being held in Israel over the next few weeks reviewing current trends and future threats of terrorism on global, regional and national levels.

Sponsored by the George Washington University Inter-University Centre for Terrorism Studies, the seminar reflected the ever increasing importance of academic input in the war against terror.

"I can report that there is some good news concerning the international fight against terrorism," said Prof. Yonah Alexander, the director of the centre. "Reported incidents of terror are the lowest in 25 years. There are many reasons for this, such as the end of the Cold War and the winds of democracy around the world. In fact today, 21 percent of nations are free communities and 40 percent enjoy a partial democracy.

"There is also, unfortunately, some bad news. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union there has been a proliferation of weapons available to terrorist groups. Also, individual acts of terror have involved greater brutalization than previously. Iran is still one of the worst purveyors of indirect terrorism. For example, Iran pours something like $70 to $150 million (U.S.) every year into terrorist groups in Lebanon, with of course, the acquiescence of Syria. If this funding was not available then Hezbollah would have dried out in three to four months. It is the stopping of financial backing to terrorist organizations that must be an international priority."

Alexander pointed out that Israel was well down on the international list of reported terrorist incidents. In fact Israel did not even appear on the list of the 20 top countries reporting such occurrences. In 1996, Asia reported most incidents followed by Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, Sub-Sahara and lastly North America.

Former director-general of the Israel Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Reuven Merhav, said that terrorism is a world problem and can only be dealt with by full international cooperation at every governmental level. "There is a precedent for cooperation to eliminate international terrorism," Merhav said. "About 150 years ago, piracy was almost the rule of law on the high seas. The leading nations at the time decided that enough was enough and it was determined to attack the pirates wherever they were — piracy was eliminated in a relatively short time."

It was pointed out that the nature of terrorism had changed dramatically in the past few years. The Internet is now a recruiting ground for terror organizations and many such organizations set up bogus umbrella groups to raise money, ostensibly for other causes. Last year for example, the Islamic Relief Committee in Nazareth, which was set up to raise money for orphans, was closed down when it was found that it was nothing less than a cover for raising money for Hamas. Biological terrorism is also a serious concern with all the participants agreeing that it was not a matter of "if" biological weapons would be used, but "when."

Cotler, who was recently appointed to Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy's Board of Directors of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, told the seminar that Canada was a signatory to all 11 international treaties that exist to outlaw terrorism. "It is important how we look at terrorism today. Even though one person's terrorist is another's freedom fighter, terrorism must be seen internationally as a crime against human dignity and rights.

"We blur too often the moral crime of terror. It has to be reconceptualized. What is terror? All countries, like Canada, must legislate against terror and have a firm policy against it. We must take the war to the terrorist — it must be the first responsibility of states. Global phenomena need global solutions. The G-7 and the newly formed industrialized group of eight, which includes Russia, have the fight against terrorism high on their agenda."

Cotler commented on the recent extradition of Abu Mazook from the United States to Jordan after he had been found guilty in an American court of organizing international terror attacks. "What kind of message does this send when a convicted terrorist is seen to get away with his crime? Terrorists must be hunted down, tried by the due process of law and punished."

For Cotler his determined words and delivery had a special significance. On April 25 this year, during a Passover hike in Wadi Kelt just outside Jerusalem, two young women, Hagit Zavitsky and Liat Kastiel, who were both 23 years old, were brutally stabbed to death by terrorists and their bodies thrown down a hill into a pool of water. Hagit Zavitsky was Irwin Cotler's niece.

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Israel & the Jewish World

The Week in Israel

May 26

• Israel has reportedly suspended the demolition of illegally built homes in the West Bank in the hope that the move would be seen as a goodwill gesture by the Palestinians and would end the impasse in peace talks.

May 27

• Israel's justice minister said that if no compromise is reached on a controversial conversion law, it would be brought before the Knesset for second and final readings in a month. The bill would grant the Orthodox establishment sole authority over conversions conducted in Israel.

• The Jordanian soldier who shot and killed seven Israeli schoolgirls at a tourist spot on the Israeli-Jordanian border last March pleaded not guilty to charges of premeditated murder at the opening session of his trial. If convicted, Ahmed Daqamseh could face death by hanging.

• A committee appointed to examine the privatization of El Al, proposed that all of its stocks be sold on the Tel Aviv stock exchange. The committee also suggested that the airline begin flying on the Sabbath.

May 29

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denied that he plans to offer the Palestinians control of 40 percent of the West Bank as part of a permanent settlement.

May 30

• An IDF officer and at least three Hezbullah gunmen were killed in separate incidents in heavy fighting in south Lebanon since Thursday.

With files from JTA

Six Day War recalled

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Thirty years ago on June 5, the Six Day War, one of the most momentous events in modern history broke out as waves of Israeli planes swooped into the Sinai Peninsula.

The climax of a three-week political crisis triggered by Syrian hostility, Soviet intrigue, Egyptian bluster, pan-Arab hysteria, United Nations incompetence and American indecisiveness, the war was the high-water mark of Israeli military dominance in the Middle East.

Israel's brilliant victory ushered in a costly two-front war of attrition, heightened the importance of the Palestinian national movement and sowed the seeds of the 1973 Yom Kippur War, which shattered illusions of Israeli invincibility and paved the way for an accommodation with Egypt.

The Six Day War was sparked by the rising crescendo of tension with Syria. A radical Baathist regime had seized power in Damascus and it encouraged the newly formed PLO to mount cross-border raids into Israel. The infiltrations exacerbated unresolved problems concerning demilitarized zones, fishing rights in the Sea of Galilee and access to the waters of the Jordan River.

On April 7, 1967, in an incident symptomatic of the border troubles, Syria shelled Israeli settlements near the Golan Heights. Israel hit back and in the ensuing battle six Syrian MIGs were downed by Israeli Mirages and Mysteres. In turn, Syria urged its ally, Egypt, to retaliate. Egypt, enmeshed in a civil war in Yemen, held back. But in the meantime, the Soviet Union – Syria's patron – circulated deliberately false rumors of a massive Israeli military buildup in the Galilee.

From this point onward, the crisis deepened. Gamal Abdul Nasser, the president of Egypt, demanded the removal from Israeli border areas of the United Nations peacekeeping force in the Sinai. Without consulting the major powers, the UN secretary-general, U Thant, complied.

The conflict escalated when Egypt dispatched 100,000 troops toward Israel and closed the Straits of Tiran – Israel's lifeline from Eilat – to Israeli shipping. Israel mobilized its reserves, but exercised restraint in the face of a U.S. promise to calm the situation by political means.

The Israeli government, led by then prime minister Levi Eshkol, sought to avoid war, fearing that casualties would run into the thousands. As chief of staff Yitzhak Rabin waited for a decision, Eshkol formed a national unity government and appointed Moshe Dayan as minister of defence.

In the Arab world, there were further ominous developments. Arab leaders aggressively rallied around Egypt, Nasser declared that his objective was Israel's destruction and Egypt signed a defence agreement with Jordan. Israel, besieged by a ring of Arab armies, went to war when it concluded that the United States would not or could not honor a 1957 commitment to maintain free movement in the Straits of Tiran.

Israel's triumph in the Six Day War was not only a function of preparedness, flexibility and courage but of Arab complacency. Nasser underestimated Israel's ability to knock out his air force in one fatal blow and failed to understand that once Israel gained air supremacy, his army would be exceedingly vulnerable. And the lack of coordination and trust between Egypt and its chief allies, Syria and Jordan (which was conned into the fighting by Egyptian misinformation), doomed the Arab war effort.

The war produced an ambivalent balance sheet. It gave Israel strategic depth but, with the proliferation of settlements and the onset of violence in the territories, polarized Israeli society. It embroiled Israel in mini wars along the Suez canal and in the Jordan Valley. It intensified the Arab-Israeli dispute (especially after the three noes of the Khartoum Conference), upgraded the role of the PLO and the Soviet Union, isolated Israel in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, and drew Israel and the United States into an informal alliance.

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The rabbi of Kinshasa

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The community also demonstrates its love of the land of Israel, the rabbi said. "Our community is very Zionist. We have close ties with Israeli diplomatic leaders posted in Kinshasa. We meet on a regular basis."

Anti-Semitism, Rabbi Bentolila said, has never existed in Zaire. "The Zairians have always welcomed us with open arms... As far as I know, no member of our community has ever been a victim of a xenophobic act. No business or residence belonging to a Jew has ever been vandalized."

Strictly as a precaution, many of the Jewish women and children temporarily left the country when the conflict reached its height.

"The majority of the heads of the families stayed. They had professional obligations that they could not suddenly leave from one day to the next. But the situation here is certainly not as gloomy as the foreign media are depicting it daily. For months, when the conflict was at its worst, the authorities never imposed curfews in Kinshasa. We could go about freely at any hour of the night," Rabbi Bentolila recalled.

Asked if there is a future for the Jews in this country which is battered by serious inter-ethnic conflicts, the rabbi said, "I believe so. This country is endowed with incredible natural wealth and extraordinary human potential. Jews have always had a place in this welcoming and generous nation of some 45.3 million people. We see much hope for the future, with God's help.

Rabbi Bentolila can be reached by e-mail at [HBDZ10@calvacom.sr].

This article appeared in French in the Montreal edition of CJN, *May 29. Translation by Carolan Halpern.*

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Israel & the Jewish World

TAU scientist's invention could cut nuclear terror

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The United States Patent Office has granted a patent to Tel Aviv University nuclear scientist prof. Alvin Radkowsky for an invention that, if adopted by governments, would significantly reduce the global threat of nuclear terrorism and the availability of nuclear weapons.

Radkowsky, who immigrated to Israel in 1972 after serving as chief scientist of the U.S. Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program for 24 years, invented a technology that uses thorium instead of uranium for much of the fuel in the core of nuclear reactors, and does not produce any by-products that could possibly be used for making weapons.

At present, all the approximately 400 commercial light-water reactors in the world discharge over 70 tons of plutonium annually. Only four kilos of plutonium are needed to make a nuclear bomb.

The invention is known as the non-proliferative light-water thorium reactor – or the Radkowsky Thorium Reactor (RTR). Thorium is much more plentiful and cheaper than uranium – it can even be mined in Israel – but until now, no practical method was found to exploit its potential in nuclear energy production.

Radkowsky noted last Sunday that another advantage of the RTR is a major reduction in nuclear waste, not only in quantity and toxicity, but also in radioactivity and heat emission. Nuclear-power countries are facing serious problems in storing nuclear waste, he said.

The RTR, he maintained, could reduce nuclear power costs by 20 percent to 30 percent, partly due to the savings in uranium. The RTR core is exactly the same size as existing standard uranium cores, so it can easily be substituted.

Radkowsky said he presented his ideas and design several years ago to then-energy minister prof. Yuval Ne'eman, who "didn't appreciate the significance of the discovery and didn't agree to allocate money for the project." Instead, he turned to the Raytheon Corporation in the United States, which was very interested. Now the patent has been granted to Radkowsky by the United States, and also approved by the Japanese and Russian governments.

Last month, Radkowsky presented information about the reactor to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, which is now considering it for approval. A cooperation agreement was recently signed with Nuclear Fuel Industries of Japan, and a full-scale prototype RTR is now being built at the Kurchatov Institute in Moscow with U.S. government funding. It should be ready by 1999.

Radkowsky said he believes Western governments should be pressured into selling only RTR-type nuclear reactors to countries such as Iran, Iraq, Libya and Syria. They would also be installed in developing countries that lack natural resources, without fear that unstable governments may divert the reactor fuel to make weapons.

"If we don't put a stop to conventional uranium cores now, nuclear terror will ensue, and the use of legitimate nuclear energy will be barred worldwide," he warned.

Radkowsky received a special award from the U.S. secretary of the navy for an invention that made it possible to lengthen the endurance of naval reactor cores from several weeks to many years. This invention has been declassified and is now used by nearly all commercial reactors.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Karen & Jordie Isen are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Nissae on March 3. Tajja and Joshua are thrilled with their new sister.

Mazel tov on your bat mitzvah, Randi. Love from Mom, Dad, Andrea & Zev.

Louise & Mel Rosenbloom and Betty & Abe Richmon are thrilled to announce the engagement of their children Jordana & David.

Elaine & Stan Laiken are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Janna to Jonathan, son of Katherine Krieger. We wish you much happiness.

Happy 75th birthday to Abraham Burko on Feb. 18. Love, wife Eva, children Maureen & Michael, Risa & Tommy and grandchildren Jeremy, Robby, Lauren, Rachel and Jordan.

Mazel tov to Leo & Alice Friedman on your 50th wedding anniversary. With love Cathie, Danny, Imre, Kevin, Maca, Mark, Robert, Ronnie, Stella and Steven.

Mazel tov to Ethel & Lewis Moses, who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary June 22. Love from your children and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Tobie & Albert Baker who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in March. Love from Sheldon & Natalie, Helen & Jerry and the Baker family.

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To Your Health

In the first of regular monthly columns To Your Health, *a partnership of Mount Sinai Hospital and Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, will address a current issue which has received widespread media attention: hereditary breast cancer in the Ashkenazi Jewish population.*

To Your Health asked Dr. Pamela Goodwin, head of the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre of Mount Sinai Hospital and senior scientist at the Hospital's Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute (SLRI), and Dr. Irene Andrulis, SLRI senior scientist and director of the Ontario Cancer Genetics Network, to update us on the risks and current research surrounding this issue.

Studies show that inherited predisposition to breast cancer may be more common in people of Ashkenazi (European) Jewish descent. It is estimated that two to three percent of Ashkenazi Jewish women carry a genetic trait that predisposes them to breast and ovarian cancer.

Men can inherit and pass on this trait, but are not at a significantly increased risk for cancer compared to women.

This trait is a gene alteration, called a mutation. Genes are our "blueprints" that determine our traits and characteristics. We know that genes for breast cancer exist, and that mutations in these genes predispose people to breast cancer. There are two known genes that are responsible for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer. The first gene for hereditary breast cancer, called BRCA-1, was identified in October 1994. The second breast cancer gene, BRCA-2, was found in December 1995.

At least four mutations in these two genes are responsible for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer in the Jewish population. Three of these mutations are found in BRCA-1 and one mutation is found in BRCA-2.

Women who inherit a BRCA-1 mutation are at a significantly increased risk for breast and ovarian cancer. Based on current research, the risk for breast cancer may be as high as 85 percent, and as high as 60 percent for ovarian cancer. Women may also have a slightly increased risk for colon cancer. The risk of cancer for men with a mutation has not been clearly established. They may have a slightly increased risk for prostate and colon cancer. People who carry a BRCA-1 or BRCA-2 mutation have a 50 percent chance of passing the mutation to a child.

Women who inherit a BRCA-2 mutation are also at an increased risk for breast and ovarian cancer, although their risk for breast cancer is possibly not as high as 85 percent, and their risk for ovarian cancer is probably only 10 to 20 percent. We estimate that men with a BRCA-2 mutation are at a risk of five to 10 percent for breast cancer.

In addition, in other work at Mount Sinai Hospital, Drs. Mark Redston, Hilmi Ozcelik and Steven Gallinger have recently found that Ashkenazi individuals with a BRCA-2 mutation have a very greatly elevated risk of pancreatic cancer.

The SLRI at Mount Sinai Hospital is involved in a multi-centred study looking at the prevalence of inherited breast cancer in Ashkenazi Jewish men and women. This study will help determine how common inherited breast cancer mutations are in this population.

Participants eligible for the study are people diagnosed with breast cancer who are of Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry.

Detailed family history, risk factor information and a blood sample will be required, and all participants will receive extensive genetic counselling.

When the genetic testing results show that a person has a "positive" result (of an inherited BRCA-1 or BRCA-2 mutation), genetic testing and counselling will be offered to family members to determine if they have the same mutation.

Information from this study will enable researchers to correlate the occurrence of breast cancer with genetic and environmental factors.

For more information about participation in this study, please call the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital 416-586-4738. Other participating centres include Toronto-Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, Women's College Hospital and North York General Hospital.

Mount Sinai Hospital's Healthy Living Series in partnership with the Bathurst Jewish Centre and the Jewish Women's Federation present a community education forum: Hereditary Breast Cancer in the Ashkenazi Population the latest in diagnosis, family screening and current Toronto research June 25, 7:30 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., The Jerusalem Room.

For more information, call 416-586-8338.

Mutated genes predispose Jews to breast cancer

Baycrest joins prestigious health care organization

TORONTO — The Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care has become the first member outside the United States of the National Chronic Care Consortium (NCCC), an alliance of leading non-profit health care systems.

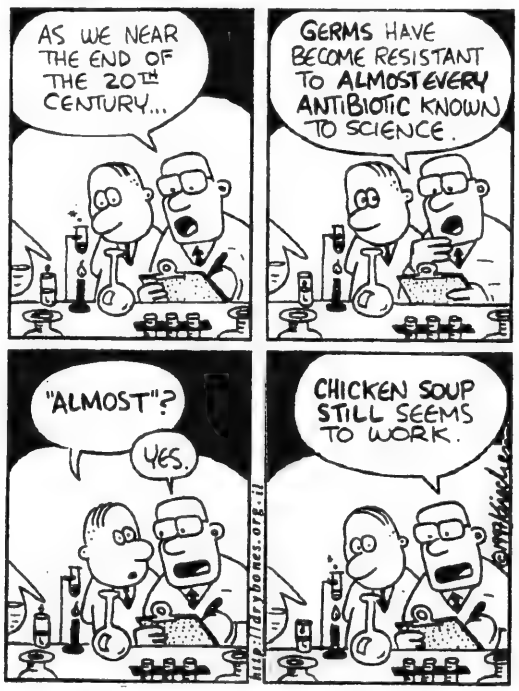
To be considered for entry into the NCCC, member organizations must have a reputation for innovative leadership and must provide a full range of medical and other services to the individuals in their care.

"Baycrest was invited to apply for membership because the NCCC recognizes we represent a true system of care, providing a unique and comprehensive range of services," says Stephen Herbert, Baycrest's president and CEO.

The NCCC is committed to integrated care. Integrated health care systems are designed for the most effective use of resources while providing individuals with streamlined access to the care they need when they need it.

The NCCC has 30 members, including the Johns Hopkins Health System in Baltimore and Detroit's Henry Ford Health System.

Dry Bones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ONLY A CHILD

I am all alone, in a hiding place.
They took my mother, my father,
and left without a trace.
I am all alone in a hiding place.

Here in this ghetto,
I stand by the window,
hoping that one day I'll run free in a meadow
Here in this ghetto.

I hate this place!
Why did they do this to us?
Aren't we part of the human race?

I hate this place!

What did I ever do that was wrong?
Will I ever be free?
What is taking so long?
What did I ever do that was wrong?

I am only a child,
a child who has no one.
I have never smiled.
I am only a child.

By Shira Stein
Grade 6

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Our computer lost the addresses of Samuel Manley and Esther Guttman our April cartoon "Winners".

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Thank you,

THE EDITOR

CJ Kids

Book Review & cartoon too

Stranger in a strange land: new school, new classmates

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

For many children, school can be a scary place. They worry about not being able to do all the work the teachers expect, about making friends and about being part of the crowd.

Imagine how much harder it is for immigrant children. For them, everything is new and different.

Eva Wiseman, who herself emigrated from Hungary as a child, has written a very moving book called *A Place Not Home* (Stoddart, 1996) about a 13-year-old girl who has to face all these problems.

Nelly lives with her parents and younger sister in Hungary. Although most of her family was lost in the Holocaust, and the country is under Communist rule, her life is happy.

She has a room that she loves, a circle of friends, and the same concerns as Canadian children her age — having to take music lessons, boring classes, and wondering if a boy that she likes, likes her back.

Then the 1956 Hungarian revolution begins, and at the same time as the Communists crack down on the revolutionaries, anti-Semitism begins to flourish.

Her parents and many of their friends decide to escape to the west, where they will be safer. Eventually, they make their way to Montreal.

The escape and their months in the refugee camps are very hard. For much of the time the family is hungry, short of clothes, frightened and unsure of what will happen to them.

Once they get to Canada, Nellie has to deal with unsympathetic and downright nasty kids in her school, until she learns to fit in.

Through the book, Nellie grows from a rather self-centred child, to a brave and understanding teenager.

It is interesting to see how her whole family learns to adjust to a new country, with a new language and different ways.

Wiseman says that one reason she wrote the book is so that children will learn to be sympathetic to those of other cultures. This book is sure to encourage this understanding.

SHAVUOT
ISN'T THERE A SPELLING MISTAKE IN THIS COMMANDMENT?
MOSES, BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY THAT THERE ARE NO MISTAKES.
SIMON KIRSHENBLAT '96

WHEN GOD SPOKE...

Kids, color in our Moses cartoon and send it to us. Write your name, address and phone number on the back. We'll put them into a hat and select three winners. Each winner will receive a cheque for $20.

Mazel Tov kids

The CJN enjoyed all of the beautifully colored drawings of Golda Meir sent in by our readers. The three names selected from our hat were Andrew Charney, Emanuel Lichtok and Sara Starkman. Each of our lucky winners will receive a cheque for $20.

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Business Profile

The innovators behind Playdium

Entrepreneurs take playing games seriously

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Never has the playing of games been such serious business.

Time was, if you wanted to ride a go-cart, you'd go to a go-cart track; if you wanted to play miniature golf, you'd go to a mini-golf range; if you wanted to play video games, you'd go to an arcade; and if you wanted to go rock-climbing you'd head for Algonquin Park.

The facilities that served the game-playing public were usually mom and pop ventures that were pretty modest in scope or had unsavory reputations of attracting dissolute youth.

Not any more. Out in Mississauga, across from Square One and next to the recently completed multiplex theatre, is the Canadian mecca for afficionados of technological whiz-bangery.

Known alternatively as Playdium or Sega City, it's the brainchild of Jon Hussman and Steven Warsh, two young Toronto entrepreneurs with their fingers on the pulse of the games-playing public.

Occupying 12 acres of previously undeveloped real estate, Playdium is designed to be the leisure/entertainment concept for the millennium. Constructed at a cost of $18 million, the facility is largely debt free. Partnered with Sega Gameworks, which put up half the initial cost, Hussman and Warsh raised the rest of the sum themselves, bringing in "large Canadian investors."

Recently, two new investors signed on, Chinacem Group, which is owned by Nina Wang, a Hong Kong tycoon; and Chelsfield PLC, a British firm. Together they plan to pump $20 million into the venture.

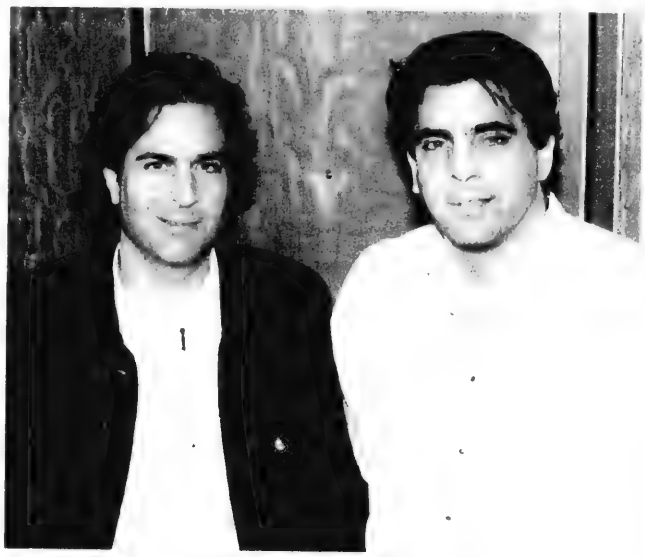
Playdium combines an outdoor area full of summertime activities, like a go-cart track, mini-golf and rock climbing, with an indoor, neon-lit arcade featuring state of the art, participatory video games.

Unlike earlier generations of video games, these technological marvels allow consumers to become active participants through the creative use of computer-aided simulators.

As a result, you can sit on board a motorcycle and feel as if you're really in a race.

When you open your "bike's" throttle, you feel your speed increasing thanks to the changing image on a video screen in front of you and thanks to the motion of the bike beneath you. When you bank to the right, the bike and video make it feel that you are banking to the right. You actually feel like you're moving.

Similar setups are offered for grand prix road racing and water Ski-Doos. There's also a virtual reality hang-gliding game in which you lay prone on your stomach while maneuvering the glider through the Grand Canyon. The effect is so "real" you feel yourself soaring up or down, right or left.



Jon Hussman (left) and Steven Warsh

Based on the tried and true premise of giving the people what they want, Playdium has registered remarkable success since it opened last August. From September to December, 250,000 people visited the entertainment complex, spending an average of $15 per person. Customers play with a Playdium debit card, similar to bank debit cards, after they've deposited a sum with the Playdium "bank." The electronic cards assist management in tracing the purchasing habits of customers.

The core of Playdium's clientele ranges in age from 12 to 25, though plenty of older folks enjoy the facility along with their kids and friends, said general manager Ian Moorhead.

Hussman and Warsh say they've tried to make the facility a clean, wholesome environment, where parents and kids can both come and have fun.

Playdium's image has clearly appealed to some prominent sponsors. The Toronto Blue Jays, eager to enhance their presence in Mississauga and other areas west of Metro, sponsor a large "clubhouse" complete with batting cages and club memorabilia, and also operate the Cito Gaston Baseball Academy, Moorhead said.

Famed race car driver Mario Andretti has lent his name to the mile-long go-cart track, which features cars that speed by at 25 miles per hour.

You can put a lot of games on 12 acres and there appears to be something for everyone, including computer golf and rock climbing. When they opened the doors last summer, Warsh and Hussman knew they had a tiger by the tail, but say that even they were surprised by Playdium's runaway success.

"We've been running over budget," Warsh, 41, said.

In the early '90s, long before the concept behind Playdium took root, the longtime friends and business partners were involved in real estate development. They began examining consumer patterns and "we noticed significant trends were taking place that would have significant impact on the out-of-home entertainment industry," Hussman, 37, said.

"We saw the migration of money to leisure...to double digit growth in out-of-home entertainment," said Warsh. At the same time, there was an industry-wide growth in computer-processing capacity and software — technology that would be the catalyst that changed the industry.

The upshot of all that, Warsh continued, would be that consumes could play advanced computer games at relative low prices.

Marrying the new technology to the trend towards theme environments was like creating "an entertainment category-killer like Home Depot," Warsh said.

It's clearly caught on and Hussman believes it will become even more attractive to consumers as "more and more incredible games come onstream...at a cost where the customer gets great entertainment value."

Introducing new games to their clientele is a key part of the business and since September, there's been a 30 percent changeover in games, Warsh pointed out.

Warsh and Hussman believe there's plenty of room for three or four Playdiums in Toronto, with perhaps the next one opening by the summer or fall of 1998. In addition, the duo, who retain creative and strategic control of Playdium, say they are looking to expand to three sites in Vancouver and then to Hong Kong, London and Moscow.

"Fun," says Hussman, "is becoming a serious business."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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Artistic director lives for music

DOROTHY LICHTBLAU
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — The focal point of Brian Katz' life is music.

Guitarist, composer and teacher, Katz says that what drives him is "helping people to feel more musical."

His profound interest in weaving music into the fabric of community life is evident from the diverse nature of his work.

On June 7, as artistic director of the benefit celebration for the Morris Winchevsky School and Camp Neivelt, Katz gathers the talents of leading performers, including Theresa Tova, Chutzpah, Michael Wex, Dave Wall, Rhea Tregebov and Sharon and Joe Hampson.

Brian Katz

On June 11, he performs with Hartzedike Lieder (comprised of Katz, Allan Merovitz and Martin van de Ven), a group that explores new directions in Yiddish music, at Mezzetta, on St. Clair Avenue West. On June 27 and 29, Katz teams up with New York guitarist Mordy Ferber for the Du Maurier Jazz Festival.

In addition to his live performances, Katz has made several recordings, most recently with singer Beth Anne Cole on the CD *Song Under the Stair*. He also conducts the Narayever Singers, teaches classical guitar at York University and is on the faculty at the University of Toronto Music Education Department.

Born in North York 41 years ago into a "music-friendly household," Katz says he realized very early the direction his life would take.

"My first big cathartic experience with music was hearing Louis Armstrong on the *Ed Sullivan Show*," he says. "I have a clear memory of breaking into tears when I heard him sing. He became my idol and I would imitate his gravelly style in performances for my family." In retrospect, Katz believes the combination of Armstrong's musicality and emotionalism is what moved him so deeply.

At the age of seven, Katz says, he wanted to be a Beatle after seeing the fab four on television. Shortly afterward, he began guitar lessons at a local conservatory and entered into a lifelong relationship with that instrument.

But it was in jazz flugelhornist/composer Fred Stone that Katz found the mentor who made the notion of being a professional musician compelling. Katz was 15 when he met Stone at a workshop. A classically trained, symphonic musician, who was a major exponent of "third stream music" (the blending of jazz and classical forms), Stone helped Katz strengthen his musicality and his sense of "being your own person in music".

Later, as a student at the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto and in the jazz programs at Humber College and York University, he continued to study with guitarists Eli Kassner, Ralph Towner and Norbert Kraft, South Indian drummer Trichy Sankaran, pianist Casey Sokol and composition teacher Sam Dolon.

Though the focus of Katz' work is the dynamics of improvisation, he believes that "art is something you work at." Music is not just for the chosen few, he says, but for anyone who wants to invest time in gaining a foundation of musical knowledge and is willing to expand his musical awareness.

According to Katz, many people close themselves to music because they have learned to believe they are not capable. This thinking is due to poor musical training and the popular belief that artistry is a commodity rather than a process.

Katz continues to refine his art, collaborating with classical and jazz musicians, including Barbara Ackerman, Jane Bunnett, Ernie Tollar and William Beauvais and Yiddish singers like Cole Merovitz.

Katz plans to give more concerts, which means playing abroad, since there are few venues for modern jazz in Canada. And as an educator, he wants to introduce better methods of connecting people to their musical potential. Mostly, though, Katz hopes to communicate the joy of making music.

The June 7 concert, which will also feature video clips from a conversation with Pete Seeger, starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Edward Johnson Building, University of Toronto, 80 Queen's Park Circle.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

TOURISM BOOM REJUVENATES JORDAN

In Jordan, a country drawing increasing numbers of Jewish travellers since the 1995 peace treaty with Israel, government planners are keenly aware of the importance of tourism to the economy.

Last year the Hashemite Kingdom's gross national product (GNP) was about $7 billion, of which the tourism sector accounted for about $700 million or 10 percent. Currently experiencing a tourism boom, Jordan is building roads and hotels and laying out essential infrastructure elements as it prepares to welcome millions of Christian pilgrims in the year 2000.

If peace is good for tourism, tourism is good for peace, Dr. Saleh Rusheidat, Jordan's minister of tourism, told me recently in Amman.

"We feel that tourism can strengthen the peace process," he said. "That's why this ministry is always ahead of the other ministries in talking about peace."

However, tourism suffers in Jordan, as it does in Israel, each time a political development such as the Har Choma housing project threatens the fragile Israeli-Palestinian peace.

Delicate phase

"We need to have some sort of understanding between Palestinians and Israelis. This is essential for Jordan," he said. "Without this, we can't think that things can be normal in the region."

Jordan's minister of information, Dr. Marwan Muasher, noted that Jordan is in a delicate phase of growth as it tries to stand economically and politically on its own two feet. Throughout the 1980s, at least 20 percent of its GNP consisted in Arab aid, while remittances sent home by Jordanians working in oil-rich Gulf states made up another 20 percent. But Jordan's disastrous, self-protective alliance with Iraq in the Gulf War ultimately terminated these gifts.

"Now Jordan has to rely on its own resources in order to survive," Muasher said. "But since we have no noticeable natural resources, we must rely chiefly on tourism."

In a region where Islamic extremism and fundamentalism run strong, the Jordanians have recently introduced political reforms to bolster their parliamentary democracy, over which the king still seems to maintain the upper hand.

"There are no underground political parties in Jordan," Muasher said. "You cannot be a political party unless you accept the principle of pluralism and renounce violence as part of your constitution. You have to acknowledge the right of other parties to exist. It's a unique model that doesn't exist elsewhere in the Arab world."

Simultaneously the government has initiated a program of economic reform to make the economy more market-oriented and draw foreign investment. "Tourism is particularly attractive to investors," said Muasher. "Anything that is labor-intensive is near the top of the list, since labor is much cheaper here than in Israel."

Meanwhile, some Jordanians have already profited by utilizing Israel's international marketing contacts in exporting goods.

Jordan's peace, economic and political initiatives comprise a "three-pronged model" through which the government envisions the country's future — a vision to which it seems deeply committed. As for tourism, the Jordanians recognize they can't compete with Israel in places like Eilat.

Instead, the Jordanians intend to specialize in medical, health, archeological and religious tourism.

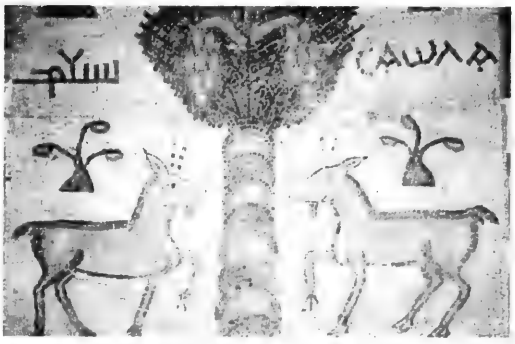
The two neighbors are jointly planning an international airport for the Aqaba-Eilat region. The facility would be in Jordan, with passenger exits in both countries. "It will be called the Peace Airport," Muasher said.

Jordanian and Israeli officials both acknowledge the road to peace is rocky but say the trip is irreversible. "There are obstacles but they can be overcome," said Omar Rifai, Jordan's ambassador in Tel Aviv.

"Meanwhile, we have a big interest in strengthening tourism. We believe that each person who comes to Israel and Jordan helps to stabilize the situation economically and thereby contributes to the peace process in his own small way."

* * *

Jerusalem on Foot: Yoel Mendelowitz, director for the past 27 years of Zion Walking Tours, once worked in a Schindler factory. Now he and his colleagues offer eight weekly tours around the Old City, including a tour of the Mount Zion area that takes in Schindler's grave. The office is located just inside the Jaffa Gate, across from the Tower of David Museum (02-287866).



A 6th century mosaic at Mt. Nebo, Jordan. [Bill Gladstone photo]

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Libby Scheier, TWW director as seen in *The Canadian Jewish News*

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

JOLSON CRIES "MAMMY!" AT ROYAL ALEX

Jolson: The Musical, which opens June 16 at Toronto's Royal Alex, delivers a wonderful portrait of Jewish show-business legend **Al Jolson**.

I saw this high-budget musical profile last year at the Victoria Palace Theatre in London's West End. The winner of the 1996 Olivier Award for Best Musical, it is a highly likeable, polished production, complete with large cast, intricate staging and quickly moveable sets.

The show's irreplaceable centrepiece is British actor **Brian Conley**.

With his dynamic stage presence and powerful singing voice, Conley easily manages to rekindle Jolson's famous stage magic.

Writers Francis Essex and Rob Bettinson provide a sufficiently strong plot line upon which to peg the 32 musical numbers, which include such sentimental favorites as *Rock-a-Bye Your Baby*, *Swanee*, *You Made Me Love You*, *April Showers* and *Sonny Boy*.

At the show's close, I was among those who jumped to their feet in wholehearted applause.

Al Jolson

Incidentally, the real Jolson played the Royal Alex eight times between 1915 and 1941. After the last performance, *Saturday Night* reviewer Robertson Davies wrote:

"Al Jolson has a winning way and a surety of touch, a rapport with his audience which would spread like a guffaw through the pews of a tabernacle. Such ability commands respect, and there is no doubt that, within the limits of his personality and his material, he is an artist of the highest order, one whom no student of the theatre should neglect to see and study. Go see Mr. Jolson; he is worth it!"

This production is not to be missed if you are a Jolson fan. For tickets ($25 to $89) call TicketKing at 416-872-1212 or 800-461-3333. Until Sept. 6.

Ashkenaz '97 Releases Line-up

Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture unfolds at Harbourfront Centre Aug. 25 to Sept. 1. According to festival director **David Buchbinder**, "This festival is going to jump up, grab you by the hand and take you on a ride you won't soon forget."

Theresa Tova

Musical talent includes the Ashkenaz orchestra **Project** (a "new Yiddish supergroup"), **Andy Statman Quartet**, **John Zorn's Bar Kochba**, **Kapelye**, **the Klezmatics**, the famed **Epstein Brothers** (from the film *A Tickle In The Heart*), the **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band**, **Esta** from Israel, **Davka**, **Naftule's Dream**, **Salomon Klezmorim** and local diva extraordinaire **Theresa Tova**.

Theatre endeavors include a gripping new adaptation from Poland of **S. Ansky's** masterpiece *The Dybbuk*, the world premiere of *The Memoirs of Gluckel of Hameln*, a production of *The Last Yiddish Poet* imported from San Francisco, and Toronto-based Theatre Asylum's recent hit *My Mother's Courage*.

Ashkenaz also features numerous dance, film and visual arts events, as well as a parade, late night cabaret, children's events, marketplace, workshops and more. Call 416-973-3000 or 416-973-4000 for details.

Film Notes

• The Toronto Jewish Film Society presents *The Dybbuk*, the 1937 Yiddish film classic from Poland (with English subtitles). Fully restored. The celebrated play by S. Ansky, involving promises made for unborn children and a bride possessed by a dybbuk, has been described as a "rich ethnographic tapestry of Jewish lore and legend." June 8, Art Gallery of Ontario, Jackman Hall. Members should arrive by 7 p.m. for 7:30 screening; single ticket sales start at 7:15 p.m. Bill Emery, 924-6211.

Theatre

• **The Yorkminstrels Show Choir** presents *Music, Music, Music! (Or What Would We Do Without It?)*, Leah Posluns Theatre, Thurs. June 26, 8 p.m. Songs include medleys from *Crazy For You*, *Fiddler On The Roof* and *Showboat* and other favorites from the 1920s to today. Tickets ($15), 416-214-6162.

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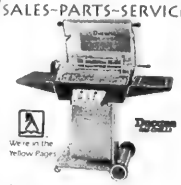

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Acryllic nails, $15., full set & fills, evg. appt's. 416-663-8691.

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Mr. Fix it Restorations. Painting, plastering, wallpapering, drywall, tiles, stucco, carpentry, maintenance repairs.**FREE** Estimates. Call 416-458-4655.

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Forest Hill
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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

2 ACRES BREATHTAKING RAVINE $1,329,000
Approx. 5500 sf & fab in SOLD! pool. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

ARMOUR HEIGHTS SPECTACULAR CUSTOM $649,000
Approx. 3300 sf luxurious ensuite, 4 frpl. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

GREAT OPPORTUNITY 6 PLEX
Good income. Rose Simon* 226-1987

ARMOUR HEIGHTS $549,000
4 bdrm., 4 bath, total reno., fab. cul-de-sac, P. Pollock*/ B. Westbrook* 226-1987

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/EGLINTON
Charming Tudor home, 4 bdrm., fin. bsmt. F. Sversky** 488-2875

TRENDY YORKVILLE LOCALE $449,000
Charming detached brick front. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

FAMILY HOME! STEPS TO SHULS, SCHOOLS
Add on or live as is, lge. kit. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS FAB CENTRE HALL
3 bdrm. + fam. rm., ing SOLD $339K Patti Pollock* 226-1987

BATHURST-LAWRENCE-BROOKVIEW DRIVE
4 bed, lge. lot, $315,000. Linda Reitapple* 488-2875

CENTRE PROMENADE ONE YEAR NEW T.H.
$237,000, 3 bdrm., 4 bath, fin. bsmt. A. Eidlitz* 226-1987

BATHURST-DREWRY $214,900 CONDO
Over 1400 sf, 6th flr., mint cond. A. Eidlitz* 226-1987

$194,000 NEW LIST! DANFORTH
3 bdrm., private dr., gar., fin. bsmt. Won't last. J. Lerner* 226-1987

YORKVILLE HOME SPECTACULAR DECOR
$5000/mo., 2 bdrms., frplc., parking. Janice Fox* 488-2875

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Fab. furn.1 bdrm., rental, Can be short-term. L. Elkind* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

LOCATION BAYVIEW RIDGE LOCATION
Exec. bung., lot 100'x250'. Call Mark Cowan* 226-1987

$879,000 BAYVIEW-YORK MILLS "BLT 92"
5 bdrm., 4100' customized res. near Owen school. J. Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS BUNGALOW
160'x127', perfect to live-in or professional. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

3 LOTS AVAILABLE - BAYVIEW-CUMMER
$325,000 - $368,000, new sub-division. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

WILTSHIRE! LOCATION! LOCATION!
Stunning 4 bed., prem. lot. Marlene Olan* 226-1987

31 ACRES IN UXBRIDGE CENTURY RES.
2 barns, 14 horse stalls. For info. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

***NEW PRICE* WON'T LAST!! $259,900**
German Mills, 4 br. ens. Marlene Olan* 226-1987

COTTAGE IN GRAVENHURST
75'x377' on waterfront, 4 bdrm., scenic. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

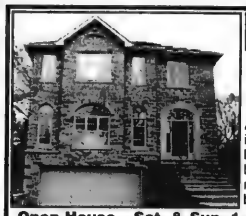
OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

5 BDRM COTTAGE IN BELLE EWART
Close to lake & shul, beautiful grounds. Rose Simon* 226-1987

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE



CUSTOM BUILT HOME
CLASSIC NATURAL STONE
Prestigious Avenue Road/Lawrence area

Approx. 3,200', 9 1/2' ceilings, granite & marble, [illegible] glass blocks [illegible], family rm. + den, 4+1 bdrms., fin. bsmt., gourmet kitchen.

SOLD

Open House - Sat. & Sun. 1-5. 683 Woburn Ave.

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Luba DeAngelis, Sales Representative
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle Real Estate Inc.
(416)222-9707 or (905)707-8001

LARNELL
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Broker
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- **BATHURST MANOR -** $195,000. 3 bd. semi-detached home, c/a, 3 bths (1 on main), fin. bsmt. apt. Must sell!
- **BATHURST MANOR** - Just Listed - Triplex, $278,000. ensuite bthrm., 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd., dbl gar., excellent income.

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

ARMOUR HEIGHTS A-1 BUY
Price reduced! 2 storey, 3 bdrm., 2 bths., fin. bsmnt., gar., 55'x125' lot, best buy in the area.

OVERBROOK/WILMINGTON
3 bdrm., SOLD 2 kits., fin. bsmnt., gar.

BATHURST VILLAGE
4 bdrm. bung., mod. kit., sep. liv. & din., fin. w/out bsmnt., gar.

BATHURST BJC
2 storey, 3 SOLD 2 bths., gar.

BATHURST/WILSON $129,900
Neptune Gardens, 2 bdrm. condo, L-shaped liv. & din., parquet flrs., encl. balc., 5 appls., lndry ensuite, steps to all.

STORE & APARTMENT
Bathurst-Wilson, busy loc., ideal for many uses, must sell! A-1 Buy!.

A. & D. SEIDMAN (416) 633-7373

AVENUE ROAD / BROOKE
Newly built 3 bdrm. back-split on generous 45' x 130' lot, self-contained in-law suite, large kitchen. Close to all amenities.

COTTAGES! BELLE EWART!
Two separate side-by-side waterfront cottages, lots totalling 125' x 240', very quiet street, short walk to synagogue, motivated vendors! Buy one or both!

CLANTON PARK / EXCLUSIVE
Fully renovated 3 bedroom side-split on generous lot & quiet street, in-law suite, hardwood floors, CAC, shows beautifully! $349,900.

Call **Jacob Florans,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

MILL ST. - BATHURST
Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms., 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!!

BATHURST - ANTIBES
2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, large wrap around balcony.

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HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LTD.

Celebrating our 40th Year!

AWARD WINNING DESIGN! PRIVATE
Motivated Vendor 2-storey, 4 bdrm., year-round cottage. Backs onto golf course, 3 baths & more! **Carole Lazer***

NEW LISTING – CALEDON HILLS
Unique Arch. Design. Secluded Hilltop. Pool/Tennis crt., 1 hr. drive from T.O. **R. Greenberg*/C. Katzman***

"EXECUTIVE CONDO" - BAY & BLOOR
$489,000 - 2200 sq. ft., 2 bdrm., renovated, den, truly a gem! Fash./Rest. District. Concierge. Call **Robert Greenberg***.

SUMMER IS COMING! WATERFRONT COTTAGE
Big Bay Point - spacious 4+1 bdrm., warm & cozy, 2 frpls., sandy beach, private rd., skylites & more! **Carole Lazer***

CALL CHAIM FOR AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE
398 & 476 Bedford Park, 500 & 549 Fairlawn Ave. 10++ 305 St. Germain, 128 Ledbury, 102 Bideford $429K - $899K. 65 Marmion & 483 Cranbrooke 2B built, choose layout. For details & private showing call: **Chaim Talpalar***

CUSTOMIZE YOUR DREAM HOME!
Avenue Rd./Lawrence - 3450 sq. ft., 4 bdrm., 5 baths, main flr. lib. & fam., fin. bsmt. On a 41'x130' lot. **Robert Greenberg***

NEW CUSTOM GEORGIAN!
$565,000 cust. blt. 2200 sq. ft., 3+1 bdrm., 4 baths, fin. bsmt., qlty. finishes. 28'x156' lot. **Robert Greenberg***

DUCLOS POINT – LAKE SIMCOE
Custom blt. cottage - use year round, 90' waterfront. Pride of ownership! 1 hr. drive from T.O. **C. Katzman***

NEW LISTING – LESLIE/YORK MILLS!
Excellent lrg. 2 sty. 4+1 bdrm., mn. flr. family room & library. Spacious eat-in kit., fully fin. lower level. $569,000. **F. Novack***

FRENCH REGENCY TOWNHOMES
$639,000 each approx. 2900 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 4+1 bdrms., 5 baths. Top of the line finishes. **Robert Greenberg***

NEW LISTING – 42 ALEXANDRA WOOD
$669,000 Great opportunity to renovate or build on this 50'x165' lot. A-1 lo SOLD **Robert Greenberg***

NEW LISTING – OWEN SCHOOL
Fab. customized 2 sty., 3 bdrm., main flr. fam. & lib., CAC, CVAC, fin. bsmt. w/nanny's qtrs. Cathedral ceilings, hardwood, marble foyer, 3 ensuites. Call **Frances Novak***

NEO-CLASSICS ON FAIRLAWN
Avenue Rd./Lawrence - 3300 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., 4+1 bdrms., 5 baths, elegant appointments. **Robert Greenberg***

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

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1 km. North of Hwy. 7, on Bathurst.

- Some with double car garage
- Backing onto lush ravine
- Beside Richmond Hill Country Club & Golf Course
- Finished lower levels with walk out to ravine
- Approx. 2000 sq. ft. and up
- Priced from $249,500

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ONE OF OTTAWA'S FINEST HOMES

$575,000. Exquisite with no expense spared! Soaring ceilings with breathtaking kitchen. Granite countertops. Italian marble fireplace, hardwood floors, 5 bathrooms, solarium, 6 pc. luxurious ensuite, sprinkler system, within walking distance of synagogue.

ROYAL LEPAGE David Resnick Sales Representative
Bus: (613) 592-6400
Res: (613) 592-9441

BATHURST MANOR $248,000
3 bdrm. brick bung. on 52'x115' lot, 2 baths, sep. ent. to fin. bsmnt., white kit., 5 app., CAC, hrdwd. under brdlm., new roof, park 6 cars, near subway.

CONDO! BATHURST/CENTRE
1240 sq. ft., 2 bdrms., 2 baths, eat-in-kit., sol., west view, $162,900.
Rebecca Moscoe, Sutton Group Admiral Realty (416) 739-7200.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./York Downs, lge lot, 3 bdrms + den, dble gar, exclusive area. **No Agents.** 633-8165

Clark/New Westminster, 5 + 1 bdrms., backs onto the park, fin. bsmnt., 3500 sq. ft., 15 min. walk to shul, **$449K.** Call 905-738-2327, Vicki.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Thornhill, 3 bdrm, walk to shul, lot size 100' x 308',102 Arnold Ave,**$675K,Priv.** 905-884-3847.

18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Glencairn, renov. 4 bdrm + fam, jacuzzi, 2 frplcs, w/o to deck, lge backyard, gar, cac, mins. to subway, shul & amen., $3,000+/mo, Aug. 1/97-July 31/98. 785-9705, No Sat. calls.

25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

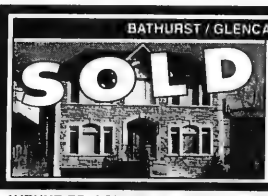
We need a house to rent for 6 mos., beg. Aug. or Sept. 1, s. of Wilson,n. of St. Clair. 482-8607

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED
787-1712

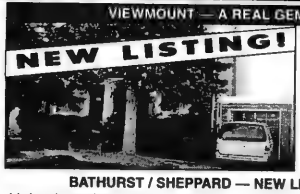
BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



SOLD

Custom designed and built (1990), quality craftsmanship and finishes, 10' ceilings on m SOLD 4,600 sq. ft. basement, dream kitchen. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT — A REAL GEM



NEW LISTING!

Renovated 3 bdrm., 2 storey, eat-in kitchen, new baths, thermopane windows, 50 x 140 ft. lot, $429,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / SHEPPARD — NEW LISTING
4 bdrm. bungalow on 43 x 160 ft. lot, sep. entry + in-law suite, ACT FAST, WON'T LAST! Only $269,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

GLEN PARK — NEW HOME TO BE BUILT
Fabulous location! Approx. 3,400 sq. ft., 5 bdrms., fam. room, library — choose your finishes! Pre-construction price only $599,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT PARK — SPACIOUS RANCH BUNGALOW
Custom built. Pride of ownership, 3 + 1 bdrms., fam. room, hardwood floors, sep. entry to in-law suite, asking $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
Lots of home — low price! 5 bdrms., 4 baths, family room, bright open concept, hardwood floors, Finnish spa in basement, only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

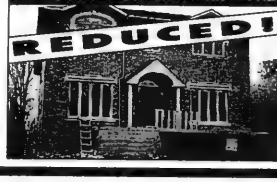
CLANTON PARK
Very spacious back-split, 4 bdrms., family room, custom library, gorgeous 50' x 154' lot. Call Esther Rubenstein or Michael Klugman (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — REDUCED
Fabulous building lot in prestigious location. 50 ft. x 136 ft. Existing bungalow renovated. Only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE RD. / GLENCAIRN – FAB. BLDG. LOT – REDUCED!
70 ft. frontage, OMB approved for 5,000+ sq. ft. new home. Fab. location! Only $379,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST MANOR — IMMACULATE 3 BDRM. SIDE-SPLIT
Exclusive listing, bungalow, 52.20 ft. frontage, fam. room, Jacuzzi. ACT NOW — only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS!



REDUCED!

Brand new, 6 bedrooms, custom designed luxury home. Dream maple kitchen, oak panelled library, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. basement. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK!! SKYMARK!!
JUST LISTED

- 1,600 sq. ft., rare offering. 3 bdrms., 2 full baths, plus Florida room. East exp., very appealing decor.
- 1,900 sq. ft., 2 bdrms., 2 full baths + pdr. room, family room and Florida room, open balcony, neutral decor Fabulous rec centre, equipped exercise room, indoor/outdoor pools, tennis courts, squash courts, whirlpool, saunas, gatehouse, concierge and in-suite security. Outstanding luxury suites for your comfort and security.

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Home **416-491-4160**

COLDWELL BANKER

3000 Bathurst, 2 bdrms, 2 bths, deluxe kit. **Must be sold by June 15. No Agents.** 416-756-0594 or 416-787-2098.

Bath./Finch, Savoy, corner, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bths, whirlpl, marble,extras galore. 736-8007

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst St., 1 bdrm + den, 5 appls, cac, cable, pkg, 24 hr. secur, sabbath elev, avail July 1.$1100/mo. 905-780-0685

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp,spac. condo, furn, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc, pool, pkg, $950. inclusive. 416-444-4813.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

100 Canyon, lux. 3 bdrm, 2 baths, updated.638-4041, evgs.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

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Various Locations
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Bath./Lawr., 1 lge bdrm bsmt apt, sunny, all appls, full bath, sep entr, $700/mo., pkg, avail. immed. 781-8206.

St. Clair/Wychwood North, 2 bdrm apt, liv rm, din rm, lndr rm. in duplex, backyard, gar,$945. 783-8431 or evg.905-886-5515.

Wilmington, clean lge 1 bdrm, pkg, $675./mo. 905-731-4578.

Yonge/Steeles, bsmt apt, 3 bdrm or possible separate rm, 2 bth, kit, sep. entr, cable incl, avail. June 1. 416-633-8543.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Corporate Rentals & Relocating Service. Worldwide. Short/long-term, min 4 mos. 778-7600

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Yonge/Davisville, 2 bdrm, 3 mo. sublet - June - end of Aug., female is pref, $500./mo. Call Zack, 483-0256.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

ORILLIA AREA WATERFRONTS
Cottages, Lots, Vacation Homes
Lake Simcoe - Eight Mile Pt., Four Mile Pt., Moon Pt., Carthew Bay areas & Lake Couchiching. ***FREE*** knowledgeable info. on many listings in all price ranges. I have many satisfied purchasers, so call your Orillia Connection:
JOANNE JOHNSON, *Sales Rep.* **Remax Orillia Realty (1996) Ltd. 705 - 325-1373**

SANDRA ROTH (BOTNICK)
Associate Broker
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
782-0598/787-7151
Belle Ewart "SPECIALS"

Magnificent 104' Lakefront - dbl. lot, 4 bdrm-cottage, concrete breakfront, boathouse – **$469,000**
2 Adjacent Lakefronts - 62.5' each (total 125'), near shul, quiet street , motivated vendor- **$259,000 each**
Across from Lake - 3 bdrm. on 75' lot, well maintained. **$125,000**

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart, 2 cottages on lge lot, nr. water. 636-0733.

We are a group of 6 cottages, on a small & quiet **Bracebridge** area lake. I have a 3 bdrm with screened porch, waterfront view, safe, sandy beach & rec. hall. June 27-July 31. Call 635-0146, after 7 pm.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Gravenhurst (Hwy. 169), 4 bdrms, waterfront, exclus. area, avail. for season. 416-630-2975

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Belle Ewart, lovely 4 bdrm, liv. rm/din. rm., nr. shul. 633-3151.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

W. PALM BEACH - FLORIDA
PRESIDENT'S COUNTRY CLUB
Huge 3 BR/2BA in secured Country Club Lux. Hi.rise. Asking $299,500 Great views.
Also, a 2 BR/2BA, Hi. Flr. A steal!
Pat Dimmick (561) 964-4762
MIRSKY REALTY GROUP
(561) 845-0800

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

N. Miami Beach,1 bdrm apt,fully equip,nr all amen. 789-3083.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

162 FURN. ISRAEL PROP. FOR RENT

Jerusalem, luxury 2 bedroom, daily serviced penthouse unit in new apt. hotel in heart of city. US $150. per day. Call 61-2-93278493 or fax: 61-2-93623320.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

162 FURN. ISRAEL PROP. FOR RENT

Jerusalem Summer Rental - fully furn. 3 bdrm apt, kosher/vegetarian kit, access to garden, loc. nr. shopping & pool, walking distance to Baka'a, Moshava Germanit, Katamon areas. Suitable for children. $300./wk. U.S. Inquiries - Rachel Adelman, Ma'agalei Yavneh, 114/9, Jerusalem, 93582 or phone (2) 6794245 or 416-533-5012 or e-mail 100264.733@compuserve.com.

215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Property Management: Established professional company provides discreet, reasonable & comprehensive management of income producing properties within Southern Ontario.Please call or fax for further information: **Bansley Property Management Inc.,** 3185 Bathurst St.,Suite 103, North York,Ont., Canada, M6A 2B2. Tel: (416) 781-6606 or fax:(416) 781-3270

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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• Turnkey Operation • High Profit Margin
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CALL 416-699-0646

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

DELI FOR SALE-VANCOUVER
Unique Opportunity to Purchase Established Kosher Deli in Vancouver Growing Community - Potential for further Development. Must sell - Owner leaving Country.
Asking $140,000. Phone 604-264-5156

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

TEACHERS WANTED. Private, observant, Jewish School requires teachers for perm. aft. positions in math and english, gr. 1-8. Only exper. cert. teachers will be considered. Send résumés by June 13 to: 1054-2 Centre St., Suite 311, Thornhill, Ont., L4J 8E5.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MERIDIAN HEALTH CARE
Now Recruiting:
- **RN's • RPN's**
- **HEALTH CARE AIDES**
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Toronto, Ontario M2N 6L7
or call
(416) 226-4221

Orthodox Jewish Girls School seeks to hire an exper. fundraiser. Good pay. Fax résumé to: 416-785-3478.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Exper. gentleman, 65, with a background in credit, seeks a position as a Credit Mgr., bookkeeper, or office mgr. Part-time or full-time. Résumé and refs. available upon request. **Please call Harry, 905-886-7054.**

247 DAY CARE

Day Care - I Care, Thornhill, more for your child, more for your money. Personal care. Loving, safe & educational environment in home pre-school. In operation since 1988 with ECE teacher, over 15 yrs. exp., limited space, full or part time. Refs., receipts. 905-764-6936.

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady avail. Mon.-Sat., exper., refs. 654-7974.

Cleaning lady avail., exper, trustworthy, ASAP. 245-7412.

Cleaning lady avail., refs. & exper. Call 246-9630, evgs.

European cleaning lady with good exper. is looking for houses to clean. 905-272-1911.

Exp. cleaning lady avail. Mon-Fri,wknds. Call 530-4026, evgs.

Exper. cleaning lady looking for a job, refs. 905-272-8681.

Exper. cleaning lady seeks job, apts or houses. 259-3460.

Exper. honest & reliable cleaning lady avail. immed. Call Adriana at 416-245-3402.

Exper. lady seeks days work, babysitting/housekeeping, live-out. Call 244-3564.

Filipinas, Nannies/Housekeepers in Phillippines & Hong Kong seeking sponsors anywhere in Ontario. **No charge to employer.** Call Ontario Employment Agency, 699-6931.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs.416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Polish cleaning lady, housekeeper avail, exper. 266-7209.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

On Sunday, May 25/97 in the afternoon at 3:30pm at Mayfair West, we met. I asked you if you were bringing me money. I'd like to meet you. Please call. Philip, 638-6783.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Dear David Kirshner: On Dec. 24/96, we met in the pkg. lot across from Yorkville.We talked for a few mins, & I was happy to see you.You asked me if I wanted to see you again. I was surprised & flattered to hear those words, but I didn't understand that you wanted my tel #. I'd like to see you again, because your friendship is important to me. I tried to find you, but wasn't successful. I want to apologize to you if I've offended you in any way. Please forgive me. Sincerely, Stella. Write me at: 187 Oakwood Ave., Toronto, Ont. M6E 2V1.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

• CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date).
Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

Are you my soulmate? Prof. JF, sincere, romantic, down to earth, great sense of humour, enjoys walks, dancing, music & quiet times, dreaming to meet JM, 48-55, caring, sensitive, with similar interests.Reply to: PO Box 1202, 7420 Bathurst St., Thornhill, Ont. L4J 6X4.

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Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number? Address your mail to:
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The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHIMKOFSKY- SILVERSTEIN **Marty & Janet Shimkofsky** are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter **Sarah** to **Jack**, son of **Larry & Risë Silverstein**, of London, Ontario. Proud grandparents are Ruth Shimkofsky and Claire Silverstein.

Marlene & Ron White and **Bonnie & Larry Moncik** are thrilled to announce the engagement of their children, **Judy** to **Eric**. Proud grandparents are Harvey & Freda White, Evelyn English, and Irving & Eleanor Shnier.

330 OBITUARIES

BELL, Simma - on May 15, 1997, late of 2190 Ellesmere Rd., #712.

MIDANIK, Sydney - on May 15, 1997, late of 296 Russell Hill Rd.

FALK, Ana - on May 16, 1997, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W., #1502.

ROSOFF, Philip - on May 16, 1997, late of 8105 Eastern Ave., #410C.

FOSTER, Russell - on May 17, 1997, late of 605 Finch Ave. W., #320.

GLOSTEIN, Anne - on May 17, 1997, late of 983 Burnham St.

FRIEDLICH, Tom - on May 18, 1997, late of 19 Craydon Rd.

GOLD, Harry - on May 18, 1997, late of 400 Walmer Rd. E. Tower #2225.

ALBERT, Ida - on May 19, 1997, late of 1 Northwestern Ave.

BERMACK, Milton - on May 19, 1997, late of 1 Royal Orchard Blvd., #606.

SHARE, Frances - on May 19, 1997, late of 110 Baycrest Ave.

UNGAR, Jules - on May 20, 1997, late of 33 Limcombe Dr.

APPLEBAUM, Ben - on May 21, 1997, late of 8 Markdale Rd., #2.

SILVER, Judy - on May 21, 1997, late of 250 Heath St. W., #401.

STEINBERG, Eli - on May 21, 1997, late of 287 Spruce St. N.

TEPLITZKY, Minnie - on May 21, 1997, late of 4383 Bathurst St., #205.

CUTLER, James - on May 22, 1997, late of 31 Maple Ave.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

GOZLAN, Armand - on May 19, 1997.

SILBERT, Martin Norman - on May 19, 1997.

BERKE, Cynthia Pearl - on May 21, 1997, late of 74 Glenbury Dr.

BLANK, Sima - on May 21, 1997.

MELMAN, Mina - on May 21, 1997, late of 755 Steeles Ave. W.

SHPORIN, Arkady - on May 21, 1997, late of 205 Hilda Ave.

SILVERBERG, Frank - on May 24, 1997.

NAKHIMOV, Issai - on May 25, 1997, late of 12 Rockford Rd.

BLIMAN, Sharron- on May 26, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

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331 MEMORIAM

Sheila Henig - To our daughter: We love you, miss you, and remember you ***"Always"*** Your Dad and family.

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Lillian Brudner ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 8th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Shomrai Shabos Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ESTHER BURKE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 8th, 11:00 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Keiser Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

335 UNVEILINGS

MESLIN, Dinah. The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Dinah Meslin** will take place Sunday, June 8th at 11:30 am at Mt. Sinai Memorial Park, 986 Wilson Ave., Independent Workmans Circle Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Annie Hercberg (Hertzberg)** will take place on Sunday, June 8th at 11 am at Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park, Lodzer Centre Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Chana Grushka ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 8th, 11:30 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Jack Gordon Teichman ז"ל
will take place
Monday, June 9th, 2:30 p.m.
Lambton Mills Cemetery
Beth Jacob Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BEN SONSHINE ז"ל
beloved husband, devoted father & grandfather
will take place
Sunday, June 8th at 10:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth David Synagogue Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother
JENNIE LEIBACH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 8th, at 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Shaar Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Isaac Radomski ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 8th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Centre Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BERTHA SPRING ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 8th, 11:30 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
M Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
25 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
142 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
198 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
228 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
248 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
278 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
378 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
398 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
438 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
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The office of THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS will be closed on Wednesday, June 11th and Thursday, June 12th for Shavuos.
There will be an early deadline for classified advertising and the Service Directory for the issue of June 19, 1997. The deadline will be Tuesday, June 10th by noon.

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Sports

AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
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Women's hoops team gears up for Maccabiah

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Although they'll never be mistaken for chalutzim, the early Zionist settlers of Israel, Maccabi Canada's woman's basketball team consider themselves as something like pioneers as they prepare to blaze a trail in the uncharted area of Maccabiah sports competition.

Ten Canadian women, two coaches and four alternates (funding permitting) are slated to represent the Great White North at the summertime games, which begin in July. Their participation will mark the first time Canada has ever sent a woman's team to the games.

With only two other countries participating, Israel and Hungary, Canada will play each twice and, hopefully, advance to the one-game, gold medal matchup.

For coach Sy Herling, the games promise to be "a learning experience. I think we'll be as prepared as we can be given the situation," he said.

Herling was referring to the unusual chain of events that led to the rather unexpected inclusion of women's basketball in the games. The decision to include women's hoops was so unforeseen that the United States, normally a sure bet for the medal round, will not even participate in the competition. Neither will Australia, which boasts a number of top female stars.

Maccabi Canada has been pushing for the inclusion of women's hoops for some time. There's plenty of talent in Canada and fielding a women's team would help to correct the tilt on the Canadian team that is already heavily weighted in favor of men's sports, Herling said. Women make up only about 20 percent of the Canadian Maccabi team, he added.

Twenty-one women showed up at the national tryouts, 13 from the Toronto area, eight from Montreal.

They were pared down to the current roster that includes 10 regulars and four alternates. Of the seven team members from Toronto, five are alumni of the Jewish Community Centre (JCC) Blue Demons. Several were on the team that captured the gold medal at the 1993 JCC/Maccabi Youth Games.

Overall, Herling and his assistant, Neil Rothenberg, expect to field a very young team. What they lack in experience, they appear to make up for in enthusiasm.

The prospect of playing Maccabiah basketball is really exciting, said 20-year-old Dena Weinroth, a member of the York Yeowomen varsity team. "I've never been to Israel. It was one of my basketball goals, to make the team."

Weinroth, a guard, hopes to duplicate the excitement she felt as part of the Yeowomen team that got the the CIAU national finals, upsetting the favored University of Toronto Blues on the way. She already has a gold medal as a member of the women's team that won in Pittsburgh as well as a silver from the '91 competition in New Jersey.

At 27, Robyn Lerer is the veteran of the team. Lerer played four years of college ball at McMaster before graduating in 1992. She currently plays recreational basketball for York Raiders.

At 5 foot 10 inches, Lerer is the team's post player (centre). She's pumped about the opportunity of playing in Israel.

"I've always been involved in trying to get a women's team," she said. "It's a major high. It's huge ...You think of the Maccabiah Games as the Olympics for Jewish athletes. Just being part of the Maccabiah Games is exciting.

"I've always wanted to go to the real Maccabiah since I was young, said Eva Ain, 19. A member of Toronto JCC Youth Games teams, Ain expects to play for Ryerson Rams next fall. The 5-foot-9 guard says, "This is the most exciting thing in my life. The opportunity to go to Israel and represent Canada, it's an incredible feeling.

In addition to their workouts, the team will travel to Montreal June 21 and 22 to play a benefit game versus McGill's summer league team. They'll follow that up with two benefit games in Toronto, on July 3 at the Bloor JCC and on July 7 at the BJC.

Funds from the games will go towards costs of sending the team to Israel.

In addition to Weinroth, Lerer and Ain, other Toronto members of the team include Stephanie Splitter, a member of the 1996-97 U of T Blues; Kim Model, MVP of the King City girls high school team; Karen Shaw, a member of the 1996-97 McGill Martlets; and Danielle Goldfarb, a member of the Martlets from 1993-95.

Top row (from left): Sy Herling, Stephanie Splitter, Eva Ain, Robyn Lerer, Danielle Goldfarb, Karen Shaw and Neil Rothenberg. Bottom row (from left): Dena Weinroth, Kim Model and Ella Ashkinazi.

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A	L	A	N		A	B	I	D	E		A	R	I	D
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IT TAKES TWO TO TANGLE

Fifteen members of the Samurai Club won medals at the Canadian Jiu-Jitsu Championships, including Masha Kazakevich (left) with two golds. Joel Gerson was named Grand Champion in the open weight, black belt category. Other winners: Alex Tcherniaknovski, Phil Oxrud, Gil Vainshtein and Shane Herberman.

The Inside Back

Children truly are a mixed blessing at repair time

By JORDAN MAX

I suppose it might be possible after Pesach has finished and everything has been packed away for another year, to actually sit back, exhausted but content. It might even be possible to become somewhat depressed at the sudden lack of purposeful activity. However, around our house, pre-Pesach cleaning is just a warmup for yours truly's Great Annual Home Repair Extravaganza. The only downside of spending so much time at home during yom tov is that you start noticing all the damage caused to the house — the exterior by the winter and the interior by the kids. I add to that list by looking at last spring/summer/fall's list of incomplete projects and urgent repairs before even contemplating anything new.

Now, for a member of the People of the Book, I'm actually relatively handy with repairs, provided I have the right tools and, here's the clincher, unobstructed time. But with three active children, free Sunday daylight hours are neither readily available nor taken for granted. The alternative is to enlist the help of my children (at least the two older boys, the baby can't swing a hammer — yet).

The words "I want to help!" uttered enthusiastically by small children are simultaneously the most beautiful and yet most feared words a parent can hear. The speed with which they get on their jackets and gather their tools is truly awesome (why not when getting ready for school or bedtime?) Before I can say "um, well...," out come the play tools, the advice, the endless questions, punctuated by requests for shoelace tying, snacks and bathroom breaks, fights over the tools, etc., which turn even the simplest repair into a full afternoon's work. In some instances, as my bemused neighbors can verify, I have actually been known to do outside house repairs by moonlight as the only alternative.

For example, last year, I began the backbreaking task of moving and leveling buckled patio stones. No sooner had I managed to lay down a smooth, level layer of limestone than I was joined by my "helpers" and their snow shovels, (I knew I should have put those away!) who instead saw an archeological excavation site harboring dinosaur bones. To make a long story short, the job was only completed after the boys had gone to sleep that night.

The top item on this year's list is cleaning the paint from the bricks and driveway that was intended for the garage door last year, thanks to an exuberant "painter" mistakenly left unsupervised for 30 seconds. Once I finish that, "their" vegetable garden still awaits my digging and preparation. Get the idea?

While I realize that these experiences also apply to other household chores, I'm still left in a pedagogical quandary. On the one hand, I need to get the work done before the house falls apart and/or the snow flies. On the other hand, I want my children to grow up actually seeing, if not experiencing real hands-on labor for their own education. Sure, it's great to have an accountant, doctor, dentist, or stockbroker in the family — it just won't help a bit when the pipes burst, the fuses blow or the kitchen garburator gets plugged with matzah (again).

So a little do-it-yourself wouldn't hurt. Maybe the kids will even be less likely to damage drywall if they know how much time (that's non-television time) it takes to fix it. Otherwise, I fear they'll grow up thinking that all repairs just magically get done by a Repair Fairy who does his/her magic only at night (just like the Pesach fairy who magically transforms the kitchen at night both before and after Pesach), or that the only way to solve our problems is to call in the expert. So I guess I've just answered my own question. Hey kids, who wants to help me caulk the windows?

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
A DIFFERENT LEEK SOUP
WE SELL KitchenAid FOR LESS

1 bunch leeks
2 tblsp margarine
5 potatoes, cubed
2 large carrots, diced or shredded
2 1/2 cups water
2 tsp chicken soup powder (pareve)
salt, pepper, basil, rosemary, to taste
1 cup tomato juice

Wash leeks thoroughly. Cut them very finely, using only half of the green section.

In a Dutch oven, sauté leeks lightly in the margarine. Add potatoes and carrots. Add water, chicken powder, and spices. Cook very slowly for 45 minutes. Add tomato juice and adjust seasonings, if necessary. Yield: 4-6 servings

Note: This recipe freezes well. But if it is too thick upon defrosting, add more tomato juice or chicken broth.

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I work for a medium-size company. Last year, when we needed to hire a few new people, we put an ad in the paper and got over a thousand responses! We hired two new people but they didn't work out. Now we need to replace them and maybe hire a few more people. Is there a better way?

Dear Reader,

Wow! It's great to hear your company is hiring again, but it's too bad that the people you hired last year didn't work out. I'd like to suggest a new approach. Unfortunately, unemployment is high and when you place an ad in the paper, anyone who thinks they may be able to handle even part of the skills your advertisement lists, will apply for this position. Furthermore, since many of these people are desperate for work, you may hire someone who either has misled you about his experience or whose working skills are poor.

The Career Foundation aims to help employers and the unemployed deal with this situation. They use a methodology that almost guarantees a great match.

First, they visit an employer and help them decide what types of skills and personality describe the person who would fit best into the new position. Then the Career Foundation actually looks for people who match that description. Those people who meet the company's standards, are invited to a two-week training program prior to reporting for work. During the training they review communication skills, conflict management, problem solving and a variety of other topics that will help those people be better workers. This is a vital step considering many people have been out of work for a long time and may have forgotten these important skills.

Following the training period, the candidates report for work, where any on the job training is the employer's responsibility.

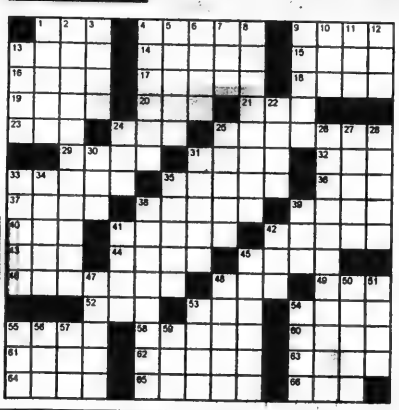
The program continues to be extremely successful in York Region. For more information contact the Career Foundation at 905-660-1076.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across
1. Ark's rear
4. Bris officiate
9. Hebrew letter
13. You, biblically
14. Meshugge (Eng)
15. Empire over Israel
16. Dealmaker Monty
17. Actress Radner
18. Esther's kingdom?
19. __ Eye
20. Makes a "fey" a "pey"
21. Vav (Eng.)
23. Stern or Baer
24. Rickles
25. Bagel makers
29. Crest
31. Isaac on Mt. Moriah?
32. Encountered
33. Judah ha-Levi homeland
35. Maccabean or Olympic
36. Business degree
37. Gait
38. Did Masada
39. Boxer Max
40. Hester Street time zone
41. Burrows or Caan
42. Koufax missiles
43. Enjoyed the seder
44. Grain measure
45. Dance
46. "Odd Couple" star
48. Org. for Meyer Lansky
49. Fraternity letters
52. Al Rosen stat
53. Goldwyn to friends
54. Bris must
55. "I and __", Martin Buber
58. Singer Lawrence
60. Part of eye
61. Tepid
62. Rah
63. Need
64. Bialik writings
65. Psalms
66. Sin (Eng)

Down
1. Dead Sea cosmetics
2. Writer of "Bambi"
3. Inform
4. Israeli city
5. Tzibbiele (Eng)
6. Bring to a finish
7. Amen
8. Not Pesach bread
9. Wept
10. Aaron's resting place
11. Mother (Heb)
12. Plagues
13. Those people
22. Tsitsit site
24. Bilhah's boy
25. Etrog cousins
26. Liberty poetess
27. Bar Kochba
28. Magen Davids
30. Prior NYC mayor
31. Challah maker
33. Third commandment
34. Italian varnishes?
35. Dreidel letter
38. Pianist
39. __ Mitzvah
41. David's general
42. Guitarist Dylan
45. Greenberg specialties
47. Buddy Rich instrument
48. Expert
50. Eden condition
51. Job's trouble
53. Appear
54. Marceau
55. Zilpah's sons
56. Owned
57. Solomon's find
59. Thou possesive

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

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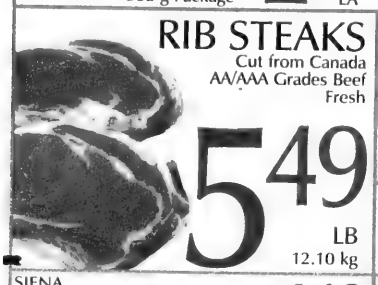

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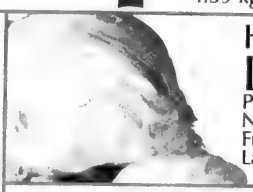

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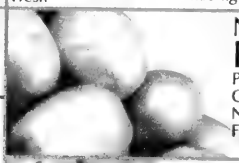

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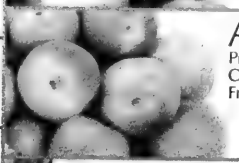

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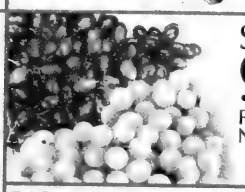

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

We need more babies, discussion on the State of World Jewry told. *Page 3*

Beth Jacob Congregation celebrates its 100th anniversary. *Page 7*

Coast to Coast

Lag b'Omer celebration unites Vancouver's Jewish community. *Page 25*

On Campus

Nobel laureate, Ellie Wiesel, issues challenge to Guelph graduates. *Page 31*

Arts

Gala will raise funds for annual Ashkenaz Festival. *Page 38*

Business

South African real estate magnate made it to the top the hard way. *Page 40*

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
Yiddish Corner 15
What's New 20
National 23
International 27
On Campus 31
Travel, Arts & Business 38
Health 41
Classified 42
Sports 46
Ask Ella 47
Crossword 47

Shabbat: Naso
Candlelighting: 8:40
Sivan 8, 5757
Havdalah: 9:45

Arafat backs down

PA leader 'blinked' to get Cairo talks started

By MARK A. HELLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

For three months, since ground was broken for the Har Choma project, Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have been playing a game of chicken. Each was betting that the dangers of a frozen peace process would force the other to give way.

Commentary

Last week, Arafat blinked. His decision to send his representatives to Cairo cannot have been easy. It reverses the basic Palestinian policy of postponing serious engagement in the hope that regional and international pressure would force Israel to comply with the Palestinian interpretation of Israel's obligations under the Interim Agreement.

If this happened, Israel would have to give up territorial assets and concede a more favorable opening position for the Palestinian side when talks eventually did begin. If not, Israel would lose further political/diplomatic assets, even as the PA continued to entrench itself in east Jerusalem and before any new Palestinian undertakings were required in permanent status negotiations.

But the strategy of stalling was not without its risks. Some Palestinians argued that it played right into Netanyahu's hands, since there seemed no prospect of serious pressure, especially from the United States, and any outbreak of violence might backfire.

Arafat's inability to deliver anything on the peace process front also attracted greater domestic attention to other reasons for public disenchantment — waste, arbitrary exercise of power and corruption.

And the combination of stalemate and shortcomings in Palestinian governance jeopardized international assistance to the PA, from the donor countries in general, and from the United States in particular. The Middle East Peace Facilitation Act comes up in the United States for renewal this summer in the face of growing congressional indifference or outright hostility.

As a result, Arafat was forced to drop his requirement that Israel suspend settlement construction before contacts could be renewed.

Indeed, so great was the need to move things off dead centre that Palestinian officials were even

Continued on page 29

ISRAEL'S NEW LABOR LEADER VISITS WALL

Ehud Barak lays his hand upon the Western Wall last week the day following his election as leader of the Labor party. *(Please see related story on page 27.)* *[Reuters/RNS photo]*

Second Swiss report on banks expected soon

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

ZURICH — Hanspeter Hani, the reticent ombudsman of the Swiss Bankers Association (SBA), will be in the thick of the news once again later this month or early next month when he delivers his second report on dormant accounts in Swiss banks.

When he submitted the first installment last November, the response from Jewish organizations in Switzerland and abroad was one of surprise and skepticism.

Hani, a 46-year-old official who was appointed to his position eight months ago, claimed that dormant accounts Swiss banks had dredged up were worth no more than about $1.6 million. (This was in addition to the $40 million already turned up by the SBA in the past year.)

Of this sum, he announced, approximately $11,000 could be traced to five Jewish deposit holders, three of whom had been murdered during the Holocaust and two of whom had died in Romania in 1963 and 1974, respectively.

The World Jewish Congress, which has been in the forefront of a concerted worldwide campaign to induce Swiss banks to settle the claims of pre-World War II Jewish clients, was flabbergasted, calling it a "pathetic amount."

Continued on page 29

INSIDE

Tikkun Hazot, the midnight vigil. A meditation.
Please see page 9.

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Israel and the PA meet, but no breakthrough — please see page 27

The News in Brief

CANADA

Dan Honored

TORONTO — Novopharm founder Leslie Dan recently received an honorary doctor of science degree at the University of Toronto convocation ceremonies.

Marrus Named Dean

TORONTO — Prof. Michael Marrus of the Department of History at the University of Toronto has been named dean of the School of Graduate Studies for a seven-year term effective July 1. He follows Prof. Jon Cohen who has headed the School of Graduate Studies since 1990.

Ottawa JCC

OTTAWA — Mitchell Bellman was recently appointed executive director of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa.

Bellman has been serving as acting executive director since December. Prior to that, he was director of community relations and public affairs for the council.

Dr. Lastman

TORONTO — North York Mayor Mel Lastman will receive a doctor of laws *honoris causa* from York University and will also address the Schulich School of Business and Faculty of Graduate Studies convocation on June 13.

ISRAEL

Yad Vashem CD Wins

JERUSALEM — Yad Vashem's groundbreaking CD-ROM program chronicling the Holocaust, funded with help from Toronto philanthropist Leslie Dan, has won first prize at Israel's annual competition for visual communication.

The multimedia program was among 27 entrants. It will now represent Israel at the International Festival for Visual Communication, to be held June 12 to 14 in France.

Kedma

JERUSALEM — Kedma, an international student organization, will be sponsoring a unique summer training and experience program. Geared for university and graduate students, this seven-week program allows participants to gain valuable work experience in various professional fields.

The program is open to observant students aged 19 to 24. Dates are June 20 to Aug. 10. For information contact David Swidler at 516-483-0030.

WORLD

Dr. Bronfman

NEW YORK – New York University has bestowed a doctor of commercial science degree on Miles Bronfman, chair of the Seagram Company and philanthropic patron of education.

Reform Convention

DALLAS — This city will become the centre of Reform Judaism this fall as some 5,000 Reform Jews travel to the Lone Star State for the Union of American Hebrew Congregation's (UAHR) biennial convention.

In addition to the UAHR's 64th general assembly, to be held Oct. 29 to Nov. 2, the Women of Reform Judaism will hold its 41st assembly, the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods its 36th convention and the North American Federation of Temple Youth its Temple Youth Group Leaders Assembly in Dallas.

Emergency Volunteers

BROOKLINE, Mass. — The American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel is seeking physicians, nurses and other health professionals to register for its Emergency Medical Volunteers Program.

For more information contact the American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel, 2001 Beacon St., Brookline, Mass., 02146 or phone 617-232-5382.

Student Athletes

NEW YORK — Sheila Wainberg of Winnipeg recently won one of Yeshiva University's athletic awards. She was named most valuable player in women's basketball.

Winter Bike Tour

NEW YORK — The first international ORT Navigating the Bible Bike Tour will be held Dec. 27, 1997 to Jan. 4, 1998 in Israel.

Open to riders from throughout the world, the trip will take participants through some of the most beautiful landscapes and nature preserves in Israel.

For information or registration forms contact Rachel Kossoff at Women's American ORT, 800-41-WAORT, ext. 262, or Robert Kern at American ORT, 800-364-9678.

Yiddish Book Centre

AMHERST, Mass. — The National Yiddish Book Centre, one of the largest of Jewish cultural organizations in the United States, will dedicate its new building on June 15.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday June 9, 1972

WORLD LEADERS EXPRESS SHOCK AT MASSACRE

Jewish and non-Jewish leaders around the world have expressed shock, regret and condemnation of the Lydda Airport massacre of 25 persons last week.

Premier Golda Meir promised Israel would find a way to foil the new Arab terror. Foreign Minister Abba Eban called for an international airline boycott of Beirut to force the Lebanese government to expel terrorist organizations that plan attacks such as the May 31 one carried out by three Japanese gunmen.

A spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine declared that "our purpose was to kill as many people as possible at the airport — Israelis of course, but any one else who was there."

SEPARATISTS ARE NOT ANTI-SEMITES

Should Quebec ever separate from Canada, Jews would likely remain in the province, if the ruling party allowed them to be a part of the middle class, says Saul Hayes, executive vice-president of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

Jews would leave, he added, if the middle class were no longer able to function in the new economic order. "There has not been the slightest tinge of anti-Semitism" in labor or nationalist movements he said.

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The Canadian Jewish news

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 8 (2,854)

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,711 copies
Average net paid circulation per issue: 45,109 copies
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997

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Challenges facing world Jewry explored

'[We need] less meetings, more babies'

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Calls for Jewish unity, strengthened Jewish identity, willingness to take an active role and better communication between Israelis and Diaspora Jews were among the prescriptions offered to the Jewish community at a recent panel discussion on the State of World Jewry.

Fielding questions from CTV news anchor Sandie Rinaldo, who served as moderator for the Aish HaTorah event held at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, were panelists Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice-chair, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations; Douglas Bloomfield, the Washington coordinator for World Jewish Congress investigations into Swiss banks and Nazi gold; and Yoram Ettinger, diplomat and former director of the Israeli government press office.

Preceding the panel were remarks by Harold Nashman, chair of the international outreach organization's Toronto board; Aish alumna Lisa Berger and (on video) Ehud Olmert, mayor of Jerusalem.

Among the challenges facing world Jewry are dangerous trends such as the rise of anti-Semitism in Russia, the threat of Islamic fundamentalism and the American "Mega" scandal regarding allegations of Israeli spying, said Hoenlein.

Such tendencies "affect the perception of things we value," warned Hoenlein. "Verbal violence has always been followed by physical violence. Don't dismiss it."

The question of assimilation, a major concern among North Americans over the last few years, was addressed strongly but almost peripherally, after a question was posed late in the program.

"[We need] less meetings, more babies. Make sure young people marry Jewish. Go to the campuses. Whatever will bring them back, but give them the real thing, real Jewish experiences, spirituality, not more fancy buildings. No more edifice complex," said Hoenlein. "We have to offer it to them."

On several occasions Bloomfield advised "using the political system of the countries we live in" to help Israel and withstand threats to world Jewry. "Only by being involved can we really defend ourselves."

The ongoing Swiss bank investigation also involves investigations regarding 10 other countries, said Bloomfield.

Report on the State of World Jewry co-chair Norm Grafstein is flanked by, from left, Douglas Bloomfield, Yoram Ettinger, Sandie Rinaldo and Malcolm Hoenlein. [Zephyr Studios photo]

"This is not a matter of finances or vengeance," stressed Hoenlein. "It's a matter of justice, an attempt to restore a measure of dignity to those who died in the Shoah."

The speakers attempted to amend a number of perceptions over the course of the evening.

Hoenlein challenged Rinaldo's description of newly elected Israeli Labor party leader Ehud Barak, stating that belief in Israel's security "doesn't make someone a hawk."

Sidestepping her question about whether Barak is the right leader for the party now, Hoenlein emphasized the answer – as for other important issues – is up to Israelis only.

The significance of the Knesset bill regarding non-Orthodox conversions, which have long been banned in Israel, is among the perceptions about Israel which have become "exaggerated," according to Ettinger.

He claimed few Israelis, aside from politicians and the media, are "preoccupied" with the issue of who is a Jew.

While the vast majority of North American Jews are Conservative or Reform, the reverse is true in Israel, noted Bloomfield. "Many Jews in North America feel they're in danger of being disenfranchised. There has to be better communication between the two communities to understand what is happening. It is just beginning."

The issue of Jerusalem has been part of the religious-secular "battlefield," said Ettinger, adding that the city has become "much more secular" over the past decade, with pubs and movie theatres open on Shabbat.

He emphasized that Jerusalem is non-negotiable, but admitted that for Israel to adhere to that position would be "the real test" of Israel's hitherto friendly relationship with the United States.

Calls for Jewish cohesiveness by the speakers were received with applause from the 1,200-person audience. "When we are divided against each other, every challenge is too great," Hoenlein said.

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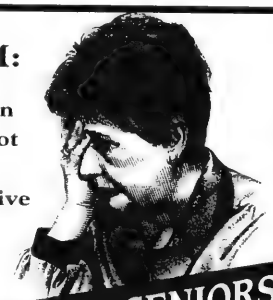
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From the editor's desk

In this column, I want to bring to the readers' attention recent findings about the international image portrayed not by Israel, but by Canada.

Across my desk, I recently received a copy of the highlights of the results of a survey conducted by the Angus Reid Group entitled *Canada and the World: An International Perspective on Canada and Canadians.*

The material contains no explanation of methodology, no analysis nor any commentary. It was a bare recitation of the responses to a series of questions on topics related to aspects of life in Canada posed to 5,701 adults in 20 countries.

The 20 countries were from five different regions around the globe: North America, South America, Europe, Mid-East/Africa and Asia/-Australia.

I do not know how the adults were selected to take part in the survey; in what manner the survey was conducted; over how long a period of time it was conducted; or how statistically significant the findings are. But they are interesting.

Especially interesting for me were the opinions about Canada held by the 202 survey participants from Israel.

Responses were sought in some two dozen different categories of tions. I cannot, therefore, reproduce all of the results to all of the questions. But I will reproduce a sampling.

To the question: Where does Canada rank as a desirable place to live?, 72 Israelis placed Canada among the top 10 countries. Of these 72, 11 considered Canada to be in the top two desirable countries; 24 ranked Canada in the top three countries; 37 considered Canada to be "only" in the top 10.

Of the 20 countries polled, the total figure for the "Israel" response was second lowest. Only adults from Russia, in fewer numbers, considered Canada to be a desirable place to live. Sixty-two Russians placed Canada among the top 10 countries overall.

Ukraine was highest with 95 participants considering Canada to be in the top 10 countries overall.

To the question: Where else would people want to live: "top-of-mind" top choices, 11 percent of Israelis surveyed selected Canada. The six top Israeli choices, in order, were: United States: 35 percent; U.K.: 13 percent; Canada: 11 percent; France: 10 percent; Australia: nine percent and Switzerland: eight percent.

To the question: Where does Canada rank for a positive role in world affairs?, Israelis were at the very bottom of the 20 country pile. In total, 49 Israelis placed Canada in the top 10 countries overall. Of these 49, 10 placed Canada in the top three; none considered Canada to be among the top two.

To the question: Where does Canada rank among countries you admire most?, Israelis named Canada among the top 10, the second fewest number of times, 73, surpassed, again, only by Russia with 64.

Ever since the activist polices of Lester Pearson, Canadians have taken considerable pride in Canada's international peacekeeping record. Apparently, Israelis are not aware of this aspect of Canada's foreign or military policies.

Forty-seven respondents from Israel, the fifth lowest number, strongly or moderately agreed with the proposition that Canada is a world leader working for peace. Only 30 respondents in Israel considered Canada's role in world peacekeeping as somewhat or very substantial. This was the lowest figure among all the countries surveyed. Conversely, 52 Israeli respondents viewed Canada's peacekeeping role as being very minor or minor. This was the largest such finding among the countries polled.

Where Israeli awareness of the various aspects of Canadian life did manifest in relatively high numbers was in their familiarity with national unity issues.

Sixty-seven respondents either strongly or moderately agreed that "French-speaking culture is a distinct society in North America." The highest score on this question was registered by 89 of the American respondents.

Fifty-three out of 97 Israelis were aware "of the possibility of Quebec leaving Canada to become an independent country." Among these 53, there was a wide range of opinion expressed as to the likelihood of Quebec separation.

Only seven of the 19 other countries evidenced more people who were aware of the national unity situation in Canada.

The information contained in the survey is fascinating. It is a mirror held up in front of us showing us to what extent the rest of the world regards us in the way that we regard ourselves.

MBD

CORRECTION

In our May 29 story, "Anger, outrage mark anti-Nazi rally," we incorrectly reported that Antanas Kenstavicius served with the 12th Lithuanian Police Battalion. In fact, keynote speaker Efraim Zuroff said Kenstavicius commanded the Lithuanian police in the Svencionys district of Lithuania and was involved in the murder of Jews in that area.

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Greater Toronto Area

CJC task force to focus on conversion issue

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A unity task force to defuse the crisis over the conversion issue in Israel, and hopefully, to be a model for solving it in the United States as well, was set up June 1 by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

Since time is of the essence, the task force, headed by Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa, was given orders to move quickly by delegates to the CJC's national executive meeting in Toronto.

Rabbi Bulka said he hopes that Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple representing Reform, and Rabbi Philip Scheim of Beth David B'nai Israel Congregation representing Conservative, both of Toronto, will join him on the task force.

"The Israeli government has been given an extension by the courts until mid-June to decide what to do with this bill, so we must act quickly," Rabbi Bulka said.

He was referring to a bill introduced in the Knesset, which would legalize only Orthodox conversions in Israel, and which has angered many Conservative and Reform adherents.

The CJC resolution approved unanimously calls upon the Israeli government to make every effort possible to come to an accommodation between the parties and avoid a second and third reading of the conversion bill.

Rabbi Bulka said the aim of the new task force is to join those in Israel who are trying to solve the problem by having those who applied to the courts on this issue withdraw, so that the government "can take the bill off the books."

The motion to set up the task force reflected the urgency with which the delegates from all parts of Canada viewed the issue. They overcame procedural roadblocks resulting from the tabling of a motion at its last executive meeting.

It was only when Rabbi Bulka assured the delegates that the motion to ask the government to avoid second and third reading would be as effective as asking it to withdraw the bill that the last amendment was withdrawn.

The conversion issue has stirred such deep reaction, Rabbi Bulka said, that for the first time in Canada some congregations are proposing that Israel Bonds not be sold on Yom Kippur.

"This situation is very explosive in the United States and we should intervene in Canada before it erupts there," said CJC president Goldie Hershon.

Even if the current bill is withdrawn, Rabbi Bulka said, there should be no illusion that the problem splitting the Diaspora is solved.

The "irresponsible resolution" by the Council of Orthodox Rabbis in the United States brought into the open "the malaise in our community," he said. However, he noted, there is a positive side, because for the first time, the main Orthodox organizations rejected a statement from the Council.

"This [the conversion issue] is a good issue for unity in the community," said Keith Landy of Toronto, CJC's honorary national legal counsel.

"I'm not sure we can do anything. I don't want to set up unrealistic expectations," said Rabbi Bulka. "We may be able to get a consensus on this legislation, but it's a pipe dream that we'll ever get a common policy on conversions and divorces."

"Canadian Jewry needs to send a strong message," said Simon Rosenblum, co-chair of Canadian Friends of Peace Now. "This is the tip of the iceberg. The whole issue of religious pluralism is in dire jeopardy. There is a move to keep Conservative and Reform rabbis off religious councils in Israel. All this is going to wreak havoc with the Zionist movement."

On another matter, in the case of Delwin Vriend, a former employee of a Christian College (King's College, Edmonton), who believes he was fired because he is gay, the CJC is intervening only in support of his right to appeal on the issue of sexual orientation, not on whether his job should be terminated.

"A number of people in eastern Canada have expressed concern," said community relations chair Hal Joffe of Calgary. "We know there is no general consensus on this."

The future of the CJC as outlined in a draft report triggered a far-reaching debate. "We know that many of you want things to change and we are listening," said Renee Switzer of Vancouver, national CJC chair.

No changes will be made before being approved by the 1998 plenary, she said, but in the meantime the CJC must submit a report to a meeting next week of the Council of Jewish Federations of which CJC is a member. The council is setting its budget at that time, she said.

"We are finally meeting with some success," said Bernie Farber, CJC's community relations director, reporting that "dozens" more deportation orders against alleged war criminals in Canada are being processed by the federal justice department.

One involves a member of the 12th Battalion of the Lithuanian Guard who lives in Montreal, and another a man who lives in St. Catharines.

Noting that only 20 candidates out of 1,200 running in the federal election were Jewish, Robbie Diamond asked that political internships for Jewish youth be established. "If it isn't done by September, it will go into oblivion," he said.

Hershon welcomed a suggestion by Farber that CJC's next federal election guide weigh what the position of the various parties is on Jewish issues.

The delegates adopted a motion by Nathan Leipciger that the CJC quickly provide information to survivors about how they can file claims for assets in Switzerland. Hershon said she is meeting shortly with Daniel Dayer, Switzerland's ambassador to Canada.

Allegations put Podins in camp

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Alleged Nazi war criminal Eduards Podins worked as a policeman in the Valmiera replacement camp from November 1941 until at least September 1943, during which time "political prisoners were persecuted through confinement, torture and execution," states a government document filed in Federal Court last week.

As a member of the Latvian auxiliary police, Podins served in the concentration camp principally "in management matters. Being in charge of the concentration camp supplies stores, his duties included the guarding of prisoners," the Crown's summary of facts and evidence states.

The document was filed as part of the government's attempt to strip Podins of his citizenship and deport him. The Justice Department alleges that Podins withheld key information about his wartime service in the Valmiera concentration camp, entered Canada and obtained citizenship by fraudulent means.

Podins is the 11th of 12 alleged Nazi war criminals to face deportation for lying about their wartime activities. While Podins is alleged to have failed to divulge information about his service at Valmiera, the documents also contend that "on or about Sept. 3, 1990, [Podins] admitted to the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) that he had worked in a concentration camp during World War II."

Two INS officer and 16 Latvian witnesses are among the witnesses the Crown states it plans to call. The government also plans to enter dozens of routine wartime documents, including a list of the concentration camp employees, a letter listing Valmiera personnel entitled to a monthly alcohol ration, as well as a certificate issued by the head of the concentration camp, "mentioning Podins' service as an Auxiliary Policeman from Nov. 17, 1941 to April 1, 1943."

Meanwhile, a published report from Selidovo, Ukraine, suggests the daughter and granddaughter of alleged war criminal Wasily Bogutin may have intimidated potential witnesses in his denaturalization case. Bogutin, 88, is alleged to have participated in the massacre of civilians in Nazi-occupied Ukraine and for the past two weeks, the court has heard evidence in Ukraine.

A story in the *Globe and Mail* suggests Bogutin's daughter and granddaughter met with elderly witnesses on the weekend before they gave evidence, and asked why they were saying negative things about Bogutin. One witness subsequently declined to testify, the newspaper reported.

In Canada, the Supreme Court has granted Canadian Jewish Congress intervener status in the case involving Helmut Oberlander, Johann Dueck and Erichs Tobiass. No other Jewish group received intervener status.

Lawyers for the three men argue the cases should be stayed because discussions between a senior government official and the Chief Justice of the Federal Court mounted to judicial interference.

And *60 Minutes* is planning to rebroadcast *Canada's Dark Secret*, its investigation into Canada's poor record in dealing with Nazi war criminals. The program will air on July 20.

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Greater Toronto Area

New Parliament seen as a 'multi-party quilt'

By BILL GLADSTONE
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish officials have expressed satisfaction with the results of last week's national election that saw a slight weakening of the separatist party in Quebec.

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's Liberals will remain the governing party with a slim majority.

The Bloc Québécois won 44 seats, a loss of six from the last Parliament.

Any perceived weakening of the separatists will serve to bolster the spirits of Montreal's 101,000-strong Jewish community.

However, the Reform party's new status as official Opposition may hinder national unity, some observers say, because its "tough-love" attitude toward Quebec probably pushed many of that province's voters into the separatist fold.

"The Reform party will be a millstone around the federalists' neck for the next few years because they will issue statements that will be seen as anti-Quebec, and those statements will be used to drag down the federalist side," said

Election '97

Irving Abella, past chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

Abella characterized the new Parliament as a "multi-party quilt," with each of the five parties – the New Democratic Party and the Progressive Conservatives are the other two – representing different points of view and visions.

Frank Dimant, executive director of B'nai Brith Canada, sees similarities between the composition of Canada's new Parliament and the Knesset.

"It will mean that we'll have to do a lot more work and a lot more lobbying to make sure that each of the five parties is aware of the issues on the Jewish agenda."

During the campaign, CJC raised a variety of domestic and international issues with the candidates, including the presence of alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada, national unity, the fight against racism, and refugee and immigration policies.

The country now seems politically divided along "regional fault lines."

The Liberal party lost seats in the 301-seat Parliament but still managed to maintain a majority of 155 seats, two-thirds of which came from Ontario.

Meanwhile the Reform party failed to win a single riding east of Manitoba, while the Bloc Québécois, by self-definition, only won seats within Quebec.

Thanks largely to the personal charisma of leader Jean Charest, the Progressive Conservatives made a dramatic comeback from two to 21 seats, almost all in Quebec and Atlantic Canada.

The New Democratic Party also made gains at the Liberals' expense in the eastern provinces, increasing from nine to 20 seats.

"I think it's disturbing that the country is so fragmented and that there's only one party that can make a reasonable claim to being a national party," said Harold Waller, a professor of political science at McGill University in Montreal.

Canada's next Parliament will see five Jewish members, all on the government side of the House: veteran MPs Sheila Finestone and Herb Gray; Elinor Caplan, representing Thornhill; and two newcomers from Quebec: Raymonde Folco, who was elected in Laval West; and Jacques Saada, who won in Brossard-La Prairie.

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Humber joins fight to save Branson

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Another hospital has joined the fight to keep Branson hospital and all its clinics open as an ambulatory care centre.

The Humber River Regional Hospital, formerly York-Finch, at Jane and 401, is negotiating for this, said Brian Fenton, Branson senior vice-president.

This might also help solve the problem of where 100 medical specialists at Branson will be able to admit their patients when the acute beds at Branson are closed as scheduled in two years, Fenton said.

"We're hoping to come up with the answer that the commission wants to keep Branson open," he said. (The Hospital Services Restructuring Commission has set no date for a final decision on the matter.)

Fenton said the commission has already agreed to a plan in Sudbury similar to the one proposed for Branson.

A group of staff members at Humber River has objected to its negotiations with Branson. They have sent a letter to the administration accusing them of abandoning Northwestern Hospital in the city of York in favor of Branson. Northwestern is also to be closed.

The Branson executive is optimistic that admitting privileges for Branson's specialists will be obtained at Humber River and at North York General.

"We're doing everything we can to make sure that Branson's family doctors get admitting privileges at other hospitals. This has to be explored, but we do not expect a great deal of difficulty," Fenton said.

The commission has allotted funding to Humber River, North York General and York Central in Richmond Hill to handle Branson patients.

Sixty percent of Branson's emergency and medical cases are slated for Humber River, and 30 percent for North York General. In the case of surgical patients, half would go to each. Seventy percent of women giving birth are slated for North York General, 20 percent for Humber River and 10 percent for York Central.

About 250-300 medical personnel at Branson, including the 100 specialists, are involved in the changes, Fenton said.

Greater Toronto Area

Beth Jacob celebrates 100th anniversary

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It started, as so many Toronto synagogues did, as a minyan of Jews from the same area in Europe, in this case Poland.

Now it is 100 years later, and Beth Jacob Congregation in Bathurst Manor is still going strong.

To celebrate the milestone, the shul is planning a dinner on June 26 at the synagogue. Guest speaker will be Rabbi Berel Wein, and there will be a musical interlude with Chazzan Moshe Ginz, and Yehuda Gilden and the Eitz Chaim Boys Choir.

The dinner will also honor Rabbi Moshe Burak and past presidents of the shul, brotherhood and sisterhood.

The Jewish community in Toronto in 1897 was not only ethnically diverse, but also ethnically divided. The Russian Jews davened together, as did the Galicians, Germans and Poles. As Rabbi Shlomo Jakobovitz, general studies principal of Eitz Chaim Schools, a member of Beth Jacob who is preparing a history of the synagogue for its 100th anniversary celebrations, says, "They davened in their own minyan, because that's how things were."

The group formed an official congregation in 1899, calling themselves Bais Jakov. In 1905, they bought a small church on Elm Street just east of Yonge, which they turned into their first home.

By the end of World War I, the number of Polish Jews had greatly increased and in 1919, the congregation bought larger quarters on Henry Street.

"It was opened in 1922 with a major ceremony," Rabbi Jakobovitz said. "Chazzan Yosselle Rosenblatt [a noted chazzan from New York] and his choir came. A thousand people were inside the shul and another 1,000 stood outside."

Stephen Speisman, director of the Ontario Jewish Archives, and author of *The Jews of Toronto*, considers the Henry Street shul to have been one of the most beautful shuls in Toronto, with its stained glass windows, columns painted to look like gold leaf, wall paintings, and especially its magnificent Aron Kodesh.

The congregation stayed there for 40 years. After the Jewish community began to move north, Beth Jacob joined Shaarei Emunah Congregation at Wilmington and Overbrook in 1965.

The Aron Kodesh was dismantled and reassembled in the new facility. The congregation found the company that originally built it and still had the original plans. The company's staff took it apart piece by piece and stored it until it was needed.

Rabbi Moshe Burak (left) and Rabbi Jay Kelman. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

In 1972, Beth Jacob was joined by Anshei Drildz, and is now known as Beth Jacob v'Anshei Drildz.

The first spiritual leader of Beth Jacob was Rabbi Yehuda Leib Graubart, who was brought to Toronto from Poland. After he left in the 1940s, there was no rabbi until Rabbi Benjamin Hauer took over for a time in the 1950s.

Rabbi Moshe Burak has led the congregation since 1962. He remembers being not just the rabbi, but the baal Musaf as well.

"When I came, there was declining attendance, but it came back to life. My wife founded the sisterhood, and the Sunday morning brotherhood meetings were smashing affairs," Rabbi Burak said.

When the shul first considered moving from downtown, the rabbi said, "I wanted them to move to Steeles. But one of my balabatim said that every time he went to the Murray House [then on Steeles just west of Bathurst], he got lost. So we didn't move there."

Last year, Rabbi Jay Kelman was appointed associate rabbi. He has instituted many new programs in an effort to revitalize the congregation and to attract new, and hopefully some younger members.

There is a beginners' minyan, a youth minyan, a greatly expanded adult education program, including sessions in people's houses, and a lunch-and-learn program.

There is also a home buyers incentive plan, in which new home buyers who are interested in joining the shul can receive an interest-free loan.

Rabbi Burak praised Rabbi Kelman as "a scholar, and the descendent of great scholars."

Asked whether Rabbi Kelman's appointment meant that he would be slowing down, he replied with a laugh: "I want him to be successful, so that I can go around the world seeing my grandchildren."

Dinner co-chairs are Dr. Aaron Jesin and Irving Karoly. For more information, or to reserve for the dinner, call 633-4995 or 633-2746.

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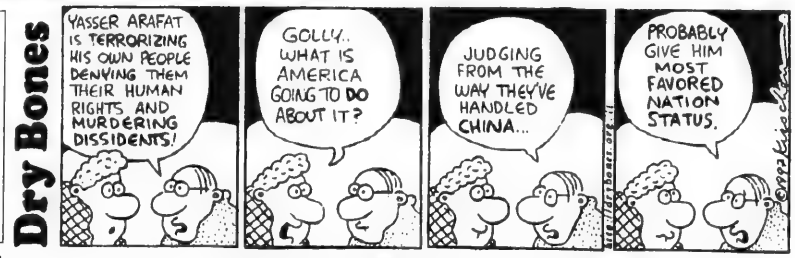
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Superior Parliament

The Parliament that resulted from last week's election is a far superior one to that which it replaced. We can think of a number of reasons why this is so. Here are merely eight.

First, the government enjoys a majority. This is important because it adds a measure of certainty to the life of the government. But the majority is sufficiently slim that the Liberals will never be able to be so certain as to allow complacency or arrogance to set in.

Second, Canadians no longer face the surrealistic spectre of having as their "official" Opposition, a party officially committed to the dismantling of our country.

Third, each of the federalist parties will have full party status and be able to express its voice in the House of Commons.

Fourth, the separatist presence in the House of Commons has been substantially diminished. So too was its popular base among the voters of Quebec, suggesting the possibility that a reinvigorated and rejuvenated federalism would be warmly received there.

Fifth, though each of the four federalist parties can rightly point to their respective electoral success, each also suffered major setbacks over which they must also feel somewhat chastened.

Sixth, to deal with these setbacks and to eventually overcome them, the four federalist parties must demonstrate a certain flexibility and a willingness to "adapt." For example, if the Reform party hopes to make any headway with Ontario voters, it must abjure the shameful, divisive anti-Quebec rhetoric on which it campaigned. If the Liberals want to make better headway in the West, they must assess the reasons for their apparent lack of appeal there.

Seventh, this need for flexibility must inevitably lead to more cooperation among at least some of the parties on social, economic and especially, constitutional legislative initiatives.

And eighth, the agenda is already highly focussed. Staying the course on deficit reduction will create economic conditions conducive to job creation. This in turn, will enable the restoration to some reasonable extent, of more health, social, educational and welfare spending. But most important, before too long, Premier Lucien Bouchard will seek his own mandate in Quebec to hold The Third Referendum. Whatever the pretext, whatever the ploy, whatever the demagogic device by which he justifies his call to arms, the most effective response to him will be a strong, federalist parliament whose members can stand opposite him on his own territory.

Thus, while many observers are predicting a fractious Parliament, we do not. No doubt there will be the routine display of question period theatrics, insult and bravado, especially in the early months of the Parliament. But after the initial rush of name-calling and feigned umbrage, we are counting on our elected representatives to demonstrate the requisite maturity, to recognize and fully understand the somberness and the seriousness of their responsibility. That responsibility will be nothing less than saving the country.

At that moment, theatrics will have to give way to thoughtfulness, insult to inventiveness, and bravado to bravery. Canadians will demand of our elected representatives a heightened, more sophisticated and sensitized leadership that rises to the urgency of the hour. We will expect our leaders not to point a finger, but rather to point the way; not to show a fist, but rather, to extend a hand.

Any leader who sets party or personal interests before the national interest will be scorned by the majority of Canadians and by history and deservedly so.

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"Our Congress shall live forever, not only until the redemption from the age-long suffering is effected, but afterwards as well. Today we are here in the hospitable limits of this free city - where shall we be next year? "

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

June 13, 1875 the first Canadian B'nai Brith lodge was established in Toronto. It disbanded in 1894 and started up again in 1919. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Dean refutes charge over Halachah

Bernard Rubin (*CJN*, May 29 letter), challenged a statement I made regarding the Conservative movement's commitment to Halachah. Rubin asserted: "To put the term Halachah in the same sentence as Conservative Judaism is an oxymoron." He continued, "The religion, as defined by the Halachah... is basically a dictatorial religion." The Conservative movement, he charged, "has changed these laws (regarding women) for themselves. To couch these changes under the umbrella of Halachah is contrary to the religion."

What is truly oxymoronic is to relate the words "Halachah" and "dictatorial." That is to say, while Halachah does indeed govern the way in which we lead our lives as Jews, any student of Judaism would recognize that Halachah is not an unchanging or univocal code of law. Open any page of Talmud and you will be surrounded by differing visions of God's will and divergent interpretations of rabbinic law. The richness of Halachah is in large part due to these myriad perspectives, insights and values that generations of rabbis continue to bring to it. To think that Halachah is a motionless or single-minded dictatorial body of law is not only to misunderstand Halachah's sacred mission of maintaining the relevance of the Torah, it is to deny the evolutionary and multifaceted growth that Halachah has undergone over the past 2,000 years.

Indeed, the very texts Rubin cites as proof of Halachah's objective, uncontested stance on the role of women in ritual, the Mishnah Torah, the Shulchan Aruch and Mishnah Berurah, themselves reflect generations of evolutionary, pluralistic halachic discourse.

Halachic texts, by the way, and their interpretation, do not belong exclusively to the Orthodox. They belong to any Jew who takes their content seriously and to any rabbi who has been authorized by his or her community to study, interpret and apply them.

Halachah remains central to Conservative Judaism. Why this statement conjures up such fierce emotion in Rubin is curious indeed. In this time of divisiveness, let's celebrate our common commitments rather than waste Jewish energy using them to further separate us.

Rabbi Adina Lewittes
Assistant Dean of the Rabbinical School
Jewish Theological Seminary
New York, N.Y.

Two Bernard Rubins are not clones

I was surprised and amused to read the letter headed "Objects to Conservative use of Halachah" written by my namesake (*CJN*, May 29). There are two Bernard Rubins living on the same street in Downsview. I am a Conservative Jew and have already received phone calls from friends asking if I really wrote that letter. In the past we have been confused over letters to the editor in both *The Canadian Jewish News* and the *Globe and Mail*. Perhaps one of us should adopt a middle initial.

Bernard Rubin,
Toronto

Other villains in war crimes story

The article Judicial Independence Revisited, by Paul Lungen (*CJN*, May 29), raises some very troubling and serious issues.

A person not concerned with the rule of law or knowledgeable about the workings of the judicial system might well explain away the transgressions within the Ministry of Justice and the fumbling and stumbling by various members of the Federal Court of Canada with the comment that they are simply doing their best to bring Nazi war criminals to justice. In reality, the opposite is true. The accumulation of missteps and judicial ineptness might well lead the Supreme Court of Canada to exonerate at least three accused Nazi war criminals without ever hearing the merits of the case against them or even considering the horrific crimes that they have committed.

The minister of justice's decision not to prosecute alleged Nazi war criminals was wrong. Instead the government decided that denaturalization and deportation was the only course left. These cases are not a bureaucratic concern about a number of immigrants who withheld some trivial information in order to gain entry to Canada and then become Canadian citizens. This is the vehicle the federal government has chosen to prosecute perpetrators of crimes against humanity and mass murder. For this objective to be sidetracked because senior lawyers are unaware of the obligation to advise an adversary of a visit to a judge's chambers or for judges to sit on their hands for months and months while the memory of witnesses fade and accused persons die of old age only adds to the abysmal record of one federal government after another in dealing with the entire Nazi war crimes issue.

One of the few people within the Ministry of Justice who has toiled and fought to see Nazi war criminals brought to justice is chief war crimes litigator, Christopher Amerasinghe. He has bucked political inertia and ministers who would like the entire issue terminated and now he has come forward with the courage to even take on the minister of justice. Some day, I predict we will hear even more from him and it will become clear that there were in addition to the Nazi war criminals many other villains in Canada's sorry history of war crimes prosecutions.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Tikkun Hazot, the midnight vigil

Hillel Zeitlin was a remarkable thinker, scholar and journalist whose writings plumbed the depths of the most holy, and also explored the world of the secular. He was born in 1871 in Korma, Belarus, and died on the way to Treblinka in 1942, wearing his tallit and t'fillin, on erev Rosh Hashanah.

His meditation on Tikkun Hazot reaches to the very centre of individual Jewish existence and experience.

It is a fitting prelude to our studies and to our celebration of Shavuot.

MEDITATION

Weeping and true joy struggle with each other at Tikkun Hazot, the midnight vigil. Softly, I tell you, there is one kind of midnight vigil in which there's no need to squat on the floor or place ashes on your head.

The place for it is on a mountain, at the edge of a forest; the time, when the moon is covered by clouds and the stars are concealed and invisible.

Shadows of darkness cover everything. There are no separate trees or flowers, not a separate creature.

A veil of blackness is drawn over all.

A deep silence is before you, the silence of pure thought, the silence of creation, the silence of eternity.

There is no movement, no murmur, no agitation, no noise and emotion, no developing and growing, for all is being, and only being.

There is no changing of form, maturation and decay, transformation and alteration; there is only the whole universe.

You want to grasp in your thought the essence of existence, of reality, of eternity.

You sink into this thought, and labor to give it some image you can hold on to.

But from far away you hear the echo of various sounds that recall the perpetual flow of life.

Far away from where you are sitting, the brook rushes, the spring murmurs, the bird chirps, the insects rustle, the leaves talk, and the winds meet.

And you understand the secrets of rest and of motion, the secret of reality and of the modes of reality, the secret of existence and of the manifestation of existence, the secrets of creation and form.

And you sense all the sadness and all the joy of eternity.

And the night's talk tells you about the pure blood that has been spilt throughout all the ages: about the travail and distress of those who have always been miserable and exploited, abused and humiliated; about the terrible suffering, the troubles and afflictions that have been going on endlessly; and about the victims who are still falling to your left and to your right, every minute.

The time is not for wonder and amazement and excitement, but for weeping, the weeping of silence, weeping of bitterness, weeping of the world, weeping of eternity.

But you also hear in the night's talk about the eternity of all that is holy and pure, beautiful and sublime, exalted and supernal; about the noble and holy emotions, and holy visions, and holy intentions, and all the great holy deeds and projects.

And the night's talk reveals to you that everything comes together, is connected, unites, that there is no noble feeling or good intention that is completely lost, no holy aspiration that will not at some stage be redeemed.

You realize that everything is imprinted in eternity.

And when the Holy One Blessed Be He goes into the Garden of Eden to delight with His Righteous Ones, and those beings on high and below are aroused to Him, and when the trees of Eden break out in song to Him, you also hear the murmuring of the spring of tears.

And you feel all the sorrows and grief, and also consolation of the holy and the supernal beauty.

By Hillel Zeitlin

From:
Shefa Quarterly, *Summer 1977*

Photo, Barbara Gingold From the *Shefa Quarterly*, September 1978

Opinions

A boon and a blessing

By Carl Alpert in Israel

There can be no doubt that the immigration into Israel of over 700,000 people from the former Soviet Union (FSU) during less than a decade, has been a boon and a blessing to the country from every point of view, economic, cultural and national security. Once again the Zionist movement has justified its basic philosophy of providing a safe haven for any Jew, anywhere in the world, who requires or wishes for a home.

The cost has not been small, but Israelis bear the heavy burden and world Jewry has risen to the challenge generously. Who measures cost when there are lives to be saved?

The pace of the immigration has tapered off considerably, but the financial needs do not appear to have diminished much. Why?

Social workers to whom we have spoken in various parts of the country tell us that in recent months there has been a marked increase in the number of olim suffering from physical, medical, mental and social problems. At the moment there is urgent need to provide adequate, modest flats for over 14,500 elderly immigrants — that is, men and women who are far beyond productive age, and have no families with whom to live. Indeed, one observer commented that it seems as if the healthy, able-bodied younger Jews in Russia and the neighboring states, now beginning to adjust themselves to the new atmosphere there, find it convenient to ship the old and ailing members of their families off to Israel, where they know they will be well cared for.

Israel's medical services have become famous in Eastern Europe, and many come here hoping for miracle cures. Health facilities where they come from have for some years been in a depressed state, lacking much of the modern equipment. The result, as a survey conducted by the JDC-Brookdale Institute of Gerontology has revealed, is that new immigrants arrive here with chronic conditions that have been long neglected, and with health damaged by years of inadequate preventive medicine and unhealthy diets.

The same survey reported that nearly half of the older olim said they had a chronic disease, a handicap or other limitation, compared to 30 percent of veteran Israelis.

Aliyah includes 'hardship cases'

These immigrants live under depressed conditions, they do not know the language nor can they ever learn. They tend to become permanent burdens on the local authorities. Life is far from pleasant for them. Questions are being asked: Is such an aliyah really of benefit to the unfortunate and unhappy men and women who are brought here or as indicated earlier, sent off by their families who don't want to be burdened with them?

We posed questions to the Jewish Agency. Is there a policy to encourage or discourage aliyah by "hardship cases"? Are the shlichim, the Jewish Agency emissaries, given a free hand in encouraging and promoting such aliyah, perhaps to inflate the statistics?

The replies, from official sources, did not sidestep the problem. "Jewish Agency policy regarding world-wide immigration is strictly non-selective. According to the stipulations of Israel's Law of Return, every Diaspora Jew has the right to come 'home' to Israel." Once the eligibility is confirmed, the Jewish Agency assists their aliyah and initial resettlement. Once they are in Israel, the government Ministry of Absorption assumes most responsibility for their welfare.

Furthermore, the shlichim are instructed to be realistic in preparing all potential olim for the changes and difficulties they can expect in uprooting themselves from their families and native lands and re-establishing themselves, socially, professionally and personally in Israel.

As for the feeling that those coming now are the elderly, Jewish Agency statistics do not bear this out. The percentage of immigrants from the FSU ages 65 and over, actually dropped from 14 percent in 1995 to 13 percent in 1996 and 11 percent thus far this year. No figures were made available on health conditions.

To the question, is this aliyah beneficial to Israel, or to the sick and aged olim themselves, the only reply appears to be a humanitarian and Jewish one: It is their right to come home.

One is reminded of Emma Lazarus' famous words inscribed on the base of the American Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore, send these, the homeless, tempest-tost, to me..."

By Emil Fackenheim in Jerusalem

Emil Fackenheim's column will return next month.

Black policeman an innovator

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The other day I was given an article that was published in the *Toronto Star*. Written by Martin Walker it originated in Charleston, S.C. Even if you already know the story, it is worth taking another look at it.

The tale plays out in this old southern city where the American Civil War started 136 years ago, and is accompanied by a large picture of a handsome gentleman in police uniform. The fact that the police officer is also black is certainly no news, nor even that he is chief of police — something that is found in a number of American cities. But he is also Jewish and his name is Reuben Greenberg. That combination certainly made me attentive to the story.

The American South is still not a hospitable place for blacks, and black police chiefs who are Jewish are not what one would expect in a stronghold of social and political tradition. Greenberg's Jewishness derives from his black great-grandmother with whom his great-grandfather Sol fell in love many years ago. The newspaper adds that the chief is still an Orthodox Jew, like his ancestor, which is additionally piquant, because Charleston is also the birthplace of the first Reform synagogue, in the 1820s.

The chief is, in fact, fast becoming well-known throughout the States and now has found recognition in Canada as well. For he has accomplished the impossible: he has dramatically reduced crime in the city, and has done the same for children's truancy. Drug dealing is also down since he put an officer on all the streets where the drug trade previously flourished, and soon there was no hideout for the would-be dealer. Strangest of all, in a part of America's landscape where possession of guns is nearly universal, only one child has suffered a violent death — and that by an adult.

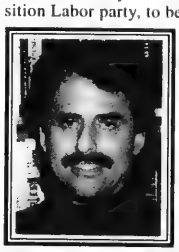
Handguns disappeared from schools when the chief announced a $100 reward for any child who reported another with a weapon. Greenberg apparently knows something that psychologists discovered some time ago — that children are proverbial snitchers. "Before, the more people who knew you had a gun, the greater your prestige. Now, the more people who know, the more likely you are to be turned in."

Once upon a time,Greenberg was a professor of sociology who, at one point in his career, decided to put his insights to practical tests. His cops are not in automobiles but wear running shoes so they can chase suspects more easily, and he himself wears in-line skates to speed up his own record of apprehending offenders.

Meanwhile, although Charleston's citizens are happy with the chief's performance, they are also worried about him. Not about his ways of handling public welfare, but that another city will come along and hire him away.

I'd like to think that Greenberg's Jewishness is part of his success. For it does teach a sense of right and wrong as well as creating a keen social conscience. Combined with a flair for the unusual, and being given latitude to exercise his imagination, this has worked wonders. Maybe these can be transported elsewhere as well.

Labor leader sports military elan



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

Who is Ehud Barak? The former military chief of staff was recently elected to lead the opposition Labor party, to be the "Great White Hope" of the Israeli political left. While Barak advocates the standard Labor belief in trading West Bank land for peace, even recognizing the prospect of Palestinian statehood, his political skills remain to be tested.

In the military the ultra-ambitious Barak was described as a man who moves in life from "post to post," from chief of staff to leader of the Labor party onto the premiership and then — if he could change his birthplace — to the American presidency.

Definitely armed with an incredible intellect, Barak may be too smart for his own good. He has a tendency to relate to the political environment as he did to the military, a dynamic which will not run well in the all too compromising reality of Israeli politics. His fellow Laborites and potential coalition partners will not take too well to "receiving orders."

But his military elan will go very well with the Israeli public. Barak has that extra measure of "political testosterone" that is so lacking in the former Labor prime minister Shimon Peres.

Pitted against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Israeli public opinion polls, Barak would clearly defeat the prime minister in a national election. While that does show popularity, the capricious nature of Israeli voters is such that they can quickly shift support from one candidate to the other. The polls by no means confirm a Labor victory under Barak's leadership.

What I do like about Barak as opposed to Netanyahu is what he describes as the most pressing need in the peace process, the need to rebuild the shattered trust with the Arabs. There can be no progress in negotiations nor movement in the peace process without some measure of mutual trust.

Sending the bulldozers to start construction of the Jewish community of Har Choma was the coup de grace that killed any chance of real trust between Netanyahu and Arab Leaders. There is such deep suspicion between the current Israeli and Arab leaderships, the chance of even minimal progress is slim at best.

Barak believes Israel must take confidence building measures to regenerate that trust, measures to freeze settlements, and a genuine desire to grant the Palestinians more self rule in return for peace.

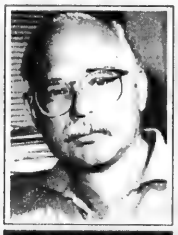
Netanyahu, on the other hand, believes the Palestinians must first change their fundamental national character before there can be trust. At that rate, peace will come at about the same time as the arrival of the Messiah.

For now, the choice is strictly academic. With elections scheduled in the year 2000, Netanyahu still has three years to harness, or erode, support for his leadership. And as we all know, the Mideast is full of surprises and hidden twist and turns which could make or break the current government.

The Kirshner File

The conscience of a nation

Call her, if you like, the conscience of her nation. Verena Grendelmeier, a member of the Swiss federal parliament, has been in the forefront of efforts by Switzerland to come to grips with its ambiguous past.



By Sheldon Kirshner

In March 1995, she was the first parliamentarian to urge Swiss banks to return Jewish dormant funds. In January of this year, she raised the idea of a state-endowed foundation to help the victims of oppression and impoverishment in Switzerland and abroad.

Her proposals have touched raw nerves but have been heeded.

Last year, the Swiss Bankers Association, the World Jewish Congress and the World Restitution Organization agreed to establish a commission of eminent persons, headed by Paul Volcker, to study the long-lingering question of dormant funds.

Volcker, former chair of the U.S. Federal Reserve, is expected to submit a final report next summer.

Three months ago, the president of Switzerland, Arnold Koller, called for the creation of a $4.7 billion (US) Swiss Foundation for Solidarity fund to assist "victims of poverty and catastrophes, of genocide and other severe breaches of human rights, such as, of course, victims of the Holocaust."

The woman behind these far-reaching initiatives, a 58-year-old left-of-centre politician, is a former stage actress and director and television journalist.

Born in Zurich in the year World War II broke out, Grendelmeier has been a parliamentarian since 1983. Not by coincidence, she represents the Independence party, which holds five seats in the 200-member National Council.

Politics runs in her blood. Grendelmeier's father, a lawyer, was one of the founders of the party.

She is an imposing person, tall and feisty and fearless. Unmarried, she lives modestly in a singularly small and unprepossessing flat in a sedate, tree-lined neighborhood in Zurich, a neat and attractive city from whose lake the majestic, snow-capped Alps can be glimpsed. On a recent afternoon, I spent two hours talking with her, pausing only to sample her wholesome home-cooked soup with slices of crusty bread.

As she tells it, the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II was a fitting occasion to address an issue which had been simmering on the back burner: dormant accounts held by Jews who had been murdered during the Holocaust.

Their descendants had put in claims, but lacking death certificates and the necessary documents, they had been rebuffed by officious Swiss banks, leading to accusations that the bankers were deliberately sitting on the accounts.

"Things weren't as they should have been," said Grendelmeier. "There was a problem and it had to be dealt with." And so she introduced a motion in committee to expedite matters. "It was the fastest way to get an answer."

The first hearing took place 11 months later, a delay she attributes to jealousy on the part of fellow parliamentarians. "We lost time. We could have given the world a clear sign of our intentions, before Sen. Alphonse D'Amato (of the U.S. Senate banking committee) appeared on the scene."

There was a debate in parliament, and both chambers voted unanimously to create the Volcker Commission.

On Jan. 27, 1997, she unveiled her second major initiative, the solidarity foundation, as a token of thanks for the suffering and deprivations Switzerland, a neutral country, did not have to endure during the war. Grendelmeier, who did not put a dollar value on her proposal, discussed it with the foreign minister, Flavio Cotti, who seemed impressed.

On March 5, the government officially adopted Grendelmeier's proposition, but it is far from assured of passage.

Proposals were heeded

The right-wing People's party, led by Christoph Blocher, a wealthy industrialist, has pledged to block it in a nation-wide referendum.

Blocher and his allies have two basic objections. They regard the foundation as an unjustified admission of Swiss guilt for its wartime behavior. They oppose using public funds — Swiss gold reserves — to finance it.

Switzerland bought plundered European gold from Germany in exchange for convertible Swiss francs. These transactions enabled Germany to buy war material from the neutral powers and, in the view of historians, to prolong the war. Switzerland admitted tens of thousands of refugees, including 30,000 Jews. But it turned away an equal number of Jewish refugees.

Grendelmeier, who has vivid memories of the restrictions and rationing the war imposed on Switzerland, realizes that the proposed foundation is on shaky ground.

"The problem with our political system is that it's so democratic," she explained. "With a petition signed by 50,000 citizens, the issue can be taken to a referendum."

Verena Grendelmeier

In a 1992 referendum, she recalled, the Swiss rejected membership in the European Union. The campaign was spearheaded by none other than Blocher, whose party is represented in the Swiss Federal Council, Switzerland's ruling body.

Right now, even though debate concerning the proposed foundation has hardly even begun, public opinion is split right down the middle, Grendelmeier said.

Some of the dissenters are Swiss males over the age of 75 who faithfully guarded the borders as soldiers and now feel that Switzerland's honor is being impugned.

Grendelmeier, who is nothing if not empathetic, understands their grievance. "Switzerland was surrounded by fascist countries, and to survive it had to cooperate with Germany. This was a blackmail situation for us. We were in a hopeless situation."

Nevertheless, the Swiss government of the day was too accommodating. "We didn't have to cooperate with Germany after 1943 and 1944. We didn't have to accept every German dictate. We went too far in being compliant."

Echoing a view that is quite common here, Grendelmeier believes that neither the Swiss government nor the Swiss population was pro-German. "We hated the Germans. We felt menaced by them. We feared an *Anschluss*."

She regards Switzerland's overall treatment of Jewish refugees as a "shameful chapter" in its history.

"The boat was *not* full," she said, referring to rationalizations that Switzerland would be swamped by refugees. She is convinced that an element of anti-Semitism informed Switzerland's policy vis-a-vis Jewish refugees.

In the past two years, Grendelmeier has received threatening telephone calls and a steady stream of hate mail from irate letter writers, several of whom have accused her of being a "Jewish whore."

Despite this outpouring of bile, she does not detect an anti-Semitic backlash in the country at large. Swiss Jews, she added, have played an exceedingly positive role as a credible intermediary between Switzerland and the Jewish world.

Grendelmeier strongly believes that the current controversy over Nazi gold will ultimately be of benefit to Switzerland, which is currently in the painful process of working through its past.

"It is forcing us to see things as they really were and not as we would have liked to see them. The Swiss are disengaging themselves from the tyranny of self-deception, and that's good. Then we can look forward instead of backwards."

As I stood up to leave, she said emphatically, "We have to close this chapter."

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Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care (including Baycrest Hospital, Baycrest Day Care Services for Seniors, Jewish Home for the Aged and Ridgecrest Seniors Residential Services Corporation) will be held on Thursday, June 19, 1997 at 1200 hours in the Dining Room at the Joseph E. and Minnie Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Avenue, North York.

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Books

By Bernard Baskin

Roth's sombre drama

***American Pastoral*, by Philip Roth (Thomas Allen Pub., $34.95).**

Roth's impressive and affecting new novel, his 18th, is a searing evocation of the United States during a pivotal decade, as well as the tragedy of a decent, generous, hard-working, patriotic citizen who is brought down by malignant forces beyond his knowledge or control.

The book's title is ironic, for there is nothing pastoral in the conflicts and violent transitions of the 1960s that are at the heart of its sombre drama.

Seymour "Swede" Levov, a handsome, legendary, high school athlete, pride of his Jewish neighborhood, marries a Catholic beauty queen, inherits his father's successful Newark glove factory and buys a 100-acre farm in a classy suburb. Securely ensconced with his family in a rural stone farmhouse, widely admired for his traits of character, the unsuspecting "Swede" is overwhelmed by forces of social disorder.

His daughter, Meredith (Merry), the apple of his eye, becomes radicalized during the Vietnam war and rails against the sheltered complacency of bourgeois life. In a series of terrible actions — reminiscent of those by Patty Hearst — she plants a bomb that blows up a rural post office and kills an innocent passing physician. She becomes an underground fugitive for five years and during that time she kills three additional people in her fanatical allegiance to her cause.

"Swede" and his family are flung "out of the longed-for American pastoral and into everything that is its antithesis and its enemy — into the fury, the violence and the desperation of the counterpastoral — into the American berserk."

Merry eventually reappears as a half-starved Jain, sick and filthy, living in sacred poverty in Newark, her mouth covered with a veil lest she ingest any micro-organisms. As her father awakens to the knowledge of Merry's monstrous actions, his once sheltered life undergoes shattering torment.

He confronts his daughter: " 'You are not an Algerian woman! You are not from Algeria and you are not from India! You are an American girl from Old Rimrock, New Jersey! A very, very screwed-up American Girl! Four people? No!...' He could never father a child who killed four people. Everything life had provided her, everything life offered her, everything life demanded of her, everything that had happened to her from the day she was born made that impossible. Killing people? It was not one of their problems."

Nothing that Roth writes is without intricacy and convolution. This is true of *American Pastoral*, where the entire story — in realistic and fine detail — is imaginatively reconstructed and narrated by Nathan Zuckerman, Roth's alter-ego, as he dreams "a realistic chronicle" of the well-remembered hero of his youth.

This is, arguably, the most Jewishly positive of Roth's novels. It includes a remarkable nine-page interrogation of Dawn Dwyer — about to marry his son — by "Swede's" father on her religious views and observances. What will happen when they are married? Some kind of contract must be made. In which religion will the children be reared? What about baptism? Bar mitzvah? Christmas? Communion?

Today, nearly three decades and 20 books after *Portnoy's Complaint*, Roth seems to have found an affirmative identification with his Jewish roots.

Quite unlike Roth's last novel, *Sabbath's Theatre* and eschewing his customary emphasis on sexuality, brilliant comic turns and black humor, *American Pastoral* is a richly textured and sagely reasoned narrative of American life at the end of this century. When "Swede" Levov in his anguish cries out, "What the hell is wrong with doing things right?", the sympathetic reader senses the crumbling of the American dream.

Diplomatically Speaking

By JEHUDI KINAR

Diplomatic links

The establishment of diplomatic links between countries is only the most visible form of international cooperation. Without media fanfare or ceremony, thousands of Israeli experts in agriculture, health care, environmental technology and other specialized fields have been meeting with their counterparts in the developing world since the 1950s.

Under the aegis of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Centre for International Cooperation (MASHAV in Hebrew) has forged close ties between Israelis and trainees from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Mediterranean region. Israeli experts give on-the-spot courses in the other countries or trainees come to Israel to study. In 1995, there were 3,628 trainees studying in Israel and another 6,262 enrolled in MASHAV courses in 55 countries around the world.

It all started when Golda Meir, as foreign minister of Israel, visited Africa in 1958. Meir recognized many similarities between the challenges faced by newly indepedent African nations and Israeli efforts to build a new society. Because Israel was, in the period after independence, still itself a developing country, MASHAV was based on a cooperative, rather than a paternalistic approach to development assistance. While wealthy countries might give money, Israel has focused on sharing its technical expertise, particularly in agriculture.

Some of the 143 countries involved in MASHAV do not have diplomatic relations with Israel, but Israelis hope that goodwill can be forged on the ground.

MASHAV has developed a vast array of projects: a dairy cattle farm in El Salvador, a model farm in Chuta, a field-course on irrigation in Brazil, an eye-surgery centre in Namibia and a desalinization centre in Oman are just a few examples. In each country, Israelis work alongside their colleagues in the spirit of cooperation. MASHAV stresses that trainees "adapt rather than adopt" Israeli technology and methods to suit needs and conditions.

Over the past few years, MASHAV has shifted to a focus on joint projects with Israel's neighbors in the Middle East and North Africa. Here the intention is to address issues of regional concern, like combating desertification and preventing environmental degradation.

Last year, MASHAV conducted its first course in Morocco. Agricultural projects in Egypt have led to discussions of a joint Egyptian-Israeli marketing scheme for agricultural produce. A new priority is to strengthen cooperative efforts with the Palestinian Authority through building ties between Palestinian and Israeli professionals. MASHAV has also become increasingly active in the former East Bloc countries which had been closed to Israel since the 1967 Six Day War.

The courses offered are not always technical and scientific. Trainees can also study drug abuse prevention, science education in early childhood, youth leadership, and the use of media in community development. MASHAV is also distinctive for its attention to the role of women in developing societies. A couple of months ago, a delegation of Israeli women teachers met with their Jordanian colleagues to discuss future cooperation. One MASHAV course deals with the promotion of self-help economic initiatives by women.

The success of MASHAV is a reminder that international cooperation can be achieved by many means, and that not only diplomats, but also ordinary citizens, may contribute to the achievement of good relations between countries.

Greater Toronto Area

Special kids' needs explored

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The pain and frustration of parenting children with special needs boiled over at an all-day conference on Jewish education last week at Baycrest Terrace.

Parents shouted and cried as they told stories of schools refusing to accept their children, other youngsters refusing to play with them and people they had considered friends avoiding a baby with a disability.

The conference was sponsored by Cha'yil, an organization of parents and teachers who represent children with learning disabilities, developmental delays, attention deficit disorder and physical and emotional challenges, and by Canadian Friends of P'Tach. P'Tach arranges special education for children with special needs in certain day schools in the United States.

Separate workshops were held for parents and teachers. The groups came together for the opening address by Rabbi Yitzchok Feigenbaum, who explained the halachic obligation to educate all children, regardless of what handicaps they might have; for a luncheon address by Judith Kimlichman, a Montreal parent; and for the keynote speech by Rabbi Yaakov Bender of Far Rockaway, N.Y.

Participants were visibly and vocally upset by the poor turnout of community teachers and principals, although there were contingents from at least She'arim, Zareinu, and Eitz Chaim schools.

Rabbi Aaron Levine, senior principal of Eitz Chaim, almost in tears, told the audience gathered for Rabbi Bender's speech that "principals are crying too. We want to reach out to every single child."

Kimlichman's son Chaim, now in his early 20s, suffered from a lack of oxygen at birth and is brain damaged. She remembers that when when she brought him home from the hospital, "no one came to visit, no one called. When I took him out in his carriage, people crossed to the other side of the street."

When the yeshivah they sent him to asked her and her husband to take him out, "I told them if you can find a rabbi to paskin [give a halachic ruling] that we should take him out, we will."

No one, she said, acknowledged the anger, the feeling of loss and the uncertainty parents of children with special needs face. "Should we take him out of the day school system? Should we keep fighting?"

No one, she went on, realized that parents of children with special needs also have a normal family life and have to deal with the ordinary demands made on any family unit.

"When we needed to spend 20 hours helping Chaim, we were torn. What do we do first?"

And no one, she said, asked whether they needed help with the other children in the family.

To help other families cope with these situations, Kimlichman helped found, and now directs, the Jewish Association for Special Education (JASE).

Bottom line

She explained that JASE has a full-time resource room for children from all parts of the community, which meets in Bais Yaakov school, and offers full-time education for the handicapped and part-time for the learning disabled.

What really helped the program succeed, she said, is that "the principal took it to heart. Others see only the bottom financial line."

It is also important, she said, to be aware of the strain on a couple dealing with a special needs child. "It is important to help them with respite and support. Their feeling of isolation can lead to illness and divorce."

Carol Goldman, co-director of Zareinu, said that while she advocates inclusion, that is, educating children with special needs along with all the others, "it is no good if they just take up desk space."

These children, she said, must first be given the tools they need to be able to take advantage of regular programs, such as speech, occupational and physiotherapy and other necessary resources to help them.

"You don't need to apologize or grovel [to day school administrators]. Your child has the right to a Jewish education."

She slammed those who claim that devoting scarce resources to handicapped children is unfair to the non-handicapped. "Fair is everyone having equal opportunities."

Zareinu, she said, has proposed to the Board of Jewish Education that it operate a cost-effective resource program in the day schools, one that would be able to function with minimal disruption.

"They have never answered us," she said.

Another problem she identified, and that was taken up by the parents in attendance, was the fear by some parents and administrators that if a school accepts children with special needs, the reputation of the school will be hurt.

Rabbi Bender, who is the principal of Yeshivat Darchei Torah in Far Rockaway, said his school has about 110 special needs children out of a population of 730, and "the yeshivah has suffered for that. Other yeshivot play off us that ours takes in the handicapped."

However, that does not deter him, as he believes that the children learn a great deal from having children with special needs in their classes.

He told touching stories of acts of kindness his students had performed: the baseball game in which the opposing team managed things so that a severely retarded youngster could make a home run; a boy who explained that he was not playing around during Rabbi Bender's class — he was repeating the lesson in sign language for his deaf friend; getting a specially equipped van so that a family with two children with muscular dystrophy could get around.

He echoed Goldman's injunction not to feel apologetic about demanding special services. "If your child needs an aide, it is the school's job to give it, just like it is the school's job to supply crossing guards."

TECHNION HONORS EGGLETON

The Canadian Technion Society paid tribute to MP Art Eggleton at a June 1 dinner, and dedicated the Technion's Art Eggleton Canadian Centre for Molecular Medicine Research, headed by a former Torontonian, Dr. Karl Skorecki. From left, Toronto chapter president Richard Cooper; Skorecki, Eggleton and Arnold Recht, the society's national president. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

A Father's Day Tribute for
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Greater Toronto Area

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Beth Sholom marks 50 years

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Beth Sholom Synagogue recently marked its golden anniversary with an afternoon of nostalgia.

Hebrew school teachers, students, former clergy and friends joined Beth Sholom members at the reunion open house, where people reminisced about the early days, watched old videos of synagogue events and admired an exhibition of synagogue memorabilia, including old photographs, shul bulletins and newspaper clippings, all of which will be on display for a year.

Retiring synagogue president Alan Zelunka praised Sandra and Bernie Parl for their efforts in mounting the exhibition, which was the focal point of the reunion.

Hebrew teacher Miriam Shames, who taught at the Beth Sholom Mildred Arnoff Hebrew School from 1956 to 1994, was greeted by many of her former students.

Rabbi Louis Schechter, who formerly served at the synagogue; assistant rabbi emeritus Mendel Kirshenblatt; and interim rabbi Irvin Beigel were also on hand.

"It's wonderful to see so many people here who have a real sense of history about the congregation," Rabbi Beigel said. "There are people here who were instrumental in founding and building the congregation."

One of those people was Mac Shore, the first president of the congregation, who talked about Beth Sholom's humble beginnings.

The dozen or so families who founded the congregation held services in the basement of a grocery store, Shore said. "I got up to make a speech; so they made me the president."

Beth Sholom's founding president, Mac Shore. [B. Silverstein photo]

Shore became involved with the congregation after rabbi emeritus David Monson, Beth Sholom's founding rabbi, approached him about starting a new congregation.

"Rabbi Monson was officiating at my sister's wedding. He heard me make a speech and he said, 'I need a guy like you.'"

Beth Sholom has grown from the original 12 families to a membership of 1,100 households.

The annual Beth Sholom Brotherhood Humanitarian Award dinner, a 46-year tradition, has honored many public figures, among them, former prime ministers John Turner and the late John Diefenbaker, former Ontario premier Bob Rae, and Mila Mulroney.

Don Latchman, chair of the reunion, said he was pleased with the turnout at the open house, the kick-off event for a year of anniversary festivities. The major event will be the 50th anniversary dinner in November to honor rabbis Monson and Kirshenblatt.

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Toronto expected to receive immigrants from FSU republics

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto can expect a high level of Jewish immigration from the former Soviet republics for at least the next few years, the 75th annual meeting of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS), Toronto, was told last week.

The agency's annual report says 1997 could see a record in the number of new arrivals JIAS Toronto processes.

The number of newcomers under local JIAS auspices peaked in 1992, when the agency handled 727 families, or 1,507 individuals. JIAS believes that it may handle even more this year.

JIAS Toronto chair Sandra Atlin said the agency opens an average 45 cases a month, 95 percent of them representing emigres from the former Soviet Union.

In the fiscal year 1996-97, most of the newcomers under JIAS auspices came from Russia (45 percent), followed by those from Ukraine (39 percent), Belarus (three percent) and the Baltic states (two percent). Other countries of origin were Serbia, Croatia, Moldova, the former Soviet Asian republics and nations in South America and Eastern Europe. South Africans comprised one percent of the agency's caseload.

Most (65 percent) of the new arrivals JIAS serves arrive in the independent or skilled worker category, followed by 20 percent in the family class division, 10 percent as refugees and the remaining five percent in special categories, such as rarely issued Minister's Permits.

At least 25,000 former Soviet immigrants have arrived in Toronto since the first exodus in the early 1970s, with over 13,000 coming since the second big wave began in 1987.

Sandra Brown, president of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, brought greetings and announced that JIAS Toronto is now a beneficiary agency of UJA.

As well, the much-praised Community Integration Program at the Bathurst Jewish Centre will come under JIAS control as of July 1, Brown said.

According to the agency, community interest over the years has shifted from settlement alone to long-term integration of newcomers. But JIAS still prides itself on front-line services like its financial assistance program, referrals and furniture bank.

JIAS Toronto's Co-op/Work Experience Program, in which trained newcomers are placed for four months in the labor market, where employers can assess their skills, will be extended, the meeting was told. In the past year, the program made 45 placements.

JIAS Toronto board member Sydney Blinick presented the agency's annual Jack Shindman Scholarship to Iliya Khramov, a fourth year pharmacology student at the University of Toronto.

The 75th annual meeting was mainly a festive affair, with Aelita, a singer of traditional Russian, Yiddish and Hebrew folksongs, bringing the capacity crowd at the Leah Posluns Theatre to its feet.

Yiddish Corner

ייִדיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשין

„אַרדענונג מוז זיין"

פון מענדל וויסמאַן

ווידער אַמאָל האָבן מיר היינטיקס יאָר געפֿיינט די יאָרצייט פון אויפֿשטאַנד אין וואַרשעווער געטא. די וועלט, נישט נאָר די יידישע, האָט דערמאָנט דאָס הייפל העלדישע געטא־קעמפער, וואָס האָבן אין אַ גרויסער שטאָט אין אָקופּירטן אייראָפּע אַדורכגעפֿירט אַן אַרגאַניזירטן, באַוואָפנטן אויפֿשטאַנד קעגן די היטלער־פֿאַשיסטן און זיערע מיטהעלפֿער. זיי זיינען אין דעם קאַמף געווען אַליין קעגן דער גאַנצער אַרומיקער וועלט. מען האָט דערבי, פֿאַר־שטייט זיך, אויך דערמאָנט די מיליאָנען דערמאָרדעטע יידישע מענטשן פון פוילן און איידאָפּע.

אין דיסטשלאַנד האָט מען זיינער אימפּאָנאַנט אַדורכגעפֿירט סוף יאָנואַר דעם טאָג פון געדענקען די קרבנות פון נאַצי־מאָרד. לויט אַ ספּעציעלן באַשלוס איז דער טאָג פון באַפֿרייען דעם קאַנ־צענטראַציע־לאַגער אוישוויץ דערקלערט געווארן אלס נאַציאָנא־לער געדענק־טאָג. מען האָט געלייגט בלומען־קרענץ אין אַלע לאַגערן, ארגאַניזירט מאַרשן און מאַסן־מאַניפעסטאַציעס.

איז דאָך גוט, אַז מיטן לויף פון די יאָרן פֿאַרגעסט מען נישט דאָרט דעם האָלאָקאוסט און מען לאָזט זיך נישט באַווירקן פון פּסעודאָ־געלערנטע, פּראָפּעסאָרן־היסטאָריקער און פֿאַרשיידענע רעכטע עקסטרעמיסטן, וואָס האַלטן, אַז ס'איז נישט געווען קיין ארגאַניזירטער יידן־מאָרד, עס זיינען נישט געווען קיין גאַז־קאַמערן. יאָ, זאָגן די וויניקער עקסטרעמע, א סך יידן זיינען געשטאָרבן אין די געטאָס און לאָגערן, אָדער פון קראַנקייטן און הונגער, אָבער איך קיין שום פֿאַל נישט אין קרעמאַטאָריעס, אָדער דורך מאַסן־דערשי־סונגען. לאָמיר צוגעבן, אַז דאָס זאָגט מען נישט אפֿן אין דיטש־לאַנד, ווייל עס איז דאָרט פֿאַרבאָטן דורכן געזעץ. אָבער עס זאָגן דאָס אויך אַמעריקאַנער און אַנדערע, אַז יידן־מאָרד איז נישט שטראָפּבאַר, לויבער אויך אין אַזעלכע דעמאַקראַטישע לענדער ווי שוועדן, דענעמאַרק.

אָבער ווי קען מען זיך פֿרייען, ווי קענען מיר, די דעשטלעך פון די פֿאַרטיליקטע יידן, זיין צופֿרידן ווען עס איז גראָד איצט אַרויס־געקומען אין דער עפֿנטלעכקייט, אַז טרוסנטער דיטשישע קריגס־פֿאַרברעכער, צווישן זיי מיטאַרבעטער פון דער גסטאַפּאָ און פון די אייזנצאַץ־קאַמאַנדאָס, וואָס האָבן דירעקט דערשאָסן יידן, אויך אַזעלכע, וואָס זיינען דערפֿאַר פֿאַרמשפּט געווארן, באַקומען יעדן חודש **ספּעציעלע פענסיעס** פֿאַר די „קרבנות פון קריג". די ליע־נער קענען פֿרעגן: ווי אַזוי איז דאָס מעגלעך? וויסט זיך אַרויס, אַז יאָ, דאָס איז מעגלעך און איז אין **הסכם מיטן געזעץ**. לויט דעם דיטשטן געזעץ, קענען **אַלע**, וואָס זיינען געווען פֿאַרוואונדעט אין קריג, אַדער דאָרט באַשעדיקט זיינער געזונט־צושטאַנד, דערהאַלטן אַן עקסטרע פענסיע (אַחוץ זיינרע געווייַלעכע עלטער־פענסיעס). אַלזאָ, נישט נאָר זעלנער און אָפּיצירן פון דער ווערמאַכט, נאָר אויך פון אַלע ספּעציעלע אָפּטיילונגען פון פֿאַרמאַציעס (ס.ס. און אַנ־דערע), וואָס האָבן דירעקט אַדורכגעפֿירט דעם יידן־מאָרד, אויך די וואָס זיינען זיך שוין פֿריער מודה געווען און אָפּגעזעסן זייער שטראָף. עס איז געווג, אַז זיי זיינען געווען פֿאַרוואונדעט און דערביי „געליטן". עס קריגן נישט די עקסטרא פענסיע נאָר די, וואָס זיינען נאָך דער מלחמה אַנטלאָפן פון דיטשלאַנד. איצט באַ־קומען די פענסיעס אויך די „נייע" פֿאַרברעכער, דאָס הייסט די, וואָס האָבן ביז דער פֿאַראייניקונג פון דיטשלאַנד געלעבט אין דער דיטשער דעמאָקראַטישער רעפובליק.

דיטשלאַנד צאָלט אויס יערלעך 13 ביליאָן מאַרק פאַר די קרבנות פון דער מלחמה (אין דעם אויך די יידישע קרבנות). און פון דעם זעלבן פּאַנד קריגן זיינרע צוגאַב־פענסיעס די היטלעריש־פֿאַרברעכערס. מען קען זאָגן: פון די זעלבע פּאַנדן ווערן באַצאָלט קרבנות און זיינרע תליינים.

דאָס אַנטפּלעקן דעם פאַקט האָט אַרויסגערופן אַ סקאַנדאַל. וועגן דעם שרייבן דיטשע צייטונגען און זשורנאַלן. מען דיס־קוסירט און מען קריגט זיך. די סאָציאַל־דעמאָקראַסן און די „גרינע" איך בתדעסטאָג פֿאַרלאַנגען דאָס ענדערן פון דעם גזעזע און דערווייל פֿאַרהאַלטן די וויטערדיקע אויסצאָלתגען. אָבער עס איז נישט אזוי גרינג צו ענדערן אפֿילו אַזא גזעזע איך דיטשלאַנד, וויל ווי מען האָט דאָרט שטענדיק געפֿרעדיקט און מיזאָגט אויך היינט: „רעכט איז רעכט" און „אַרדענונג מוז זיין".

דאָס איז זיכער רעכט, אָבער מיר, יידן, פֿרעגן מיט רעכט: וואָס האָט אַזא רעכט צו טאָן מיט געוועכטיקייט?

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YOU'LL SEE THE SAVINGS AISLE AFTER AISLE

Greater Toronto Area

Army life said difficult despite peace dividends

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Despite the peace process, soldiers in the Israel Defence Forces continue to carry a tremendous burden, says David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada.

"Israel depends on its army and its soldiers for its defence," Sultan told the 550 guests at a tribute dinner presented by the Association for the Soldiers of Israel (ASI), on behalf of the Canadian Zionist Cultural Association (CZCA). No other ambassador from Israel to Canada has previously spoken at the organization's annual tribute dinner.

Israel has an army of which it can be proud, Sultan said, "and it always demonstrates full compliance to authority. Israel has not become a military society, but [rather], a vibrant democracy. And the soldiers are not only heroes of war, but heroes of peace. The country's neighbors realize that it is not a passing phenomenon, but that it is here to stay."

Israel is seeking peace with Syria, but it is essential "to remain vigilant so there are no surprises. [As well] the Lebanon border is a front that places a heavy toll on soldiers. We still, therefore, need, soldiers upon whom we can rely. These soldiers deserve the tribute we are paying tonight," the ambassador said.

Jack Muskat, chair of ASI, praised Irving Matlow, chair of CZCA, for his work on behalf of the Toronto branch of ASI. "His work symbolizes the spirit of the Jewish people," Muskat said.

Special dinner guest was Adi Mintz, whose husband Meir, a lieutenant colonel in the Givati Brigade, was killed in the Gaza area by a terrorist bomb when she was pregnant with her second child.

In Israel, she is involved with a holiday camp sponsored by the Toronto branch of the Canadian Zionist Cultural Association and operated for the widows and orphans of Israel's fallen soldiers. Proceeds from this year's dinner go towards this project.

Edward Fisch was dinner chair and Jack Muskat ticket chair. Sponsors were Edward and Sylvia Fisch, Max and Susan Moneta and Sally, Frank and Abe Moses.

Former IDF paratrooper turns his disablity into an ability

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Kuti Gershoni was in Toronto recently to promote an organization he says is growing too rapidly.

The 54-year-old former major who served in the IDF Paratroop Engineering Unit before he was injured in 1969, says that although Beit Halochem, Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, turned his life around, far too many soldiers still need its facilities.

Gershoni, whose Toronto visit was sponsored by Beit Halochem Canada, lost both his hands, his sight and most of his hearing after being summoned to dismantle a mine just two days after his son's brit.

"I had two choices after that. I could take pity on myself or I could make the best of it. I chose the latter," says Gershoni, an associate professor of African History at Tel Aviv University on sabbatical this year as a research fellow at Boston University.

Gershoni was also adamant, he recalls, about not revealing the problems of being disabled in public, "unless it could help other people. That is why I am here on behalf of Beit Halochem. That is a mission I must carry on despite my need for privacy."

Beit Halochem, which opened in 1974 in Tel Aviv, now has facilities in Jerusalem, Haifa and Nahariya as well. Although not the first of its kind in the world, says Gershoni, "it is unique in that it is the first to integrate the family. As a facility for the disabled, that is a brand new concept.

"When a person is wounded, his one source of strength and comfort is his family. It is the base on which a disabled person relies. Beit Halochem understood that and has provided programs in which every family member — wives, children, sisters and parents — can participate."

Special Olympics

Beit Halochem opened up avenues for Gershoni, "that allowed me to turn my disability into an ability. Never before had I been an Olympic winner, but there I had the opportunity to take part in Special Olympics [that took place alongside the summer games]. My whole family still takes part in swimming, computer courses, painting — whatever they want.

"The place is designed so people can get around with very little help. Many severely disabled soldiers refer to Beit Halochem as their second home. They can chat with other people in the same situation. The flowing of information between members is an important aspect of the facility."

The organization is doing a lot of work with retired disabled soldiers, says Gershoni. "These people need a lot of support because retirement can be a time of crisis. What will they do without their work? A special program has been designed just for them."

When someone walks into Beit Halochem, he says, they can see immediately that the place is full of life. There are people of all ages and there is a lot of laughter and goodwill."

He stresses, however, that it relies on the Jewish community for funds to maintain its facilities.

"Each member pays [a fee] but it still needs money for equipment, coaches and professional staff.

"Unfortunately, despite two peace agreements, Israel is still at war and people are getting killed and wounded every week. There are over 45,000 disabled soldiers in the country and Beit Halochem is always getting new members. It is the one organization, however, that dreams of getting no new members."

THIS IS A DIFFERENT CENTURY

A Guide to Reconstructionist Judaism

Reconstructionist Judaism developed in North America between the World Wars as the idea of Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan, a visionary teacher at the Jewish Theological Seminary. He viewed 20th-century democracy as an unprecedented challenge to Jewish life, and formulated a kind of Judaism to which Jews could turn in their efforts to reconcile living under democracy with the teachings of Judaism. Blending millennia of inherited traditions and thought together with contemporary ideas about the nature of peoplehood, God, and Torah, he challenged rabbis and lay leaders alike to vitalize the Jewish life by re-examining and re-interpreting basic Jewish texts, beliefs, rituals, and ethics.

At religious services, we continue this tradition of creative engagement, blending traditional practice with "reconstructed" texts. We pray principally in Hebrew, but take care to ensure that those who pray understand what is said and why. The changes we make are consistent with centuries of Jewish embellishment and creative modification of prayer – a process that has occurred throughout Jewish history. Like our ancestors, we make a place in prayer to acknowledge events in our own time, including the Holocaust, the birth of Israel, and the rise of egalitarianism in Jewish community (the first Bat Mitzvah took place in the Reconstructionist movement in 1922). We enrich our services with moments of insight from contemporary thinkers and poets, we add new music, new rituals, and new moments for reflection to enable people to discover that prayer can be a powerful and renewing experience.

Like other Jewish movements, we believe God, Torah and Israel are the pillars of Jewish existence. It is our interpretation of them that makes us unique. Give us a call, or visit. We'd like you to discover our community.

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BBYO LEADERS

BBYO of the Greater Toronto Area Council recently held their council elections and Sherri Rotstein and Avery Benmergui were chosen as new council presidents for the 1997-98 year. They were formally inducted into their new positions at the closing program which included an afternoon boat cruise around the Toronto Islands.

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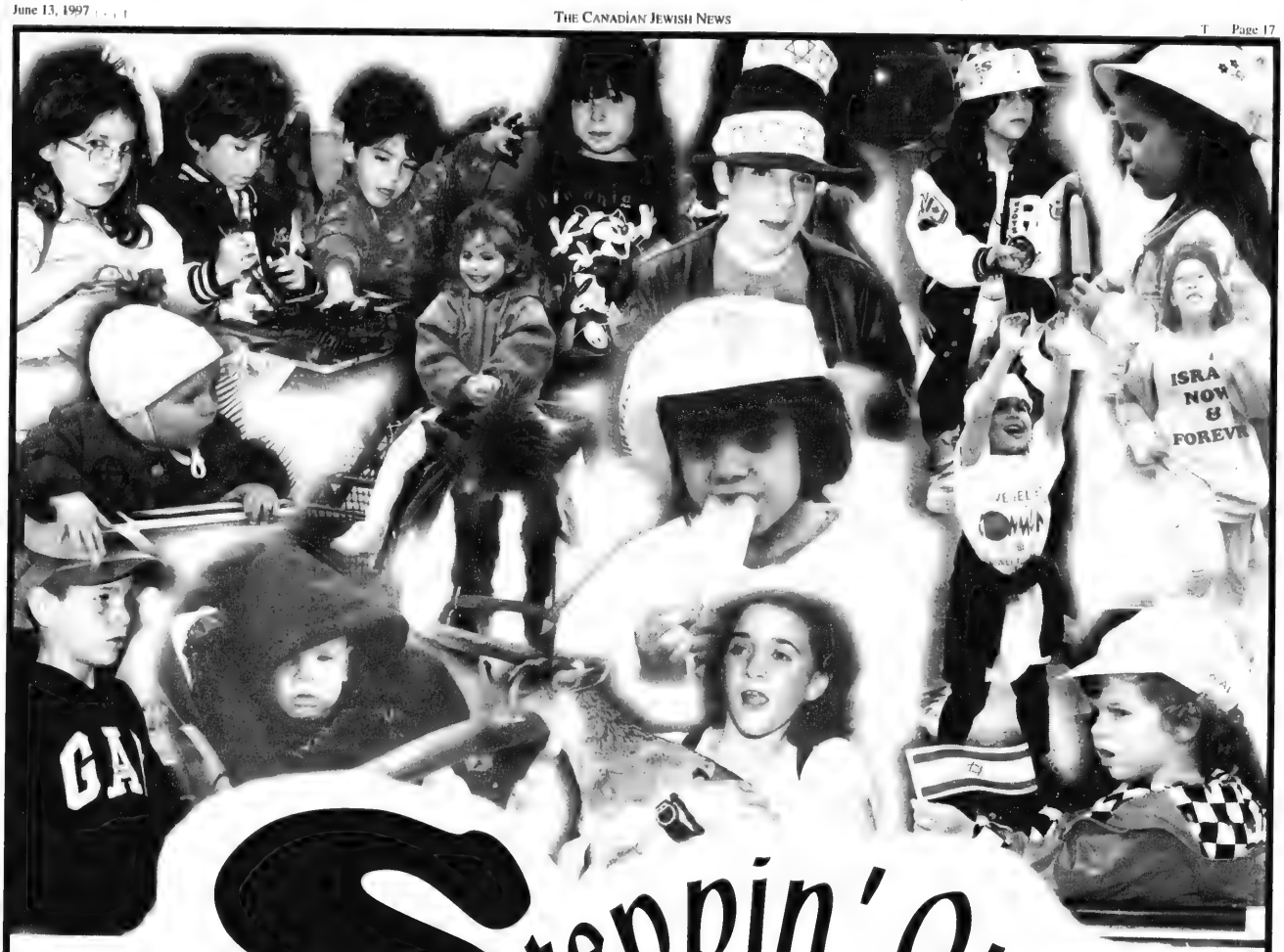

Steppin' Out For Israel

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UJA FEDERATION

LEGACY CAMPAIGN: FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

This week UJA Federation unveiled an unprecedented $150 million endowment and capital campaign to guarantee a bright future for Toronto's Jewish community in the 21st century. It will also change the way UJA Federation donors participate in Jewish giving.

Legacy, showcased at UJA Federation's annual meeting, will endeavour to raise $100 million in long-term endowments and $50 million for capital projects such as community, educational and recreational facilities. *Legacy* will be directed toward a selected list of donors and potential contributors. The Annual Campaign, will, according to *Legacy* leaders, still provide an opportunity for everyone to assist Jews in need anywhere in the world.

Legacy will ensure a secure source of funds to meet growing needs caused by population growth, especially in York Region; seniors who are living longer and require new kinds of care; inadequate structures and government spending cuts at all levels. Approximately 170,000 Greater Toronto area Jews rely on a communal infrastructure built for 100,000.

Three quarters of the $100 million designated for the Endowment Fund will be set aside for unrestricted use, permitting UJA Federation to act quickly when a crisis arises. The remainder will be for restricted use attached to programs defined by the donor in consultation with UJA Federation. Contributors will be offered many avenues for giving cash gifts, gifts-in-kind, bequests, Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowments (P.A.C.E.) and life insurance policies.

Paul Morton

The $50 million Capital Fund will be put toward a variety of uses involving physical facilities and innovative projects.

"Now more than ever, the viability of the existing infrastructure and the development of the necessary new facilities, services and programs depend on new funding initiatives from the Jewish community," says outgoing UJA Federation President Sandra Brown.

Leaders of the Legacy Campaign pin their hopes for success on a donor centred approach emphasizing the community benefits and personal financial advantages of endowment giving. Campaign Chair Barry Sherman is a long-time believer in endowments and will play an active role in spreading the message to potential contributors.

"The essence of the message is two-fold," explains Sherman. "First, the community needs endowments. Second, it makes sense for donors to give them."

"The community cannot afford to take the risk," says Paul Morton, who chairs UJA Federation's Board of Endowment Trustees . "We must protect our future and ensure that our wonderful existing services continue for the next generation and the one after that."

Shermans head $150 million initiative

Honey and Barry Sherman have been generous supporters of UJA Federation for many years, contributing leading gifts to the annual and special campaigns. As they embark on their latest philanthropic pursuit, heading UJA Federation's $150 million *Legacy* campaign, the Shermans say their charitable efforts are nothing more than natural instinct.

"I derive great personal satisfaction from acting upon the natural human desire to help others," says Barry, CEO of Apotex Inc, Canada's largest generic drug manufacturer. "My good fortune affords me the opportunity to strive for an extra measure of happiness by helping others whether it be family, friends, members of our community, our country or mankind at large."

Barry began his climb to the top of Canada's pharmaceutical industry after graduating from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a Ph.D in astronautics. Sherman, along with a partner, bought Empire Laboratories from his uncle in 1967 and sold the company in 1974. The proceeds from the sale of Empire were used to create Apotex.

Immediately after Apotex opened for business, Sherman set up a charitable foundation which annually received 20% of corporate and personal earnings for charitable giving. The success of Apotex and the growth of the Foundation have led to several sizeable donations to UJA Federation, Mount Sinai Hospital, the University of Toronto, the Baycrest Centre and the United Way.

Honey, a member of the *Legacy* Steering Committee and Fundraising Cabinet, stresses the importance of passing on Jewish values from one generation to another and developing resources to reach out to more community members. "If we don't do something now to respond to current and future needs, there will be no one left to worry about later," she explains. "I'm just grateful that Barry and I can share our good fortune."

Both point out how far behind Canadian Jewish communities are in securing the future through endowments and long-term gifts compared to U.S. campaigns. "The big gifts of yesterday can no longer guarantee that what we have today will exist tomorrow," Barry says. "Endowment giving makes more sense. It is both cost effective and better for the community."

Honey and Barry Sherman

Capital Fund for community infrastructure

UJA Federation's *Legacy* Campaign Capital Fund will not only improve our current communal infrastructure, it will also provide families with opportunities to enhance the pleasure of giving.

The $50 million Capital Fund will raise money specifically for physical structures and human services programs. Capital Fund contributors will be able to direct their dollars according to their own preferences, based on community priorities. Donors may also choose to link their family's name to a community building.

A top priority is a new campus for the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto which could accommodate 1,000 students. The existing Wilmington campus can no longer adequately house a student population that has grown from 550 to 750 in the last four years. CHAT President Norman Grill cites a high level of student retention and growing enrollment for the increased demand.

Jewish students will benefit from Capital Funds donated to the Legacy campaign.

"We have a tremendous need for a new school located along the Bathurst Street corridor," Grill stresses. "Right next door to the Bathurst Jewish Centre would be an ideal site because it would be an equal distance for our students travelling north and south to get to school."

Other projects are a York Region campus for community services, a youth dormitory in Jerusalem for Israel Experience participants and school computer labs.

Former UJA Federation Campaign Chair Chuck Gold is excited about the prospects of families making decisions together about which projects they want to support. "The process of including the entire family will bring the younger generation into the community and provide them with a real sense of communal ownership."

MISSION SEFARADE PILGRIMAGE TO THE PAST

A UJA Federation delegation has recently returned from the first mission to Morocco and Israel.

The twelve day *Mission Sefarade* began with a tour of Morocco's Jewish communities in Fes, Marrakech and Casablanca, followed by visits to schools, youth centres and projects sponsored by the Joint Distribution Committee, supported, in part, by UJA Federation. Other sites included a home for the elderly, the Oeuvre Secours aux Enfants medical facility, ancient synagogues and other historic locations.

Since the end of World War II, Morocco's Jewish population has dwindled from 300,000 to 5,000 with the largest number of Jews, mostly elder, living in and around Casablanca.

"I was very impressed with the students we met and how Jewish life survives thanks to help from UJA Federation funded agencies and individual determination," notes Myra Mechanic. "The whole trip was an eye opening experience."

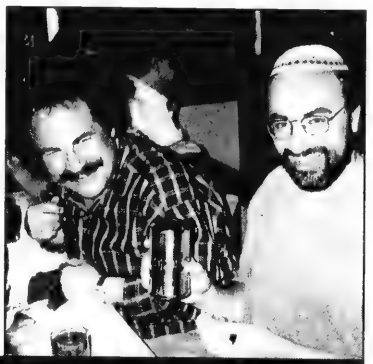
Myra's husband, Nathan, was most intrigued by a visit to Morocco's southern Atlas Mountains where, until 75 years ago, Berber Jews lived as their ancient ancestors did more than 2000 years before, after the destruction of the second Temple. "I never realized how ancient our roots are. It was absolutely fascinating."

Meeting Canada's ambassador to Morocco at a reception in Casablanca, and coming face to face with a 75 year man who was the last Jew to leave his village, were other highlights for the Mechanics. "The entire trip was first class."

"I was very moved to see the existence of Jewish life under such precarious conditions," recalls Ruth Van Messel, who was accompanied by her husband Ies. "But it was also sad to learn how many young Jews want to leave for France or Israel."

In Israel, mission participants were briefed by *Jerusalem Report* Managing Editor David Horovitz and Israeli businessman Dany Halperin, who spoke about Israel's economy. They also visited the Yad Vashem Children's Memorial, Yitzhak Rabin's gravesite and UJA Federation Project Renewal and Partnership 3000 communities.

The itinerary's social component was highlighted by a *Hillula* commemorating the anniversary of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai's death in Ouazzane and a Yemenite wedding in Jerusalem. "Being a part of a family simcha in a real community was very special for us," said Myra Mechanic.



(right) Mission Sefarade Chair Messod Boussidan with Michael Goldrich (left).

(below) Nathan Mechanic experiences a taste of Moroccan culture in Marrakesh.

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL

UJA FEDERATION

JEWISH WOMEN'S FEDERATION — JWF — UJA WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN

Bathurst Jewish Centre

Learn about the latest research developments

Breast Cancer in the Ashkenazi Jewish Population

- Did you know that up to 2-3% of Ashkenazi Jewish women may carry a genetic trait that can predispose them to breast and ovarian cancer?
- Learn the latest in diagnosis, family assessment, and research.

Wednesday, June 25, 1997
7:30 p.m.
Jerusalem Room, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street
A question and answer period will follow.
Kosher refreshments will be served. Free Parking.
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(Free admission - seating is limited)

The panel

Dr. Pam Goodwin
Director of the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre of Mount Sinai Hospital,
Senior Scientist, SLRI

Dr. Irene Andrulis
Scotiabank Scientist & Senior Scientist, Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute (SLRI)
Director of Ontario Cancer Genetics Network

Moderated by Carol Seidman, MSW, Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation.

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DATELINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 16, is deadline for June 26 issue and Monday, June 23, is deadline for July 3. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, June 13

JEWISH MUSIC

Temple Emanu-El Choir presents a variety of Jewish music by Canadian composers **Milton Barnes, Keith Bissel, Amy Gilbert** and **Ben Steinberg**, featuring mezzo soprano **Anna Trubashnik**, pianist **John Govedas** and choir director Amy Gilbert, 8:30 p.m. Shabbat service.

Saturday, June 14

MINYAN SERVICES

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, traditional Conservative Minyan services conducted by **Rabbi Irving Biegel**, 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Synagogue. Kiddush follows. 480-4421.

ORAYNU ANNUAL MEETING

Oraynu annual general meeting and social, 6:30 p.m., Hillcrest Library Auditorium, 5801 Leslie St. Non-members $8. 364-7002.

Sunday, June 15

BITTER APPLES

Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto in association with the Bloor Jewish Community Centre staged reading of *Bitter Apples* by **Victoria Keidan**, winner of Jewish Theatre Committee's Canadian Jewish Playwriting Contest, directed by **Kevin Sheard**, 8 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. $5. 924-6211.

LITERARY EVENING

A literary evening dedicated to the life and poetry of **Itzik Manger.** Poet **Simcha Simchovitch** delivers a lecture on Itzik Manger — the Nightingale of Yiddish Poetry, and artist **Allan Farkas** recites a selection of Manger's poems and ballads, 8 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Sponsored by Yiddishe Kultur Geselshaft.

SIDEWALK SALE

New and slightly used items offered, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Magen David Congregation, 10 McAllister Rd. **Helen** 635-6343.

Monday, June 16

JEWISH TORONTO

Stephen Speisman, director of Ontario Jewish Archives, speaks on a Journey Through the History of Jewish Toronto, presented by the Sephardic Education Centre, Toronto chapter, 8 p.m., Magen David Congregation, 10 McAllister Rd. $5. **Yael** 398-4134.

MY CUBA

Cranbrooke Friendship Club of United Jewish People's Order presents **Endre Klein's** video, *My Cuba*, preceded by light lunch, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. $3. 789-5502.

FUTURE OF JUDAISM

Adath Sholom Sisterhood closing meeting features **Susan Jackson** of UJA Federation, speaking on Back to the Future of Judaism, 7:30 p.m. $2.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, June 17

HEALTHY LIVING

As part of the Healthy Living series, Mount Sinai Hospital (MSH) and Auto Suture Company present Colon Cancer: What You Need to Know, 7-9 p.m., Ben Sadowski Auditorium, 18th floor, Mount Sinai Hospital. Speakers include **Fran Berkoff**, dietician/nutritionist, MSH; **Dr. Ron Burkes,** acting head, Division of Hematology/Oncology MSH; **Lisa Droppo,** director of Quality Management & Patient Relations, MSH; **Dr. Steven Gallinger**, surgeon, MSH. Moderator is *CTV News* health reporter **Avis Favaro.** To register, 586-8338.

SISTERHOOD PROGRAM

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood closing program, a musical evening with **Rhonda**

[Cont'd. on page 21]

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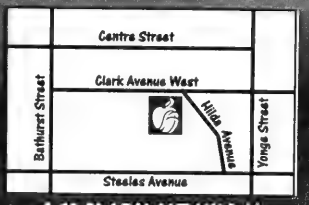
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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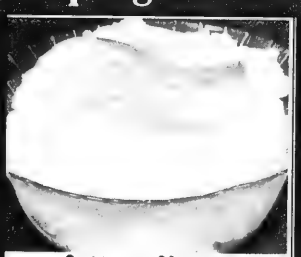

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399 lb.

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From the Bakery
425 g loaf
.99

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

Shuster and **Pearl Grunland**, 8 p.m. Non-members $3.

MUSIC AND SONG

New Fraternal Jewish Association last meeting of the spring season features entertainer **Beth Anne Cole** in a program of music and song, 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St. No admission charge.

ANNUAL AUCTION

Aquarius chapter, Jewish Women International, annual auction at Adath Sholom Synagogue, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. Silent auction and merchandise tables start 6:30 p.m.; live auction begins at 8. Admission $3.

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood closing meeting, 12:30 p.m. lunch, music and songs by pianist **Michael Khinkis**. Reserve. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE

Eytan Michael Cowen, fourth-year student at the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine, lectures on Eight Weeks to Healthy Living, 6:30 p.m., at Naturopathic College Clinic, 2300 Yonge St., 18th floor. 486-8584, ext. 235.

Wednesday, June 18

MUSICAL LEGACY AWARD

Moscow-born pianist **Ilya Poletaev**, a 17-year-old student of the Royal Conservatory of Music and this year's winner of Temple Sinai's Ben Steinberg Musical Legacy Award, receives the award and gives a recital, 8 p.m. at the temple.

HEALTH CARE

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue series on Health Care continues with Eldercare, Eldercheck, Safety Audits designed for older adults and their families to explore and identify which activities are difficult, receive information on physical ability, mental abilities, sense of purpose, ability to look after yourself and perform daily activities, 8 p.m.

DANCE SPEAKERS

Holy Blossom Lunch and Learn in Retirement speakers, **Nadia Potts,** a former principal dancer with the National Ballet of Canada, and her mother **Lucy Potts**, a founding member of the National Ballet School and academic principal until her retirement, talk about their experiences with the use of videos, at noon. Bring your lunch and $1. Coffee, tea, cookies served.

THE BIBLE IN OUR LIVES

Pride of Israel Synagogue rabbi's adult education class, Let Me Go Home! Moses, the Land of Israel, and When Our Will Conflicts with G-d's, 7:45 p.m.

And What Else Is New

CYCLE FOR THE ARTS

Koffler Centre fundraiser Cycle for the Arts bike-a-thon, prizes, lots of fun for the whole family, picnic lunch at finish line, entertainment, bicycle clinic, adult tricycle division. **Diane Uslander**, 636-1880, ext. 352, or **Bill Emery**, ext. 371.

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz, Ohr Somayach senior lecturer, addresses the essential questions, Who Wrote the Talmud? — A History of Oral Tradition on Sunday, June 15, and Who Decides Jewish Law Today? — The Parameters of Rabbinic Authority on Sunday, June 22. Lectures at 8:30 p.m., Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W.

THE LITTLE MINYAN

A participatory, informal Shabbat service, June 14 and 21, 9:45 a.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue, Hendeles Chapel. 781-3511.

TEEN VOLUNTEERS

Baycrest's summer volunteer program for teens, ages 13-19, is a great way to gain valuable job experience. Learn practical job skills, develop leadership abilities and gain independence while giving the gift of time to elderly men and women at Baycrest. No previous experience necessary. **Sheri Jones**, Volunteer Services, 785-2500, ext. 2575.

SHABBOS EXPERIENCE

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto Shabbos Experience, Goodbye Yellow Brick Road, with **Rabbi Yaacov Asher Sinclair**, writer/ teacher at Ohr Somayach Jerusalem, takes place at Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W., beginning Friday, June 20, with The Long and Winding Road and continuing over Saturday, June 21, with Raising the Flame and Shabbos Night Live! For lecture times and home hospitality 905-886-5730.

SHOWCASE OF DANCE

The annual Showcase of Dance and variety, presented by Koffler Centre School of Dance, June 17, 18, 19, 7:30 p.m. at Leah Posluns Theatre, features all ages from 4 years to the seniors adult performing group, prize-winning competition dancers, plus student and faculty choreography.

NURSING HOME WEEK

Campaign for 1997 Nursing Home Week, involving fundraising activities for the Alzheimer's Association, is underway at Lincoln Nursing Home, 429 Walmer Rd. Events kick off June 15 and continue to June 22.

CLOWN VARIETY SHOW

Toronto Clown Alley clown variety show, Thursday, June 26, Northview Heights Secondary School, 550 Finch Ave. W., 6:30 p.m. lobby party, 7:30 p.m. showtime (music, magic, skits, comedy). Tickets $5, 494-3034. Toronto Clown Alley, a non-profit club, has provided clowns, free of charge, for many agencies, hospitals and associations, and also holds monthly lectures on clowning.

CARAVAN

Jerusalem Pavilion features singer **Tsufit** in a program of Hebrew and chassidic songs, evenings, roof top lounge, Bloor JCC, June 15-21 (not the 20th).

REUNION

Manor chapter, B'nai Brith, reunion, Earl bales Park, Section 3, Monday, June 23, noon to 4 p.m. Brown bag lunch picnic.

SENIOR CARE

Senior Care (Community Services to Jewish Elderly) offers a variety of volunteer opportunities: deliver Kosher Meals on Wheels, visit an isolated senior, assist someone with a debilitating illness, monitor vulnerable seniors through telephone support and escort to medical appointments. **Arnold Foss**, 635-2860.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: June 16, Casino Niagara; June 25 Oscardo factory; July 21-27, Catskills Raleigh hotel; Aug. 10, barbecue party, club house, 1 p.m., members $5, non-members $6; upcoming trips to Washington Holocaust Museum and more, dates to be announced. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club: Stage West for *Shirley Valentine* June 25; Stratford for *Camelot* Sept. 3. Tickets at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave or call **Belle** 633-5841 or **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club : Kingston trip July 15; Boat Farm cruise on the Grand River, including entertainment Aug. 5; Ottawa Aug. 17-20; *Camelot* at Stratford Sept. 17; early September deluxe eight-day trip to Homowak Hotel in the Catskills; a travelogue by **Stan Witkin** later in June. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 19 is the video *Riverdance*, Irish dance and singing. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Young at Heart Seniors trip to Catskills Raleigh Hotel July 2-Aug. 3, $1,291 Canadian medical cancellation included. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Psychologist **Anne Balaban** speaks on Social Cues, Tuesday, June 17, 10 a.m. Members $1, non-members $3.

Broadway's Jewish Roots with **Faye Kellerstein**, Wednesday, June 18, 1:30 p.m.

Etrog Israeli cultural club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. June 18 is a movie. **Anna.**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Staged reading of *Bitter Apples*, details under Sunday, June 15.

Specialty teen camps — City Scapes, a discovery camp "behind the scenes" of Toronto for 13 to15-year-olds with **Ted Winick**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., July 14-18, Aug. 11-15. Members $175, non-members $195.

Pottery summer workshops for ages 13-15 with **Celia Zveibel Brandãs** 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., July 2-11. Members $200, non-members $240.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club visit to Redpath Sugar Museum, tour of museum, talk on Redpath family and sugar production. Bring lunch. meet at Bloor JCC 9:15 a.m. or at museum 9:45. Travelling by TTC. Reserve. **Judy**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Pre-registration for summer courses for seniors: Novice Duplicate Bridge instruction Wednesdays 1-3 p.m. starting July 9 (eight weeks); Line Dancing Fridays, 1-2:30 p.m. starting July 11 (eight weeks). **Teme** ext. 364.

Coming in September- new pre-school programs from 4:15-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, ext. 248.

YOUTH ALIYAH LUNCHEON

At Toronto Hadassah-WIZO's annual Youth Aliyah Luncheon, from left: Sharon Kroft, incoming president, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO; Vivien Sharon, outgoing president; keynote speaker Kim Campbell, Consul General of Canada in Los Angeles; Dora Kichler, chair, 1997 Youth Aliyah Campaign; Sharon Grossman, vice-chair.

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SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.

For rates or to place an ad, call: Lisa at (416) 391-1836

***The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

Attention Jewish Single Parents! Our May computer night was a great success! Next computer night is Wed., June 25th, 7 pm. Reserve now! Sunday, June 22nd is our picnic with kids, 12 noon. For location & info: **905-881-0376**, call now! Thanks to a grant from the UJA Federation Action Comm. for Jewish Continuity.

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Super Singles Weekend! MTS Presents...Our annual **Sports & Wellness Weekend Getaway,** June 20-22, at Clevelands House Resorts in Muskoka. Featuring: tennis, golf, water skiing, wine tasting, live band & much more! **Next registrations:** Wed., June 11 & Wed., June 18, from 7-9pm at Tickled Toad,330 Steeles Ave. W. For info. call: 416-222-7111.

Writers honored at book awards

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Voices long silent have come to life in a resurgence of Jewish literature, 250 people attending the ninth annual Jewish Book Awards at Leah Posluns Theatre were told recently.

"We [Jews] are different. It's okay to write about it now,' said Dorothy Shoichet, Koffler Centre of the Arts president, in presenting Manny Drukier with an award for his Holocaust memoir, *Carved in Stone*.

Singer/actress Theresa Tova, who read selections from prize-winning books, also told of finding her own voice again.

"It's something for me to come home again," she said. "A lot of my life has been devoted to playing a non-Jew as an actor. It's time for me to express myself as a Jewish woman. We are finding that our Jewish voices are not hidden in the ghetto."

The same theme was taken up by Felicia Carmelly, who won the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem award for Holocaust history for *Shattered: 50 Years of Silence*.

"Until 1994, I didn't acknowledge that I was a Holocaust survivor," she said. "Then memories erupted and almost shattered me. But the book [about Transnistria and the killing of Romanian Jews] had to be done. There were 850,000 Jews in Romania and today there are 9,000. In a few years there will be no Jews in Romania."

Fugitive Pieces by Anne Michaels, which won the Martin and Beatrice Fischer prize for fiction, has been translated into 14 languages and published in 20 countries.

Renewing Our Days, a book about Montreal by Mervin Butovsky and Ira Robinson, was described by presenter Miriam Berke as a "must read" for Montrealers and transplanted Montrealers.

Simcha Simchovitch, author of *A Song Will Remain*, was described as "Canada's premier Yiddish poet," by presenter Dr. Howard Langer.

"Simcha is an unusual figure on the Canadian literary scene because he writes in three languages, Yiddish, Hebrew and English," Langer said

Other winners were Carol Matas of Winnipeg for *After the War*, Yves Lavertu of Montreal for *The Bernonville Affair*, Fraidie Martz for *Open Your Hearts*, Rabbi Steven Saltzman, for *A Small Glimmer of Light*, Roger Nash of Sudbury for *In the Kosher Chow Mein Restaurant* and Seymour Mayne and R. Glen Rotchin, editor of the poetry volume *Jerusalem*.

A total of $5,000 in prizes was distributed to the winners, said Prof. Adam Fuerstenberg, Book Awards Committee chair. At its first awards night nine years ago, only $500 was available.

Hannah Schulsheim-Beigel, a committee member, was chair of the evening. The awards were sponsored by the Koffler Centre of the Arts, with additional funding from the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation.

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ASSOCIATED WITH 100 YEARS OF ZIONISM

With the help of their teachers, Mrs. Sommer and Mrs. Sela, students at the Hurwich branch of Associated Hebrew Day Schools have created a number of displays on 100 Years of Zionism. Four students are standing in front of the project that deals with some of Zionism's key religious figures.

From coast to coast

Frankenberg elected new president of JNF

By BAILA LAZARUS
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — Considering her interest in education and Zionism, being elected national president of the Jewish National Fund (JNF) was highly appropriate for Naomi Frankenberg.

"The Jewish National Fund is one of the truly leading Zionist organizations in this country and certainly around the world," said Frankenberg, 71, who will serve a three-year term as president.

"It's certainly a tremendous honor to be elected to this."

Frankenberg was elected last month at an annual JNF meeting in Vancouver. She takes over from Sid Halpern of Winnipeg.

Frankenberg is the first Vancouverite and only the second woman to be elected to the position. She is a past national president of Hadassah-WIZO and is currently president of Maimonides Secondary School. She has also worked with numerous organizations in the Vancouver area. "Education and Zionism are my two major concerns," she said.

The mandate of the JNF is to raise money to be put into projects in Israel, primarily for soil and water reclamation, but also for building services such as plumbing in new settlements.

The 96-year-old organization is perhaps best known for the little blue boxes it has used for decades collect money and for its numerous tree-planting projects in Israel. To date, the JNF has planted over 200 million trees in Israel, Frankenberg said, adding that Canada has the highest per capita contribution rate of all the countries that contribute to the international fundraising organization.

The latest project in which the JNF is involved, and for which Frankenberg will help raise funds working closely with other countries, is called Action Plan Negev.

"[We're] really trying to do what [David] Ben-Gurion told us, which is one of the most important things in Israel, namely to make the desert bloom," said Frankenberg.

JNF-supported projects are also meant to provide employment for Israelis, as well as to take the pressure off the country's urban centres, which are straining under the influx of new immigrants.

"The population is growing more and more rapidly," said Frankenberg. "It's becoming urgent that we develop the Negev and make it a place where people want to go and live.

"It's an enormous task — planting trees, digging reservoirs, working in agriculture, and the money sent from the JNF around the world is actually to pay the salaries of the workers, who are mostly new immigrants and very poor."

Other officers elected at the meeting were Gary Averbach as chair of policy and planning, Norman Gold as chair of subscriptions and Ruth Freeman as an executive officer. Bill Gruenthal, who is the regional president of the JNF in the Pacific region, was elected to the JNF board of directors.

Vancouver Walk with Israel raises $4,500

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — The 11th annual Walk with Israel attracted almost 500 participants and raised $4,500, despite overcast skies.

The funds, said Tracey Ames, executive director of the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF), "will be used for scholarships for youth trips to Israel."

In addition, Ames said, the CZF, which sponsors the walk, organizes the event "in order to have a community awareness day to bring the Vancouver Jewish community together to celebrate Israel.

"The date of the walk always coincides with Yom Yerushalayim, which commemorates the day in 1967 when Jerusalem was recaptured by Israeli forces.

"This year is a very special year," she added "because it marks 30 years of the reunification of Jerusalem and it also marks 100 years of Zionism."

At the opening ceremonies for this year's walk, several local Jewish school choirs performed before Geoffrey Druker, president of the CZF's Pacific region, officially kicked off the ceremonies with an opening address. He then presented departing Rabbi Wilfred Soloman of Congregation Beth Israel and his wife Phyllis with the annual Jerusalem prize for their years of devoted service to the community.

After the presentation, Rabbi Ross Singer of Congregation Shaarey Tefilah recited the prayer for Jerusalem and then, as he had done in previous years, Rabbi Soloman marked the beginning of the walk by blowing the shofar.

After the walk, the festivities continued in the Jewish Community Centre (JCC) parking lot, where walkers munched on cotton candy and popcorn and sampled kosher food supplied by Ominitsky's and Sabra's. A clown roamed the grounds while Hebrew and Yiddish music played in the background courtesy of HaMakor radio and Seacoast Sound.

A highlight of the afternoon was a performance by the local band, Klezmer Mombassea, who kept the audience entertained with an eclectic and energetic set that included original songs dedicated to the JCC and Hillel House. Their rendition of *Havah Nagilah* had the audience doing the horah in the parking lot.

Hy Eiley, past chair of Reena and founding chairman of the Reena Foundation feels that we all have a responsibility to help others.
For Beatrice Mandel, being a Reena client gives her a different perspective of "responsibility" in her role as a Reena board member.
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It's about supporting the BATTLE to ensure people everywhere assume their responsibility to help others.
Through the creation of the Reena Foundation, Hy Eiley has focused attention where it belongs: ensuring that there is a continuous flow of funding to support Reena's ongoing activities and programming. Together with his wife Joan, they have generously supported the new Battle Centre by dedicating the Lobby.
Beatrice Mandel is equally committed to her responsibility to help others. She advocates on behalf of Reena's clients and has earned the respect of her fellow board members. A Reena client since 1976, she now lives in one of Reena's Supported Independent Living apartments. Beatrice makes her own decisions and is very proud of her accomplishments.
For information, call
Sandy Keshen, Executive Director 416 787-0131.
The new
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From coast to coast

Two Jewish B.C. women honored

By BAILA LAZARUS
Western Jewish Bulletin

VANCOUVER — Two local Jewish women received pleasant shocks last month when they were announced as winners in the YWCA Women of Distinction Awards Program.

The award recognizes women who have contributed to their community through their career or volunteer work.

Dr. Beverly Spring was chosen out of eight women in the Health and Wellness category for her work as a consultant physician in palliative care. Rita Akselrod won in the Voluntary Community and Humanitarian Service category from among 13 other women, the most nominated in any of the 10 categories. She was recognized for her work with Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) and with the Holocaust Education Centre.

"After seeing so many high profile people in my category I didn't think for one moment that I would win," said Akselrod, 66.

Spring, 47, a family physician for 20 years, decided to specialize in palliative care five years ago, after spending time with some terminally ill patients.

Palliative care is the caring for the terminally ill when curing and prolonging life are no longer the main focus and the emphasis has shifted to the patient's comfort and quality of life. Often specialized care is needed.

Spring thinks the award is a statement about the shift toward recognizing people who work in fields which have gotten little exposure. "Death and dying is finally out of the closet and being talked about," said Spring, formerly of Toronto.

Akselrod co-founded Mothers Against Drunk Drivers after her 24-year-old daughter was killed by a drunk driver 16 years ago. A child survivor of the Holocaust, she was a founding member of the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society, is an active board member and chairs their outreach committee. She also facilitates a grief support group through the Jewish Family Service Agency and volunteers at the Louis Brier Home for the elderly.

Though Akselrod has spent many years dedicating her time to worthy causes, she never thought she would win the award. She was happy just to be nominated.

"When I was nominated by my colleagues at the Holocaust Centre Society, I felt so proud." said Akselrod. "I had such a wonderful feeling of accomplishment because of my colleagues, because of my friends who believed in me and felt I was worthy of this gift, of this honor. I thought I was a winner already."

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Cost: $100 per person *(max. 9 participants)*

Art Therapy - *Instructor: Sharona Reubeni (Psychotherapist)*
Tuesday or Thursday evenings - 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
7 weekly sessions - starting **July 15th**
Cost: $135 per person *(includes materials)*

Drama
Thursday evenings - 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
9 weekly sessions - starting **July 3rd to August 28th**
Cost: $90 per person *(includes materials, max. 10 participants)*

For registration or information, please contact the Battle Centre at (905) 889-6484 or (416) 787-9554 ext. 7006.

Collins defends his column at human rights hearing

By ROBERTA STALEY
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — Columnist Doug Collins took centre stage at the midpoint of a British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal hearing into whether he exposed Jews to hatred.

With as much vigor and vitriol as he dishes up in his bi-weekly diatribes, Collins defended his "Hollywood propaganda" column which ran March 9, 1994 in the *North Shore News*.

"There is not a word of hatred in that column that any one can identify. It's simply a matter that they don't like the content of the column as such," Collins told the hearing May 28.

"I might add that there will never be an apology. As far as I'm concerned, they can hang me up by my heels and they won't get an apology," he said, sparking applause from many of the 100 spectators.

The hearing is looking into a complaint by Canadian Jewish Congress that 76-year-old Collins contravened Section 2 of the B.C. Human Rights Code. The code prohibits the public expression of hate messages likely to expose a person or group to hatred or contempt.

The tribunal is also hearing arguments about whether Section 2 goes against the Charter of Rights and Freedom's guarantee of free speech.

Collins also took a swipe at the provincial government's human rights code. Victoria changed B.C.'s human rights code in 1993 to allow tribunals to impose unlimited fines on those making statements deemed to expose individuals or groups to hatred or contempt.

"The regulation of speech... amounts to government thought control," said Collins.

Congress lawyer Gregory Walsh argued at the hearing that the laws of defamation that give an individual remedy if their reputation or integrity has been impugned should also apply to groups. Collins admitted under cross-examination that there is no way to for groups to address perceived wrongs except at a human rights hearing.

Spectators, some supporting Congress and others backing Collins, maintained cold and silent distances between each other. As the *Bulletin* conducted interviews with spectators during a break in proceedings, North shore resident Ilana Mercer interrupted.

"Why are you talking to those people?" Mercer snapped. "Why don't you talk to Jews?"

And a supporter of Doug Collins refused to give his name because he feared the *Bulletin* would "defame him." The man admitted he hadn't read any of the *Bulletin*'s coverage of the hearing.

Earlier last week, internationally respected Calgary law professor Kathleen Mahoney testified in support of anti-hate legislation.

"Hate speech is a practice of discrimination," said Mahoney, whose qualifications include counsel and advocate from 1993 to the present in the International Court of Justice for Bosnia and Herzegovina in Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

She said anti-hate legislation is necessary to combat the expansion of extreme right-wing movements which have sprung up since the end of the Cold War.

An increase in anti-Semitic and anti-gay activities has been documented since 1992 in the United States, Mahoney said. Incidents have included cemetery desecrations, arsons and bombings.

She said British Columbia isn't immune to bigotry. "B.C. is the place where some of the worst racist [incidents] have taken place."

Radler condemns Congress

By ROBERTA STALEY
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — Southam Inc. executive David Radler has slammed Canadian Jewish Congress for turning *North Shore News* columnist Doug Collins into what he calls a martyr.

"Canadian Jewish Congress is really more responsible for the creation of what I would call the Collins phenomenon," said Radler, deputy chair and associate CEO of Southam Inc., which owns 62 percent of the *North Shore News*. Radler is also president and chief operating officer of Hollinger Inc., which controls Southam. Hollinger's chair is newspaper tycoon Conrad Black.

"[Congress] went out and decided to send him to martyrdom. They just went ahead, barrelled ahead as they so often do," said Radler, who spoke to the *Bulletin* from the Chicago *Sun-Times* office where he is publisher, chair and CEO.

"The way for this community to deal with people that they don't like in newspapers is to stop supporting those advertisers that are supporting that newspaper," he added.

The B.C. Human Rights Tribunal is holding a five-week hearing into a Congress complaint that Collins contravened Section 2 of the B.C. Human Rights Code. The code prohibits the public expression of hate messages likely to expose a person or group to hatred or contempt.

The complaint was filed in response to a March 9, 1994, *North Shore News* column by Collins titled *Hollywood Propaganda*, which referred to the movie *Schindler's List* as part of the Hollywood propaganda machine. He also disputed the figure of six million Jews killed during World War II.

Radler pointed an accusing finger at Congress while being questioned on why Southam, which has editorial control over such dailies as the Vancouver *Sun* and *Province*, couldn't exert more influence over the *North Shore News*.

Southam owns 62 percent of Lower Mainland Publishing Ltd., which owns the *North Shore News*, one in a chain of 27 newspapers in British Columbia and Washington State.

Madison Venture Corp. owns the other 38 percent. Tiny percentages are owned by other individuals, including *North Shore News* publisher Peter Speck.

Madison, which manages the paper, holds a voting share majority at 51 percent compared to Southam's 49 percent. With Madison holding the majority voting share, Southam cannot influence editorial policy at the paper, said Radler.

"That looks like I'm hiding," he admitted.

Rick O'Connor, vice-president of newspapers for Lower Mainland Publishing, said his company must also maintain a hands-off editorial policy because of an ongoing, seven-year battle with the federal Industry Department's competition bureau. The bureau has challenged Southam's investment in Lower Mainland Publishing over concerns of monopoly newspaper ownership.

The result has forced Madison and Southam to acquiesce all editorial control to Speck, said O'Connor.

Radler, said he would fire Collins if Southam did control the *North Shore News*.

However, he still supported the right-wing columnist's right to his opinion. "There are a lot of people like me who do feel strongly that people have the right to say what they want. [But] the guy should be on a soapbox on some street corner."

He said the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal hearing is setting a dangerous precedent.

OMISSION

In our report on the annual meeting of Jewish Family & Child Service (June 5), we omitted mention of Jerry Cukier as a new board member.

WHAT *You* DO

MAKES A *Difference!*

A Salute To Our Community's Volunteers

"All Jews are responsible one for another"
Shevuot 39a

"כל ישראל ערבים זה בזה"
שבועות לט

UJA FEDERATION

The Kaballah of Volunteering

by
Rabbi Michael Skobac
Jewish Campus Services

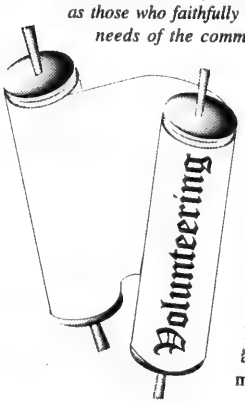
During the 20th century, North American Jews have established communal and social service structures of stellar quality that are admired and held up as exemplary far and wide. Over the past decade, the burning issue of Jewish continuity has driven many people to wonder if the culture of philanthropy we've built will be able to sustain itself. Today's world has shown a thirst for meaning and spirituality – can our communal and Tzedaka activities nourish hungry Jewish souls?

The passion to "seek" often leads people to esoteric studies, retreats and travel to exotic places. Judaism has always known that true spirituality lies much closer to home. Our mystical tradition reveals the potential for spirituality in seemingly mundane activities. It depends on your perspective. The most primal religious impulse is the striving to cleave to the Almighty. Our Torah teaches that to get close to G-d, we need to pattern our lives after G-d, to be as G-d.

> *"Just as He clothes the naked (Adam and Eve), so you shall also clothe the naked. G-d visited the sick (Abraham), you shall also visit the sick. As He comforted mourners (Isaac), so you shall comfort mourners. Just as He buried the dead (Moses), so shall you bury the dead"*
>
> *(Babylonian Talmud, Sotah 14a)*

All too often, we aren't sensitive to the holiness of giving, helping and going beyond ourselves. We also miss the author of the Grand Canyon, snowflakes and blue jays.

The nobility of voluntarism is acknowledged in our Shabbat morning liturgy. After the Torah reading, there is a special blessing for *"...those who give Tzedaka to the poor, as well as those who faithfully occupy themselves with the needs of the community."* Rabbi Yosef Karo notes in his Beit Yosef that by publicly proclaiming the great reward that awaits those who serve the community, we hope that others will emulate their deeds. We learn in *Ethics of the Fathers* (1:2) that ultimately the universe is sustained by the unselfish giving that we do. Let's keep up the good work, and appreciate what it really means. ■



From the Desk of Sandra Brown...

I have always believed that voluntarism is an essential expression of "tzedaka." As my term as President of UJA Federation comes to a close, I am now able to more fully appreciate how generous our community truly is.

Over the past two years, I have witnessed members of our Jewish community, from all walks of life, step up to take responsibility, to lend a hand, to offer their time, wisdom and compassion in order to support individuals in need and to continue to help build our community services.

Your commitment to our agencies, synagogues, schools and organizations, manifested through your volunteer service, stands as a legacy that we are continually challenged to emulate.

I am grateful to each and every one of you for what you have accomplished - and for what together, we will accomplish in the future.

Sincerely,

Sandra Brown

UJA FEDERATION

UJA FEDERATION

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL • JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO

I am delighted to have this opportunity to extend my congratulations and warmest regards to all of the wonderful people who are being acknowledged in this year's Volunteer Recognition pages.

The vibrancy of our human service agencies, our schools and synagogues is the model for every Jewish community around the world. This remarkable quality of Jewish life is the direct result of the passion, commitment, talent and willingness to give - exemplified by those being recognized here - that have made the achievements of our community possible.

As the new president of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, I recognize the special responsibility that UJA Federation holds in supporting the ongoing development of the volunteer community.

UJA Federation will continue to be there to support, train, place and recognize all of those who continue to give of their time and hearts to ensure the healthy continuity of our Jewish community.

Yasher Koach to this year's honourees!

Joseph M. Steiner

Joseph M. Steiner
President

A Tradition Continues

by Helen Finder-Guttman
Vice-President, Human Resources
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

UJA FEDERATION

The UJA Federation of Greater Toronto is delighted once again to recognize volunteers from a broad spectrum of organizations across our community.

Encouraging collective responsibility and supporting activities which are of communal benefit has long been a tradition in our community. The men and women pictured in the following pages represent the finest within our Jewish community who are continuing that tradition. The commitment of these dedicated volunteers to their organizations and to the welfare of their brethren ensures the continuity of our community and its institutions while, at the same time, providing a much needed service.

And so - to these dedicated volunteers, we say "Thank You." Thank you for your leadership and your compassion. Thank you for your endless willingness to get involved. As a community we all take pride in your contributions and accomplishments. As individuals, we are all inspired by your timeless efforts and sense of Tzedaka.

Volunteer Excellence: The Community Honours Its Own

The women and men pictured here have made tzedaka and community involvement constant priorities in their lives. Their unrelenting commitment to Jewish values and to preserving human dignity improve the lives of so many and instill enormous community pride in us all. Earlier this week, at UJA Federation's Annual Meeting, these special community members were presented with volunteer recognition awards on behalf of the entire community.

Koschitzkys Named Sadowski Award Winners

The Ben Sadowski Award of Merit is this community's most prestigious volunteer recognition award.

Julia & Henry Koschitzky, this year's most outstanding community leaders.

"They say you make a living by what you do, but you make a life by what you share, and sharing our lives with our community, with Jews around the world, and with our extended families in Israel, has been a life's experience. When we reflect on what we have gained personally, what we have learned and how we have been enriched, we know that all our time and effort has been and will continue to be worthwhile."

David Engel Receives Granovsky Award

The Granovsky Award honours individuals who exemplify the best in UJA Federation campaigning.

UJA Federation's highly respected **David Engel** has been chosen as the first recipient of the Phil Granovsky Award for Campaign Excellence.

"Volunteering is a responsibility and a privilege. I am a firm believer that the benefits far outweigh the efforts. When my wife Judy and I came to Toronto, we wanted to make a secure home for our children, and the way we did that was by volunteering in the community."

Leadership Development Award Winners

Leadership Development Awards were established to encourage young men and women to assume community leadership roles. They are presented to individuals who demonstrate extraordinary community commitment and service.

Dov Altman

"I was taught by my parents that all people should be treated with respect and dignity, and if someone needs help, you give as much as you can. Volunteering in the community gives me a sense of fulfilment and allows me to accomplish that objective."

Eileen Silver

"Volunteering for me is a natural 'do good - feel good' combination. It has helped me grow personally. It has allowed me the opportunity to work with dedicated lay people and professionals and, at the same time, it has given me the gratification of seeing how my efforts have benefitted the community."

Shem Tov Award Recipients

The Shem Tov Awards are presented to leaders representing the highest levels of excellence in volunteer service to Toronto's Jewish community.

Marlene Axmith

UJA Federation Women's Campaign

"In Hebrew, the root of the word for giving is spelled identically frontwards and backwards. Whatever is given is also received. My volunteer experience has proven this to be true. Whatever I have given to the community has come back to me enriched and continues to enrich my life."

Michael Bowman

Jewish Family & Child Service

"My parents taught me that it is better to give than to receive. Volunteering for JF&CS has provided me with an opportunity to give and to be of service to our community, and to contribute towards and advocate on behalf of a worthy organization and cause. Both my wife and I have been active volunteers in the Jewish community and we hope that our children will follow our example."

Ronald Hoffman

Reena Foundation

"Hillel said it best. 'If I am only for me, what am I?' Voluntarism is an opportunity to do what is right and just for the needy, our community and ourselves."

Yvonne Martell

Bernard Betel Centre

"I like to think that my role, however small, helps make a difference. It is a privilege to contribute to the Toronto Jewish community, to be associated with worthwhile causes, and to work alongside other volunteers and dedicated staff."

Peter Shenfield

Jewish Vocational Services

"When I moved to Toronto, part of my reason for getting involved was to network and to 'get to know' my new community. Twelve years and many positions later, the learning experiences, and the opportunity to work with some incredible people has been fabulous. As an added bonus, I met my future wife, who is also a volunteer, through my involvement with JVS."

Morley Wolfe, Q.C.

Jewish Camp Council

"I have always believed in the ethic of Voluntarism: the giving of oneself without compulsion or expectation of reward, for the betterment of one's community. To help fulfil the needs of our society and to ease its burdens brings its own compensation - just do it!"

Volunteers Who Make A *Difference!* In Our Community

Our volunteers play a key role in providing assistance to our community. They are an integral component in the successful functioning of many of the agencies, congregations, schools and institutions available to us.

We are pleased to pay tribute to those dedicated men and women who represent the spirit of voluntarism across the broad spectrum of our Jewish community. **Their personal expressions of commitment have indeed made a difference.** Meet those volunteers who have been chosen by their organizations for their exceptional contributions to our Jewish community.

Elaine Fink
Chair, Volunteer Recognition Project

Adath Israel Congregation

Sol Wainberg
"I am carrying on for my father, Max Wainberg, who was a founding member of the synagogue. I have been involved for over 45 years in many capacities of the organization and have found my involvement most gratifying."

Aish HaTorah

Dr. Alex Pister
"I have learned through starting and running Aish-Thornhill that when you see a need in the community, take care of it. Through our newest project, Aish Gallanough, we hope that others will follow our example - seize the opportunity for leadership - you too can do it!"

All For One Mutual Benefit Society

Pearl Soloway
"I am happy to be able to reach out to the Jewish community through my activities on behalf of the organization within a spirit of voluntarism."

Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto *

Sheldon Carr
"I see my involvement with Associated as a commitment to the future of our community by working with the school to help provide a strong Jewish education and opportunity for our children to learn, grow and become more mature."

Bathurst Jewish Centre *

Sy Herling
Sy began the basketball program in 1986 with one team. Through his commitment and dedication to basketball and Jewish youth, the program now consists of over 500 participants, consisting of four house leagues and eight representative teams.

Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care *

Gene Opler and Michelle Gelberman
"Helping Baycrest clients achieve their potential is a rewarding experience. Whether it's exercises, discussion groups or Shabbat programs, we are grateful to be able to participate and be a part of Baycrest Volunteer Services."

Beit Halochem Canada

Diane (Dee-Dee) Shiffman
"The opportunity to be involved in the Group Visit Program and host a disabled veteran in my home was an outstanding experience. Making a difference in the lives of Israel's disabled veterans is very meaningful."

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living *

Sadie Rose
"My time spent as a volunteer and participating in many meaningful committees has contributed in no small measure to my mental, physical and emotional health. The opportunities they present to associate with my peers on a social level adds inestimably to my well being."

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation

Harry Charles Tepperman
"The synagogue is an excellent place to learn and widen your scope for dealing with different people. Everyone has a right to say what they want in a shul and one learns fast. Don't get into arguments - just keep them happy."

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue

Tibor Lax
"It has been most meaningful to be a part of the coordination and organization of the beautiful services, especially during the High Holy Days. This has been a gratifying and satisfying experience."

Beth Tikvah Synagogue

Judi Urowitz
"Jewish family life is for my family the practice of Jewish ritual enhanced by artistic expression and cross-generational participation. Volunteering at Beth Tikvah, especially as Festival's chairperson has afforded me a community expression for this family ideal of Hiddur Mitzvah."

Beth Tzedec Congregation

Morty Pullan
"In my experience, the greatest reward for a volunteer in my organization is recognition, in whatever form, by its lay membership."

Bialik Hebrew Day School/PTA *

Linda Peikes
"I am just one of the many parents in the Bialik family who has devoted time and energy towards the enrichment of our children's education. I am proud to receive this recognition on behalf of all the parents."

Bloor Jewish Community Centre *

Brian Borts
"It is with great pleasure that I can look back and report that the necessary steps have been taken to ensure that credible and timely financial information is produced on a regular basis. I look forward to being an active member of the Bloor JCC for the next three years."

BBYO *

Marc Gordon
"BBYO's annual Spring Convention is very meaningful to me as a volunteer advisor. Each year I witness how many of our members have grown and developed into outstanding young adults who demonstrate the skills necessary to be the future of our Jewish community."

Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Sidney Chelsky
"For the past 15 years, I have witnessed the transformation of Ben-Gurion University into a world-class institution. The desert environment provides a backdrop for ingenious scientific discovery resulting in blooming deserts, and through cooperative projects, in forging ties of understanding and friendship between nations."

Volunteers Who Make A *Difference!* In Our Community

Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim Hospital in Jerusalem

Frances Klegerman

"My contribution to the planning of a successful city-wide health forum on behalf of Bikur Cholim Hospital in Jerusalem was immeasurably gratifying. The results benefitted both the Jerusalem hospital and the Toronto community."

Canadian Friends of Haifa University

Michael C. Feldman

"Despite a critical economic environment, we continue to increase support of the University of Haifa worldwide through increased membership in our Friends' organizations."

Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University

Lorne Persiko

"As an alumnus of the one year program at the Hebrew University, creating a meaningful connection between the Toronto young adults and the University has been most rewarding. The development and implementation of educational and fundraising events that raise both awareness and funds for the University have been my most meaningful experience."

Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University

Mira Shemtov

"My year in Tel Aviv University's Overseas Program deepened my connection to my Jewish heritage and infused me with pride in my community. Volunteering at CFTAU and elsewhere allows me to share this unique experience with others."

Canadian Society for Yad Vashem

Dr. Joel Dimitry

"As a child of survivors, it has been my honour to work with survivors of the Holocaust and help to bring their story and their courage to the notice of the Toronto community."

Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation *

Bess Shockett

"Being dedicated to both Yiddish and the Jewish community, I feel that I have to be part of the workings of both. I cannot take without giving back wherever my expertise and abilities can be used. Donating money is too easy - I feel I must be involved."

Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto *

David Chaikof

"As an alumnus of CHAT, I am proud to be a member of the Board of Directors and co-chair of the annual CHAT Blue Jays Night. I am able to see tangible results of our fundraising efforts which in the last four years have raised funds for the school's special capital projects."

Congregation Darchei Noam

Valerie Elliott Hyman

"Working with the volunteers at St. Peters Church provides an opportunity to address the profound inequities in our community and the privilege of providing a Jewish presence informed by the teachings of Reconstructionist Judaism."

Downtown Jewish Community School *

Micky Fraterman

"Being a Board member doing varying jobs over many years has allowed me to contribute and participate in Jewish education in the vibrant Downtown Jewish Community. A wonderful volunteer experience which gives me an opportunity to learn at the same time!"

Dr. Abraham Shore Academy/ She'arim Hebrew Day School *

Oren Gelb

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of working with students with learning disabilities in a supportive and caring environment, together with a team of dedicated professionals."

Emunah Women of Toronto

Lenore Schelew

"Belonging to Emunah Women, a Religious Zionist organization, and visiting the projects it supports in Israel gives me a feeling of closeness to the land of Israel and its people that I find extremely rewarding."

Hadassah-WIZO, Toronto

Rosalie Flomen

"A meaningful experience for me in this organization has been the many opportunities I have had to learn and be involved in exciting events. My life has been enriched by the skills I have gained and the friends I have made."

Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto *

Judi Sporn

"To me, the Holocaust Centre is more than just a museum. As a docent, it is difficult to put into words the emotions I feel when I complete a tour. If by telling of the Holocaust, I reach one or two persons to react and take a stand then I am not just taking up space on this earth."

Holy Blossom Temple

David Hart

"It is meaningful for me to help Holy Blossom Temple instill in our members and members of the greater community the desire to learn to live together in an atmosphere of mutual respect, peace and justice."

Israel Cancer Research Fund

Ted Wine

"I am gratified to expend my efforts promoting such an important cause as finding the cure for cancer - knowing that the funds I raise will continue to endure and that Israel Cancer Research Fund supported scientists will maintain their world-class position in cutting edge cancer research."

Jewish Camp Council of Toronto *

Ed Goldman

"The greatest pleasure I get is seeing the happy faces of the children as they return from camp. In over 25 years of my involvement, I have never missed a departure or an arrival, as they make the whole year's work worthwhile."

Jewish Family and Child Service *

Abraham Birenbaum

"There are many highs. Picking one is difficult. In June of each year, there is a Graduation Day at the Jerome D. Diamond Centre. Students leave the JDD to be integrated into the school system. One student, a shy insecure youth when I first met him, was valedictorian and gave a moving address. My small effort with him was immensely rewarded."

Jewish Immigrant Aid Service of Canada (Toronto) *

Rachel Kahane

"For the past several years I have been a JIAS Board member and have chaired the JIAS Toronto Volunteer Income Tax Clinic and Immigrant Art Show. For me, volunteer work fills an inner need to do for others without expecting anything in return."

Volunteers Who Make A *Difference!* In Our Community

Jewish National Fund of Toronto

Esther and Claude Abrams

"Our work with Blue Boxes is a practical way in which we help JNF and Israel. As bus captains on various JNF tours to Israel, our greatest sense of satisfaction has come from helping to introduce so many first-timers to Israel."

Jewish Student Federation of York University *

David Sonenberg

"This year was meaningful as many fine leaders emerged from JSF. Through their initiatives, we engaged many people with exceptional programming. These student leaders now represent a solid core for future campus successes."

Jewish Students' Union of the University of Toronto *

Noam Samson

"Judaism and Klal Yisrael are both very dear to my heart and to have the opportunity to promote Ahavat Yisrael, love of your fellow Jews, has been an honour. Being President of JSU and a representative of the Jewish People has been the most meaningful experience of my life."

Jewish Vocational Service of Metropolitan Toronto *

Solomon Yohannes

"I volunteer at JVS for self-fulfilment and to contribute my skills to people who need assistance and want to build self-esteem. Working with dedicated staff and friendly clients in important programs has assisted thousands to achieve their full potential."

Jewish Women's Federation *

Susan Michaels

"I feel privileged to work with the vibrant women of this community who come together to affect change on social issues. While helping to better the lives of many, they have enriched my life personally."

Jewish Women International of Toronto

Bunnie Gross

"My involvement has been a most rewarding and fulfilling part of my life. I am so proud to be involved as an original member of the pilot project. The need for help is so great and necessary for battered Jewish women and children."

Kehilla Residential Programme *

Keith L. Ray

"I enjoy meeting other interesting volunteers and I believe that it is important to contribute to the assistance of those members of our community who are in need of help."

Kehilla Shaarei Torah

Harold Klug

"An affiliation with this shul allows me the honour of doing many small mitzvot."

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning

Elizabeth Wolfe

"It has been extremely rewarding to me to be a part of Kolel's growth. Kolel not only provides learning opportunities for adults seeking to enrich their Jewish knowledge, it provides meaning and value to individual lives, nourishing the mind and soul."

Leo Baeck Day School *

Jerry Leiderman

As a member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer, Jerry has played a key role in guiding the school to a secure financial position. As Chair of the Building Committee, Jerry planned and monitored daily the construction of our school on Atkinson Avenue. His good humour and professional expertise are valued by parents, students and the Board.

Mazon Canada

Judy Nyman

"When I first got involved about eight years ago, I thought the concept of donating 3% of the food costs of a simcha to an organization that feeds the hungry was a brilliant idea. That's why, as a Mazon Board member, I was especially proud to designate Mazon as the recipient of all my gifts when I became Bat Mitzvah at the age of 45 last year!"

Mercaz-Canada

Norman Stern

"To me, Mercaz is the link between the Conservative congregations and its members to our center of Jewish existence which is Israel."

Mizrachi Organization of Canada

Alex Colchary

"The continuing role that Mizrachi plays in building the State of Israel is most meaningful to me as a volunteer. In particular, the 24 Yeshivot Hesder disseminating religious learning as well as national service gives me great pride."

Mount Sinai Hospital

All Our Volunteers

Mount Sinai Hospital honours all its Volunteers. From our beginning as a 33-bed maternity and convalescent hospital founded in 1923 by the Ezras Noshem Society, volunteers have played an integral role in our hospital. Volunteers continue to be a vital part of our team.

Na'amat Canada–Toronto

Malka Weisblum

"Attending a Na'amat Leadership Seminar in Israel, meeting the dedicated volunteers, visiting women's shelters, high schools, and counselling and daycare centres, built and maintained by Canadian contributions, reinforced my sense of pride in belonging to Na'amat."

Netivot Hatorah Day School *

Naftali Winter

"Volunteering for a Jewish school and working for our children helps to ensure our identity and continuity. What makes me especially optimistic about our future is the sincerity and dedication of my co-volunteers."

Volunteers Who Make A *Difference!* In Our Community

National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section

Rebecca Ber

"The Passover Food Drive has given me the opportunity to be involved in a project which draws together the entire community. Working with people from different backgrounds and walks of life, I am able to be a part of an important and worthwhile community endeavour."

Partnership 2000/Project Renewal of UJA Federation *

Randy Shiff and Bill Kassel

"Partnership 2000 focuses on projects that build meaningful links between Toronto Jews and residents of Eilat/Eilot as equal partners. People-to-people projects are the essence of what Partnership 2000 means."

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles

Elaine Genesove

"From my experience working on the Guild's newsletter, I developed both my writing and editorial skills. This encouraged me to start a newsletter for another non-profit organization and to write articles for other publications."

Reena *

Rafi Cashman

"There is no question that during the time I spend volunteering I receive far more than I give. I always find this rather odd, since it would seem that the point of volunteering is to help others. Yet, the paradox is inescapable. Although this leaves me with a sense of inadequacy, it is one which keeps me coming back for more. Could I ask for a frustration better than this?"

Ryerson Hillel *

Ari Shapiro

"The most meaningful thing for me was seeing new faces and then seeing those same faces week after week. I leave Ryerson knowing that these faces will be the next volunteers."

Seneca Hillel *

Tammy Nisimov

"I was once told that I am a very strong person and at that moment it made me realize and think about my experience. My commitment in Hillel was not just a volunteer job but a growing spiritual experience."

Senior Care/Community Services to the Jewish Elderly *

Thelma Herman

"I'm lucky! As chairperson for Kosher Meals on Wheels and Volunteer Escort Transportation, I touch many seniors. I feel good. What is life without friendship, warmth and understanding? Senior Care has answers."

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation

Clifford Goldfarb

"Working with the many other dedicated volunteers who give so much, if not more, of their time and talents as me, and without whom Shaarei Shomayim would not be able to function, is very meaningful."

State of Israel Bonds

David Wm. Brown

"State of Israel Bonds provides its volunteers the ability to be involved in the social, physical and economic development of our homeland. Bonds is our link towards a common goal - the future of Eretz Israel."

Temple Har Zion

Joan and Alan Dessau

"It took 20 years for our Temple, using numerous fundraisers to pay off our first mortgage. We were proud to be on the team and to have been at the 'mortgage burning' ceremony."

Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa *

Mervyn McCarthy

"Over 18 years of involvement with Loan Cassa, combined with the vigourous sharing of the dedicated Board members, has generated within me a sense of pride in our unique approach in serving the Jewish community. This feeling continues to grow - daily."

Toronto ORT

Lonny Gropper

"For me, volunteering is an expression of values of Tzedaka and Tikkun Olam, improving the Jewish World. I'm grateful for the good blessings in my life and I feel I must share them with those less fortunate."

UJA Federation Campaign *

Elizabeth Erlich

"The UJA Tzedaka All-Stars is truly a team effort to benefit needy kids. Working together with such committed volunteers from our community along with the terrific staff has been a real pleasure."

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (Ontario Region)

Gabriel Grushcow

"The opportunity to serve others has always been considered to be a blessing - not to be overlooked."

United Synagogue Day School *

Julia Spritzer

"For the past two years I have served as President of the USDS Parents' Association. Fundraising for the enhancement and enrichment of our school has been a most rewarding and satisfying experience."

UJA FEDERATION

*Denotes affiliate agencies and departments of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

New Volunteer Initiative Meets Changing Needs

Like everything else in life, the nature of voluntarism changes to reflect the needs, styles and interests of volunteers and those who benefit from their service.

To address these changes, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto continually seeks out new and creative ways to connect volunteers to agencies and individuals who require their time and attention. These efforts reflect the fundamental ethical basis of our community: to reach out and involve members of our community in its effort of "tikkun olam - to make the world better."

Our new approach to voluntarism now under study is "Jewish Toronto Cares." JTC is being designed to provide different and rewarding opportunities for volunteers, while expanding the scope of service provided to agencies and their clients. This volunteer effort may not necessarily be restricted to Jewish community needs, but may be extended to the larger community to which we also belong.

Its intent is to provide teams of young people with opportunities to fulfill their ethical and human commitments without having to sit on traditional types of volunteer committees. Recognizing that young people may not have the time to devote to long-term commitments, JTC will provide young volunteers with opportunities to perform activities on a "one-shot-only" basis.

Volunteer opportunities such as driving someone to a doctor's office, painting a fence, distributing flyers, and ushering at a performance will be gathered from community organizations and posted on an office hotline, or on the *Jewish Toronto* web site. With coordination from UJA Federation's Department for Human Resources Development, JTC has the potential to involve a whole new population of volunteers with a message of compassion and caring for all.

"This approach will allow us the opportunity to create new volunteer opportunities and offer them to people who might otherwise miss out on their chance to help others and build the community at the same time," notes Helen Finder-Guttman, Human Resources Vice-President.

For more information about "Jewish Toronto Cares," call UJA Federation's Department for Human Resources Development at (416) 635-2883 ext. 137. ■

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- ✔ **BE A SPECIAL FRIEND.** Provide regular social contact to homebound seniors or to seniors in institutional settings.
- ✔ Put your **ADMINISTRATIVE SKILLS** to use by performing a variety of tasks related to daily office procedures. Computer knowledge helpful.
- ✔ **HAVE ANY IDEAS?** Committee volunteers are needed to help plan and implement a variety of social, cultural and fundraising programs and special events.
- ✔ If you are an **ENTERTAINER,** opportunities are available for annual events and holiday festivals, i.e. Chanukah/Purim parties.

To explore these and other community volunteer opportunities, call Shelly Rotman at UJA Federation (416) 635-2883 ext. 137 or visit our web site at *Jewish Toronto* www.feduja.org

LD Program: Building a Community of Leaders

Our Toronto Jewish community serves as a model of organization and leadership for Jewish communities around the world. They admire the vibrancy of our Jewish life, the competency of our human service organizations, and the quality of our schools. These communities are learning what our community already knows - that the dedication, insight and talent of thousands of volunteers make it happen.

Some people believe that leadership skills are inherent qualities of birth. Others believe that leadership skills are something you acquire with experience. In either case, everyone agrees that leadership skills can improve with proper training.

UJA Federation, through its Department for Human Resources Development, has offered a Leadership Development Program for many years. Although its content and format have gone through many changes, its purpose has remained the same: to prepare participants for policy level volunteer positions within UJA Federation of Greater Toronto and its constituent agencies.

The challenge of setting policy and making decisions for a community as complex as ours is enormous. The ability of volunteer leaders to perform effectively requires an in-depth understanding of how communal policies are established, how non-profit agencies are governed, how needs of the community are prioritized, and how decisions are implemented.

Given the pluralistic nature of our community, the program seeks participants from diverse cultural, professional, religious and economic backgrounds. The program provides its participants with a leadership perspective based on knowledge and skill, as well as an awareness of the issues facing the community. And, after "graduation," the program provides policy level placements in our community agencies and organizations for every successful participant.

Since the program's inception, LD graduates have played key roles in the community. They have gone on to serve the community in senior capacities in every agency and school as well as in UJA Federation itself.

The success of the program speaks for itself. Take a look around the community and see who is filling the key leadership roles. Chances are, you will discover someone who is a graduate of UJA Federation's Leadership Development Program – an endeavour in which we can all take pride. ■

Meet MARLENE SEGAL – a key person on the UJA Federation Volunteer Interviewers' Committee.

As well as interviewing, Marlene plays a vital role in following up with volunteers, ensuring that each person has been contacted and that at least one successful placement has resulted.

A prime example of a successful placement is Ittamar Janowski. Ittamar came through the volunteer interview process about a year ago. He was referred to the Zareinu Educational Centre, and was quickly matched up with a child. Through his very positive experiences, Ittamar's relationship with the Centre developed into a part-time position as an assistant teacher.

Marlene and Ittamar make a difference - and you can too! Join the many active volunteers in our community by calling our office at (416) 635-2883 ext. 137 to arrange an interview. ■

We gratefully acknowledge the support and generosity of ***The Canadian Jewish News*** in publishing *"What You Do Makes A Difference! - A Salute To Our Community's Volunteers."*

This feature is coordinated by the Department for Human Resources Development of UJA Federation.
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From coast to coast

Lag b'Omer celebration unites Vancouver's Jewish community

By DAVID LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — The city's first-ever communal Lag b'Omer celebration at Jericho Park West last month drew over 400 people.

The local Klezmer band Kreplach could be heard throughout the park, which overlooks the North Shore mountains. Other performers were the Beith Hamidrash children's choir and guitarist/singer Geoffrey Sachs.

Kosher hotdogs and hamburgers were sold, kites were flown and spirits soared.

Organized by RAV (the Rabbinical Association of Vancouver) in cooperation with Chabad, B'nai Brith Hillel, local synagogues (including the Burquest Jewish community) and the *Western Jewish Bulletin*, the event, which was coordinated by Ken Kaufman, the executive director of Hillel House and Ross Singer, the rabbi of Congregation Shaarey Tefilah, brought together Jews of all denominations from all over the city.

"Usually the community only comes together in times of tragedy," said Kaufman, who initiated the idea of staging a communal event on Lag b'Omer and convinced RAV to promote the event. "Today on Lag b'Omer, we wanted the community to come together to celebrate. And Lag b'Omer is the perfect time for us to celebrate together."

During the Omer, Kaufman explained, 24,000 students of Rabbi Akiva, the leading scholars of their generation, died from a plague. According to Kaufman, the Gemara says that the reason G-d allowed this to happen was that they didn't treat each other with respect. There was a pause in the plague on Lag b'Omer, he added, and it is therefore an appropriate day for Jews of different persuasions to come together and to treat each other with respect.

Anne Goldberg, executive director of the Schara Tzedek synagogue, which also helped make the celebration a reality, agrees with Kaufman and feels that the community is "too polarized [and] there should be more opportunities for the community to get together."

She said she hopes that this year's Lag b'Omer event "will be the first of many such events."

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The Okanagan Jewish community recently celebrated the bnot mitzvah of nine women.

Okanagan Jewish community celebrates nine bnot mitzvah

KELOWNA — The Okanagan Jewish community's (OJC) Beth Shalom Santuary recently celebrated a bnot mitzvah with nine women being called to the Torah.

The following women were called and received honor for their accomplishment by the community, their friends and relatives: Olga Birney, Gloria Golbey, Shawna Kotler, Shelley Malkin, Anita Nadler, Alicia Ruby, Linda Ruby, Linda van Wilde Rode and Irmgard Tirschiler.

Guests travelled from across Canada and the United States to join the celebrants. The program, an idea initiated by Malkin, started approximately eight months ago. It was undertaken as a community project involving many members of the OJC, including Ron Gold, Evan Orloff, Steven Finkelman, Gloria Golbey, Donna Rubadeau and Murray Malkin.

A kiddush hosted by OJC members followed the service. Later that evening, a barbecue was hosted at the home of Mel Kotler, president of the OJC, in honor of his daughter Shawna, one of the bnot mitzvah.

Stephen Cipes, a member of the OJC, provided the wine for the barbecue which was attended by approximately 150 guests.

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Director of the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre
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Dr. Irene Andrulis
Scotiabank Scientist & Senior Scientist,
Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute (SLRI)
Director of Ontario Cancer Genetics Network

Moderated by Carol Seidman,
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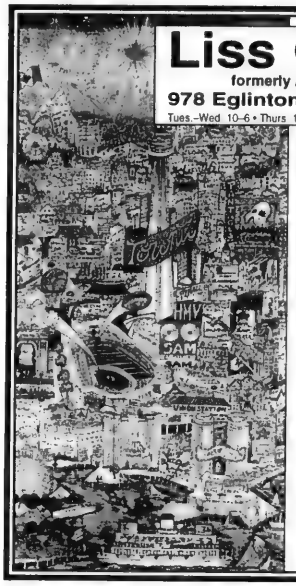

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QUEEN'S PARK, YAD VASHEM HONOR SURVIVORS

Ontario Premier Mike Harris (right) paid tribute last week to Holocaust survivors who have contributed to the province. Joining him, from right, were survivor Jean Kichler, Attorney General Charles Harnick and MPP Monte Kwinter. Other survivors to receive special scrolls were Milton Berger, Abe Bielak, Arnold Friedman, Joe Kichler, Claire Silverman, Luba Smuschkowitz and Jane Zeligman. The annual event is co-sponsored by the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem. [Ron Csillag photo]

Canadian Friends of Boys Town Jerusalem

notes with sorrow the passing of

Rabbi Alexander S. Linchner ז"ל

Nofloh Ateres Roshaynu, the crown of our head has fallen. Oy lonu ki shokoh shimshosaynu, woe to us for our sun has set. Boys Town Jerusalem mourns with profound sorrow the passing of its esteemed, revered and beloved Rabbi Alexander Sender Linchner, zecher tzadik livrocho.

Rabbi Linchner was a visionary who devoted his every thought, action and moment to Toras Yisroel, Am Yisroel and Eretz Yisroel. Inspired and guided by his legendary father-in-law, Reb Shraga Feivel Mendlowitz, zt"l, founder of Torah U'Mesorah, and spiritual force behind virtually every major institution of Torah, Rabbi Linchner set out with a passionate commitment to teach and inspire Jewish youth, both here and in Israel.

As a young American yeshiva student, he went to pre-war Europe to study with the sainted Chofetz Chaim, whose love for the Jewish People would continue to inspire Rabbi Linchner throughout his life. He returned to the U.S. only to be devastated at the loss of six million Jews, particularly one and a half million innocent children. He was permanently affected by the Nazis' carefully orchestrated plan to bring about the spiritual demise of the Jewish People by systematically murdering the Roshei Yeshiva, rabbis and Torah scholars and destroying of all of Europe's Torah centers, cities, towns and shtetlach. He viewed himself as a Holocaust survivior, committing his life to restore the Jewish People to their glory — primarily through its youth — return Torah learning to its primacy and build the Land of Israel.

Profoundly influenced by Rabbi Shamshon Raphael Hirsch's philosophy of Torah im Derech Eretz, he founded Boys Town Jerusalem where he would teach students that they stood in the place of that lost generation of Jewish children and would inspire them to carry on with our timeless Torah heritage.

Rabbi Linchner nurtured Boys Town not just as a school, but as a movement. Its 5,000 graduates have taken the value system imbued in them to virtually every Israeli city, town and village which now bears indelible imprint of the sterling character and values of Rabbi Linchner and his revered and sainted mentors, the G'doley Yisroel. Most important, he touched the lives of countless Israeli youth, giving them hope, opportunity and the means to lead a self-respecting life as they collectively built the Land of Israel while molding its spiritual fibre. The Jewish People have suffered an irreplaceable loss.

Our ultimate tribute to Rabbi Linchner — who never compromised principle, by remaining steadfast to the Torah — will be through our rededication to the tangible expression of his lifelong mission of perpetuating the timeless values of Torah in Eretz Yisroel, Boys Town Jerusalem. Boruch attoh b'voecho, u'voruch attoh b'tzaysecho.

We express our heartfelt sympathy to Rebbetzin Linchner, Rabbi Moshe Linchner, Mrs. Naomi Rothstein, his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and his cherished extended family, the Boys Town Jerusalem mishpocho. Hamakom yinachem eschem besoch shaar a'velay Tzion v'Yerushalayim.

Josh S. Weston, Chairman
Michael J. Scharf, President
Rabbi Ronald L. Gray, Exec. VP

Earl Miller, Canadian President
Denise Gold, Executive Director

Jewish professor at McMaster teaches New Testament studies

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — "What's a nice Jewish girl doing in New Testament studies?"

At the most recent in the Ben Meyer Lecture Series at the JCC, McMaster religious studies Prof. Adele Reinhartz said she had been asked that particular question on a number of occasions.

In her lecture, Reinhartz recalled that the original topic of her doctorate from the department of religion at McMaster was Rabbinic Judaism's Portrayal of Abraham. Her interest in New Testament studies developed gradually as her exposure to advanced level courses in Greek and early Christianity revealed similarities between early Christianity and first-century Judaism.

In time, she came to feel that the idea of a Jewish professor of Christianity might have a significant impact on Christian students. In the early days of her career as a professor of New Testament studies, she had determined to convey to her students that the often negative portrayal of Jews in much of the Christian Bible was a result of the specific context of the period, namely the rivalry that existed at the time between the followers of Jesus and the Jewish establishment. Citing several passages that refer to Jewish practice, she explained how she uses these occasions to elaborate on Jewish customs.

She also presented a number of passages that portray Jews in a particularly negative light, admitting that for many years the reading of the Book of Matthew "chilled me to the bone."

Her presentation of some of these passages with their graphic demonization of Jews had a similar effect on the audience that evening, as it became increasingly evident that the unquestioning reader of these texts could easily reach the conclusion that Jews and Judaism were anathema to Christians.

Reinhartz admitted that current anti-Semitic rhetoric still uses the Christian Bible as a source to justify its accusations. But she ended by making a plea for religious tolerance and pluralism.

"Following one path in belief or practice does not require invalidation of other paths or the denigration of those who choose them."

Jewish school leased to Christian academy

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — It will be the end of an era on June 30, when the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education (BJE) closes its 45-year-old north Winnipeg day school and transfers the operations to the new Asper Jewish Community Campus.

In lieu of a buyer, Jewish Community Campus Corp. has leased the complex — which included the JK to Grade 6 Talmud Torah-I.L. Peretz Folk School, the Grade 7 to 12 Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate and the Talmud Torah-Beth Jacob Synagogue — to Faith Academy, a private Christian school.

This is the second north Winnipeg Jewish school that Faith Academy has taken over. Five years ago, the academy bought the old Peretz School building, which the BJE had vacated a few years earlier. With enrolment growing, Faith Academy needed a larger building. They are leasing the Talmud Torah/Joseph Wolinsky Complex with an option to buy.

Monies from the sale of the complex are intended to help pay for Campus.

A sore point among some people is that the synagogue members are to be out by June 30 and that the synagogue is going to be converted into a church. The synagogue membership's case is weakened however by the fact that the synagogue was always a part of the school rather than being an independent entity and for many years no membership dues were collected.

Campus Corp. gave the synagogue membership the opportunity to match any offers that came in for the building, and during the winter, some of the members and a group of parents tried unsuccessfully to raise money in the community to buy the building and start an independent north Winnipeg Jewish elementary school.

The synagogue membership at this point is still not sure what they are going to do. They are hoping to relocate to another as yet undetermined location nearby. Thus far, they are not considering amalgamation with any of the other small Orthodox congregations in the north end.

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Cairo negotiations fail to produce results

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Despite a last-minute squabble that nearly threw them off track, Israeli and Palestinian officials met under Egyptian auspices for nearly three hours in Cairo in an effort to talk their way back to the negotiating table.

However, their failure to issue a joint communique or to provide details of the three-sided discussion suggested they were unsuccessful.

Israel's four-man team had been told their trip to Egypt was about to be canceled, when the Palestinian side admitted that there were no prior Israeli commitments to stop settlement building and suspend the Har Choma housing project, thereby removing the obstacle.

The team members were cabinet secretary Danny Naveh, Foreign Ministry aide Yaacov Bardugo, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's political adviser Uzi Arad and attorney Yitzhak Molcho, a Netanyahu confidant.

The Palestinian delegation was headed by the Palestinian Authority's (PA) chief negotiator, Saeb Erekat.

The talks were beneficial, said Netanyahu spokesperson Shai Bazak. There still is a need for more work by the parties in order to bridge the gaps, and therefore it was agreed that the work will continue in the days ahead.

Before the talks could begin, there were two tense hours during which the Israeli negotiators waited for the PA to disavow claims about a settlement halt by its spokesperson, Marwan Kanafani, a longtime confidant of Chairman Yasser Arafat.

When Erekat announced that Israel had not agreed to anything in advance, thereby providing the substantive retraction demanded by Bazak, the diplomatic drama came to a quick denouement.

Until then, pessimism prevailed in the Prime Ministers Office, with director of communications David Bar-Illan saying the outcome was predictable and would amount to nothing.

But the mood in Palestinian political circles remained upbeat throughout.

Arafat adviser Nabil Abu-Rudeina said the Palestinian delegation hoped to terminate the crisis in the light of the Egyptian efforts to advance the peace process. The unusual optimism stemmed from a comment, attributed to European Community peace envoy Miguel Moratinos, that Netanyahu had agreed to freeze construction work at Har Choma.

Arafat flew to Amman to confer with King Hussein about the potential breakthrough.

As if to prove that the concessions attributed to Netanyahu were politically impossible due to the makeup of his coalition, Aharon Domb, secretary-general of the Council of Settlements in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, charged that the council had reason to believe the government circulated reports about a compromise ,which he described as having no basis in reality.

Domb said there was no stoppage of any kind in the work under way in the settlements of Judea and Samaria.

In related developments the Likud faction is scheduled to meet with Netanyahu to discuss diplomatic developments. Likud faction chair Michael Eitan said the prime minister had informed him that the process of forming Israel's stand on the negotiations is not yet finished and he is interested in hearing the opinion of the Likud MKs.

Eitan said there are legitimate differences of opinion within the party on the extent of concessions, but the whole coalition is united in its belief that were the negotiations being carried out today by a left-wing government, the scope of the comprehensive concessions it would make would endanger national security.

National Religious Party faction head Hanan Porat demanded that the delegation first of all raise the subject of the land dealers killed for selling land to Jews.

With files by Liat Collins.

Barak takes on new role

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Labor party chair Ehud Barak decided to assign himself the authority of the party secretary-general for the coming four months. In that period, he will decide whether to call elections for a new secretary-general or to appoint an administrative director-general, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did when he took over the Likud in 1993.

Barak spent Sunday at party headquarters in Tel Aviv. He also met with his party rivals and his predecessor, Shimon Peres.

Barak arrived at headquarters and was welcomed with flowers, snacks, and wine. He raised a toast to the Netanyahu government's quick demise.

Soon after occupying Peres' chair, he met with outgoing secretary-general Nissim Zvilli and party law committee head David Libai. At the end of the meeting, it was announced that when Zvillis' resignation takes effect, Barak will stand in for him for four months.

Barak is encountering both opposition and support for his possible plans to appoint a director-general. MK Haggai Merom hotly opposes doing away with the secretary-generalship, a post for which many in the party say he plans to run. Merom says that discontinuing the post means downgrading the party and placing all the power in the chair's hands, as happened in the Likud.

But MK Haim Ramon calls the secretary-generalship a "vestige of Eastern European Communist parties."

Before he made his ceremonial appearance at party headquarters, Barak began his round of meetings with his rivals in his Ramat Gan office suite. There is a possibility that he will continue to operate out of the suite.

The first to appear was Ramon, whom Barak considers his potentially most troublesome opponent because he has threatened to challenge him in 1999 and because he can potentially leave Labor and opt for a new party.

The meeting was mainly a photo opportunity, with both men emerging all smiles but admitting that nothing of substance was discussed.

We still have no political loot to divide, Barak explained, but added that "I see in Haim a very important person in helping bring down the Netanyahu government. I am sure that he will lend his shoulder to the task and that we will work in harmony."

Ramon said that "all the hard feelings which have existed between us are minor in comparison to what happened in Labor in the past. The days of the Rabin-Peres feud will not come back. I think that feud was largely responsible for our failure to win back power. The differences between us are not deep. They are the sort that often crop up in politics."

Barak's meeting with MK Yossi Beilin, who won nearly 29 percent of the primary votes, was also a photo opportunity. "Yossi is a central figure in the party," Barak said. "I see him as a very important factor, and together we will lead the party to success."

Beilin obliged by seeming to back away from his earlier demands for the No. 2 slot. "Numbers are for the health fund clinic. I don't believe in numbers and will not come to Ehud with numbers."

Discordant sounds, however, came from the party's rising star, Shlomo Ben-Ami, who had insisted that he does not want to be artificially limited to the socio-economic rubric. "I will not be categorized because of my ethnic background. I will set the balance between the issues I choose to deal with."

Ephraim Sneh spoke against factionalism, but indicated that "I will stay true to my political following and this group will continue to back me. A party need not be monolithic."

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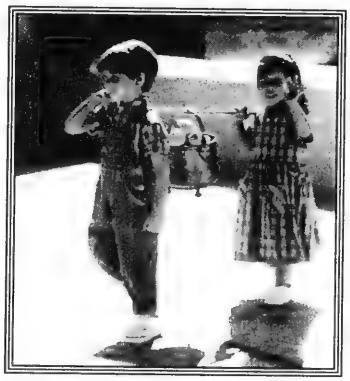

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Israel & the Jewish World

Syria concerned over Turkish move into Iraq

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Regional affairs experts here attributed Syria's declared interest in resuming negotiations with Israel to Damascus' concern about the Turkish army's incursion into northern Iraq.

Turkey's objective is to clear the region of Kurdish separatist guerrillas affiliated with the PKK, whose leader, Abdullah Ocalan, is believed to have enjoyed Syrian hospitality.

Yossi Olmert, a former member of the Israeli delegation to the peace talks with Syria, said the Syrians need tranquillity and stability along their southern border under these circumstances.

Olmert contended that President Hafez al-Assad already has introduced some radical shifts in his foreign policy: a furtive rapprochement with Iraq, in which he set aside long-standing ideological differences in favor of a united Arab front against a perceived threat from the Turks; and a revision of his overall strategic concept, as a result of which his readiness to cooperate with Baghdad may impair his bid for closer relations with the United States.

On the other hand, flexibility toward renewed negotiations with Israel could mollify Washington's displeasure at his uneasy relationship with Turkey and concurrent outreach to Iraq.

Syria is also concerned about Turkey's new military links with Israel, regarding them as a potential cause of subversion and a threat to security, Olmert said.

These considerations surfaced in the light of Vice-President Abdel Halim Khaddam's call on Israel's government to reconsider its policy to facilitate a practical dialogue. Khaddam's initiative was announced last week after talks with Lebanese President Elias Hrawi in Beirut.

Turkey's impatience with Syrian support of the PKK dates back more than a decade, when its late president Turgut Ozal paid an official visit to Damascus, only to discover that Ocalan's apartment was only a few blocks from his hotel.

Syria has denied Ocalan's presence on Syrian territory.

Despite the potential showdown with Turkey, Olmert doubted that Assad would turn his back on the guerrillas, if only because the PKK card is useful to him in his regional strategy.

Campaign versus Arafat launched

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — The Simon Wiesenthal Centre is launching an international campaign aimed at stripping Yasser Arafat of the Nobel Peace Prize he won in 1994.

The Palestinian leader shared the award with then Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres for their joint efforts towards Middle East peace through the 1993 Israeli-Palestinian accords.

"The recent policy of Arafat's Palestinian Authority in issuing a death sentence against anyone selling Palestinian land to a Jew — a decision embraced by Arafat himself — makes a mockery of the Nobel Peace Prize conferred upon him," Rabbi Marvin Hier, founder of the Wiesenthal Centre, wrote to Francis Sejerstedt, chair of the Nobel Peace Prize committee.

Israel has accused the Palestinian Authority of direct responsibility for the recent murders of three Arab land dealers.

Palestinian officials have said that such land sales are crimes punishable by death, but they have sharply denied any involvement in the slayings.

"Sanctioning the murder without trial of individuals," wrote Rabbi Hier, "is a form of behavior reminiscent of the Dark Ages and reeks of the anti-Semitism invoked by the Nazis."

Rabbi Hier said he will call upon human rights organizations and advocates of democracy throughout the world to join his campaign.

Busts of Yasser Arafat are proving to be popular souvenirs in Jerusalem's shouk. [Israel photo]

Addis Ababa compound to close

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM — The compound housing would-be immigrants in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa is to be closed, after steps are taken to bring to Israel all those eligible to immigrate here.

The decision was made last week by the ministerial committee on the Diaspora, headed by Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky.

Sharansky's spokesperson, Roman Polansky, stressed that the compound would be emptied gradually and that there is no target date for its closure. There are between 3,200 and 3,500 people currently in the compound, he said.

Once it is closed, immigration from Ethiopia would be processed as is immigration from any other country: Applications would be processed by the Israeli Consulate or its representatives and applicants would remain in their homes until they immigrate.

A special committee under the auspices of the Interior Ministry is to be appointed to check the eligibility to immigrate of all those currently resident in the compound, according to a ministry statement.

The investigation would be made from an agreed-upon list, based on the lists currently maintained by the Interior Ministry, the Joint Distribution Committee and community records already submitted to the government.

"Every month we will bring more into Israel and [try] to bring them all within a year," Absorption Ministry spokesperson Yehuda Glick told the Associated Press.

But Polansky said that the rate at which camp residents are brought here depends first and foremost on the cooperation of the Ethiopian government.

It will also depend on the budgets and manpower to be allocated for the operation and the cooperation of the international organizations dealing with the compound residents, he said.

He refused to characterize all those currently in the compound as Falash Mura Jews or descendants of Jews who had converted to Christianity, saying many of those in the compound had returned to Judaism.

However, he also denied reports that all the camp residents would be brought here under the Law of Return, saying that some might immigrate under the Law of Entry.

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Demonstrators protest against traffic accidents

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Demonstrators gathered last week to demand more funds and better law enforcement to prevent traffic accidents in Israel.

The protest outside Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy's office came in the wake of a June 5 accident in which five members of a wedding party, including the groom and his parents, were killed on their way to the wedding.

Uri Pell, his parents Claudine and Eli, as well as two of Uri's friends, David Benishu and Ayal Yunanian, were killed when their car overturned on a Jordan Valley road as they were travelling to Moshav Hazorim near Tiberias.

The Pells, who had immigrated to Israel from France in the 1980s, lived in Jerusalem.

When the five failed to turn up by nightfall, Jewish Agency chair Avraham Burg, a relative of the family, contacted security officials to begin searches.

Palestinian Authority police also took part in searches on the chance that the five were in the Jericho self-rule area.

Helicopters spotted the car the next morning in a ravine. It had apparently tumbled off the road and was not visible from the highway.

Police said it appeared that the driver of the car had been speeding and lost control of the car.

Israel & the Jewish World

Robert Pinsky named American poet laureate

By ROBERT LEITER
Jewish Exponent

PHILADELPHIA — It's not coincidental that the cover illustration of Robert Pinsky's collected poems, *The Figured Wheel*, is an elaborately decorated Torah Ark from Jerusalem crafted in the early years of this century.

Pinsky was recently appointed poet laureate-consultant in poetry of the United States.

The collection's title comes from the first poem in an earlier book, *The History of My Heart*. The "figured wheel" is the poet's term for history, a great mass of movement that rolls through "shopping malls and prisons/ Over farms, small and immense, and the rotten little downtowns./ Covered with symbols, it mills everything alive and grinds/ The remains of the dead in the cemeteries, in unmarked graves and oceans."

"I'm interested in historical phenomena," Pinsky said in a recent interview. "And I thought it appropriate that a Jewish container for wisdom and culture be on the cover of my collected poems."

Pinsky, 56, has been called the first Jewish American poet laureate in the history of the position; there have been 38 laureates.

Joseph Brodsky, a former poet laureate, was born a Jew but didn't consider himself one and was a native of the Soviet Union.

Asked if there was anything special about a Jew holding this post, Pinsky said, "I hope it's not too significant — interesting but not significant."

He said he is happy that Jews may take pride in his accomplishment.

"I respond to that pride with pleasure and satisfaction," he said. "I'm proud of Jews and my Jewishness."

The grandson of a bootlegger and son of an optician, Pinsky was chosen for his new position by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington. His salary is $35,000 and his duties are few, mostly just to encourage the love of poetry among his fellow Americans.

This can include a significant amount of travelling throughout the country, beating the drum for poetry – either through readings or lectures – which Pinsky says he's willing to do, within reason.

Pinsky plans to organize poetry readings at the Library of Congress, but his most specific goal is to create a special audio and video poetry archive.

"I'm interested in creating an archive of Americans of all kinds, other than poets or poetry critics, reading the poems they love. I want to see what their faces look like as they read something they love."

Pinsky, who is also a professor of graduate writing at Boston University, is married and the father of three grown daughters.

As for being a Jewish poet, Pinsky said, "My history is the history of a Jewish person. I have a Jewish body. I was circumcised. I ate Jewish food, listened to Jewish music. My idea of poetry comes from Jewish speakers who had the rhythms of Yiddish behind what they said.

"But only one thing is certain — I don't write as an observant or practising Jew because I'm not."

Bank report expected soon

[Cont'd. from page 1]

In an interview with *The CJN*, Hani, whose task is to mediate disputes between Swiss banks and their customers, commiserated with the disappointment his initial disclosure generated. And, in an aside, he expressed the hope that more money would be found in the future.

But, as he emphasized, the $1.6 million figure was in line with "realistic expectations." He firmly believes that the banks, in their search for dormant funds, have been scrupulously honest. "I can't imagine a bank not reporting correctly," he said earnestly.

And, in his view, the system works, if for no other reason than the banks managed their clients' dormant funds all these decades.

Previously employed as secretary of the SBA, Hani works out of a spacious office in downtown Zurich, close to a stylish cafe redolent of fresh-brewed coffee and just a block away from Zurich's premiere shopping street, the internationally renowned Bahnhofstrasse.

Hani indignantly rejects suggestions that the hunt for dormant funds is the final chapter of the Holocaust.

"I can't accept that," he declared. "The Holocaust can't be repaired with money."

Nevertheless, Hani is under no illusions that, in addition to mediating disputes between clients and banks, his implicit purpose is to unearth hard, cold cash for petitioners.

Bound to secrecy, and considering himself neutral and independent, Hani reports directly to the Swiss Banking Ombudsman Foundation.

He claims his mandate is to be unswervingly impartial, and rejects suggestions that he is in a conflict of interest. "I have been given a free hand. I would not remain on the job otherwise."

He does not know why it took the SBA so long to establish his office, which is staffed by seven workers . But he readily acknowledges that there was an obvious need for it long before its creation in 1992.

Anyone, regardless of race, religion, nationality or domicile, can be a petitioner. But under the SBA's guidelines, five conditions must be met before a search for a dormant account is launched.

The petitioner, apart from having to prove that a bank account exists, must furnish the name of the depositor. The holder of the account should be deceased or presumed dead for at least 10 years. The petitioner must substantiate his/her claim and should know where in Switzerland the account can be located.

Someone who has reason to believe that they can fulfil these provisions should write directly to Hani and request a questionnaire. He receives 10 to 20 each day from petitioners around the globe, and about 70 percent are from relatives of victims of the Holocaust.

As of last November, 57 percent of the questionnaires submitted by petitioners required further research. The entire process, he noted, can be cleared up in as little as two months, providing the claim is legitimate.

By geographic origin, 0.7 percent of the questionnaires were from Africa; 3.2 percent from Australia/Oceania; 4.8 percent from Canada; 7.3 percent from Switzerland; 10.5 percent from Germany; 8.2 percent from Britain; 16 percent from Israel; 5.5 percent from Eastern Europe; 29 percent from the United States; 2.7 percent from the Americas; 0.4 percent from the rest of Asia; and 11.7 percent from the rest of Western Europe.

The procedure, which Hani claims is without parallel, is open to all for an *indefinite* period. "No time limits have been set," he said.

Each applicant must enclose a handling fee of 100 Swiss francs ($100 at the current exchange rate). "This fee has led to some public debate," Hani conceded. "Its sole purpose is to avoid abuse of the system. In practice, the fee has been waived in almost 100 cases due to the applicant's circumstances."

To the best of his ability, Hani tries to deal with each applicant individually and compassionately. "We try to clear away obstacles," he said. However, he pointed out, his recommendations are not binding.

Some applicants are bitterly disenchanted when they are unsuccessful. In such instances, it is not uncommon for them to vent anger and hurl indiscriminate accusations.

"I understand their reaction," he said.

Far too many applicants are unrealistic and believe that a jackpot awaits them. But judging by the result of Hani's last investigation, expectations should be kept in check.

***

Queries to Hani should be addressed to the Contact Office for the Search of Dormant Accounts at Swiss Banks, Schweizergasse 21, P.O. Box 8021, Zurich, Switzerland. Telephone: 01 213 14 60. Fax: 01 210 37 20

Arafat backs down

[Cont'd from page 1]

forced to admit publicly that an announcement by Arafat's spokespersons to the effect that the Palestinian condition had been met was simply wrong.

Even so, it was necessary to provide Arafat with a face-saving mechanism that could enable him to climb down from the limb. The United States could no longer do this, because Palestinian officials had denounced American mediators as hopelessly biased. But Egypt was eager to intercede, partly out of genuine concern for the fate of the peace process, partly to demonstrate that it continues to play an important and constructive role in regional affairs.

And even Netanyahu helped, by allowing the so-called Allon-Plus plan to leak, thereby signalling to Palestinians and Israelis that, however repugnant the details of this plan may be to Palestinians, he is not a prisoner of ideology and is as prepared as the Labor party to talk business.

In short, Arafat blinked to get the talks started. But that does not mean he will surrender to get them finished. And if negotiations simply lead to a stalemate of a different kind, everyone will lose.

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Beth Jacob	Jillian Katz *The Parsha and How it Influences Ones Life*	5:30
B'nai Torah	Gella Weiss *Politics in Parshanut as Seen Through the Eyes of Esav*	6:00
Clanton Park	Rabbi Yaakov Kerzner *Personality & Leadership: A Portrait of Miriam*	5:00
Shaarei Tefillah	Rebbitzen Sarah Stern *Heaven and Earth Heart and Soul*	5:30
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Netanyahu a year later

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Benjamin (Bibi) Netanyahu was sworn in as Israel's prime minister a year ago on June 18. Elected by a razor-thin margin, Netanyahu squeaked past incumbent Shimon Peres after promising to bring the country "peace with security" and tend to the wounds caused by the assassination of his predecessor, Yitzhak Rabin.

Twelve months on, judging by an opinion poll published in the Tel Aviv daily *Ma'ariv* late last month, 67 percent of Israelis are dissatisfied with his performance. Fifty-six percent believe that Netanyahu's right-wing government is leading the country to war, while 58 percent think that his administration is sowing greater divisions in Israeli society.

All polls aside, the fact is that Netanyahu has taken Israel on a roller-coaster ride, leading it from crisis to crisis.

In August, Israel and Syria exchanged barbs and conducted menacing military exercises, prompting speculation whether a war was imminent.

In September, Netanyahu authorized the opening of a new entrance to the Hasmonean tunnel in East Jerusalem, touching off the worst Palestinian rioting since 1967 and bringing the faltering peace process to a standstill.

In March, the Israeli cabinet launched the Har Choma housing-project in eastern Jerusalem over the protests of the Palestinians, causing the Palestine Authority (PA) to pull out of bilateral peace talks and break off security cooperation with Israel against the backdrop of the first Arab suicide bombing in a year.

In April, the Bar-On influence peddling scandal bubbled to a head, following a scathing police report recommending that Netanyahu and his justice minister be charged with fraud and breach of trust over the appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general.

By the skin of his teeth, Netanyahu has weathered these crises, blaming the Syrians for war-mongering, the Palestinians for encouraging and tolerating violence and thus violating the peace accords, and the media for blowing the Bar-On case out of all proportion.

In opposition, Netanyahu railed against the Oslo process, which one of his relatively moderate ministers recently described as a "fundamental mistake" and a "disaster." As premier, however, he has pulled Israeli troops out of 80 percent of Hebron, released a number of Palestinian prisoners, eased the closure of the territories and agreed to complete three redeployments from the West Bank by the summer of 1998.

In so doing, Netanyahu has virtually fulfilled Israel's obligations, distanced himself from the core Revisionist belief that the Land of Israel cannot be partitioned and broadened support for Oslo. But in keeping faith with Oslo, he has alienated diehard constituents. No less a personage than Yitzhak Shamir, the former premier, has accused him of "working against the principles of the Likud."

In trying to manoeuvre between the requirements of peace and the demands of coalition politics, Netanyahu has angered both sides, particularly his Palestinian partners.

To mollify critics for the contentious Hebron withdrawal, Netanyahu ordered the closure of four Palestinian offices in East Jerusalem, reiterated his objection to a Palestinian state, announced a much smaller pullback from the West Bank in the first planned redeployment and went ahead with Har Choma.

Strictly speaking, Har Choma was not a violation of Oslo, but it was widely viewed as a unilateral action which contravened the spirit of Oslo and eroded what little trust PA president and PLO chieftain Yasser Arafat had in Netanyahu.

Furthermore, Netanyahu's zig-zag policies have incensed the Arabs. The Arab League has instructed its members to freeze ties with Israel, and Egypt and Jordan have accused Netanyahu of destroying the foundations of the peace process. And one year after his accession to power, Israel's strategic negotiations with Syria over the fate of the Golan Heights remain hopelessly frozen.

Netanyahu and supporters celebrate Six-Day War victory.

The Week in Israel

June 2

• Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert called illegal Arab building in eastern Jerusalem a "cancer that is presenting an immediate threat to Israel's sovereignty in Jerusalem."

• Israeli minister of Trade and Industry Natan Sharansky lost a chess match to Deep Blue, the computer chess wiz, during a visit to the IBM offices in Yorktown, N.Y.

June 3

• Israel issued an arrest warrant for a Palestinian official, in connection to the recent murders of three land dealers who had sold land to Jews.

• Representatives of the countries who have donated funds to the Palestinian Authority convened in Washington to discuss aid to the Palestinians. The recent murders of land dealers and a report on mismanagement of public funds were expected to be raised.

June 4

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu detailed his vision for a permanent settlement with the Palestinians. Under the plan, Jerusalem would remain under full Israeli control, as would the Jordan Valley and the Etzion bloc of settlements.

• Vandals desecrated former Israeli prime minister Menachem Begin's gravestone with a swastika. A police spokesperson said he did not think Palestinians were involved.

June 5

• The Reform movement in Israel said it is prepared to ask the High Court to temporarily freeze its legal procedures seeking recognition of their conversions performed in Israel, on condition that the government stop the conversion bill currently in the legislative process. Negotiations for a resolution of the matter would then be held.

June 6

• Israel and Jordan are finalizing details of exploratory drilling inside Jordan to provide water to agricultural communities in southern Israel. Drilling was agreed to in the peace agreement signed by the countries in 1994.

With files from the JTA

On Campus

Wiesel issues challenge to Guelph graduates

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

GUELPH, Ont. — Young people must get involved in the global struggle for human rights, noted Holocaust author and Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel admonished the University of Guelph's 1997 graduating class last week.

"You can always make a difference to the person who needs you," Wiesel told this year's convocation of social science graduates, after accepting an honorary doctor of laws degree from the university. "You can make the right decision in favor of your fellow human beings."

The author of numerous books on the Holocaust — including some recounting his own experiences as a teenager in Auschwitz and Buchenwald — Wiesel has worked on behalf of several downtrodden ethnic groups, including Miskito Indians, Kurds and ethnic Cambodians.

"I've been involved in the struggle for human rights for a long time," he said, "and more often than not, I've failed. But at least I tried."

He called on young people to sometimes challenge their governments' view of the world, with China as an example.

"There are still prisoners of conscience in China. We do not have to accept the answers of governments, that China must be dealt with because it is a major power. At least we can say no to the Chinese government as long as there are prisoners of conscience there."

'Racism is stupid'

In Rwanda's bloody ethnic conflict, "hundreds of thousands were killed. We don't even know why. Neither do they."

Wiesel cautioned the new graduates not to allow their education to swell their heads.

"Remember, education was given to us, not to be superior to others, but in order to understand the other person [and] to seek friendship, love, understanding and surely, compassion."

Racism, he said bluntly, "is stupid, unjust and ugly. You can speak up and make a difference."

He issued a challenge to the beliefs of several religions: "Suffering is not good for the human soul. Suffering confers no special privileges."

Wiesel told of the Kielce pogrom of July 4, 1946, in which 47 Jews returning to Poland from the camps were murdered by Polish thugs. On that very day, in nearby Lodz, a baby was born, and he could have given up hope. Instead, Wiesel said, he chose education, and became the University of Guelph's president and vice-chancellor, Mordechai Rozanski.

Thus, "in order for humanity to continue to exist, we must wager on hope rather than despair."

Wiesel received his honorary degree from university chancellor Lincoln Alexander, a former lieutenant governor of Ontario.

Prior to the convocation, Wiesel attended an informal reception with Israel consul general Jehudi Kinar and officials from Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights.

Elie Wiesel addresses Guelph convocation. [Ron Csillag photo]

Ontario Jewish student leaders gather for conference

By MIRIAM BIRNBAUM
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Ontario Jewish student leaders from 11 campuses gathered recently at Maple Lake Lodge in Parry Sound, Ont., for the first annual Kol Hastudentim Leadership Conference.

The young people came to learn from each other and from professionals about being a Jewish campus leader.

One of the weekend's highlights was a lecture by Elliott Malamet, a former University of Toronto English literature professor who now teaches Jewish philosophy at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. He said that being Jewish is more than feeling good about tradition, family or identity. Being Jewish, Malamet stressed, is about truth; being a Jewish leader, he added, is about communicating those truths in a way that is compelling and meaningful.

Lively, student-run text workshops were conducted on Shabbat on topics including Contemporary and Ancient Biblical Commentaries, an Introduction to Talmud, Women in Judaism and Biomedical Ethics. The students thrashed out other issues with Rabbi Benjie Jacoby of the Jewish Education Program at an informal Rappin' with the Rabbi session.

Although the convention participants came from diverse Jewish backgrounds and had different interests, they shared a desire to understand the interests and needs of their fellow students, the more than 10,000 Jews on campuses in Ontario.

Student leaders prepare for seminar.

The participants were also aware that Judaism and the Jewish community will be meaningful to their less Jewishly-involved peers only if it is presented and practised it in a way that is both relevant and substantive.

A full day of the convention was devoted to leadership workshops given by campus professionals. Topics addressed ranged from active listening skills to the practical aspects of designing and running programs on campus and promoting activism. The weekend's intellectual and spiritual fare was supplemented with recreation, good food and drink, sports and social activities.

Shabbat provided an opportunity for participants to relax and reflect, but also to educate themselves further about Judaism, which many of them see as the basis of their leadership and community activity.

Kol Hastudentim is an Ontario-wide organization run entirely by students and supported through independent fundraising efforts and incentive grants from some community organizations.

Its primary objective is to pool the resources, enthusiasm and expertise of the Jewish student groups and Hillels already existing on campuses in the province. Since its inception only one year ago, Kol HaStudentim has been progressing steadily towards its goals.

For more information on Kol HaStudentim contact Jason Young at 905-731-6349 or e-mail [Shai_Spetgang@edu.yorku.ca].

Miriam Birnbaum is graduating this year from York University's Faculty of Education's Jewish Teacher Education Program.

CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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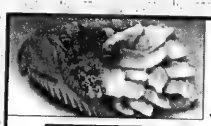

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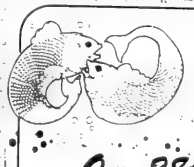

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Fashion

Relance Spring/Summer '97

Line honors women

Simplicity that combines both comfort and quality was the keynote for the Relance designers when they conceived the Spring/Summer 97 collection as a series of portraits, or a triptych inspired by three different women, each aware of her own uniqueness. Through talent and hard work, they all rose from humble origins to the fame and fortune that was their destiny.

The names of these three women are a reflection of their own unique style and individual temperament, and evoke their era. These images were chosen to personify the three trends for Relance Spring/Summer 97.

The MARIA line is based on Maria Callas, the young Greek-American opera singer who revolutionized the art of singing. Her intense style inspired the Relance team to create a clean line, with architectural volumes and minimalist chic: the quality of the cut and fabrics allows the woman herself to fully express her own personality.

The EVITA line is named for the wife of Argentine president Juan Peron. To the rhythm of the Argentine tango, EVITA offers a sensual, confident vision of women: styles for those seeking elegance, comfort and that indefinable extra that makes one woman stand out from the crowd.

Maria Callas, Evita Peron & Sophia Loren

The SOPHIA line is inspired by the actress Sophia Loren. In an atmosphere of wholesome laughter, brights dominate. Fruity tones of orange and apple are used for carefree coordinates mixing solids with gingham, in all-purpose jean and jacket sets and skimpy, slightly sexy little dresses or skirts.

LEFT:
Coordinated ensemble in prints and coffee shades, sports blouson in expresso crinkle linen, sun blouse and gaucho pants in mocha printed rayon.

TOP:
This summer's "must." The Body, here in pearl lycra, reveals a shoulder. It is matched with a full skirt and draped belt, both in Havana printed rayon.

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Fashion

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And much of the new magic has to do with Liz Harbosin, their respected and established designer. Her background in men's and womenswear design, especially in leather, has been to put to brilliant effect in Heaslip's hats and now in its strong emerging line of vests.

Today the Heaslip label is found not only in more and more fashion boutiques and established department stores in North America but for the first time in Japan.

Heaslip headwear: A Sample of the latest fashion.

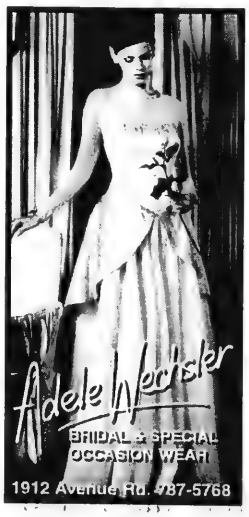
Party Planner omissions & corrections

In the Party Planner of June 5, 1997 there were a couple of things that were brought to our attention:

1. On page B21 Twins Photo and Video (905-660-7385) was left out of the list of other advertising photographers.

2. On page B31 in the article "One-stop party shopping," the name of Liteworks Novelties Inc. (416-665-3329) was incorrectly spelled.

The CJN regrets these errors.



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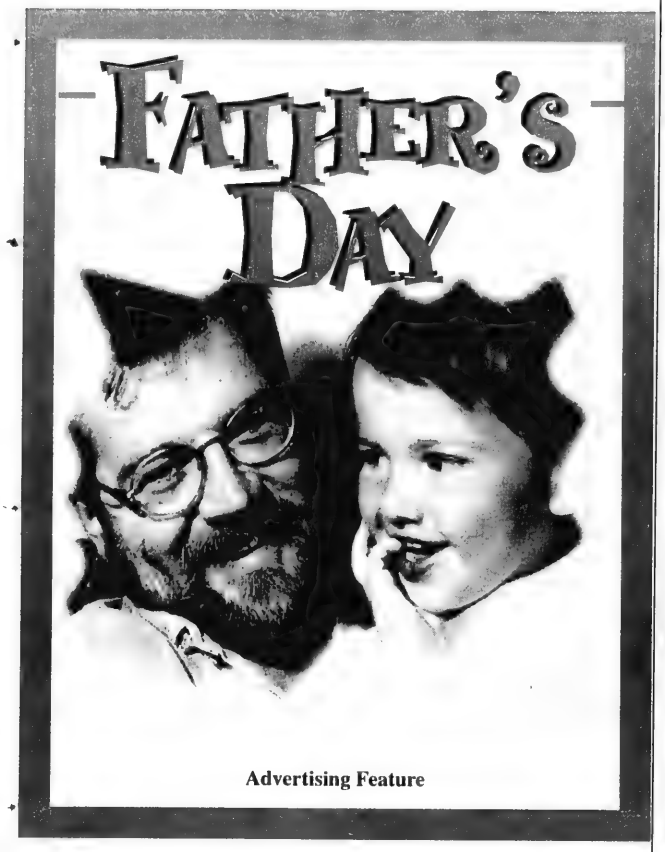

Advertising Feature

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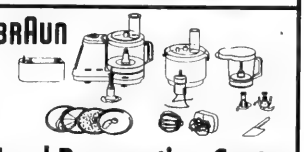

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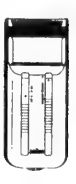

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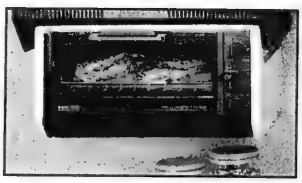

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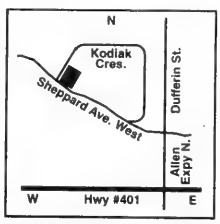

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Travel, Arts & Business

Gala to benefit summer festival of Yiddish culture

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Mordecai Richler, Al Waxman and the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band are part of the line-up of artists who will perform at a fundraising gala for Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture.

The gala, to be held June 23 at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, will also include the official book launch of *Growing up Jewish*, co-edited by Rosalie Sharp, Irving Abella and Edwin Goodman.

The concert offers a sampling of the diverse artistry rooted in East European Jewish culture that will be showcased at Ashkenaz this summer, says the artistic director, David Buchbinder.

The eight-day festival at Harbourfront Centre — it runs from Aug. 25 to Sept 1 — is the world's largest, Buchbinder says.

"It may actually be the only festival of its kind. All the artistic disciplines are represented — music, theatre, modern dance, film and visual arts."

Buchbinder, 37, leader of the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, says there has been a revival of Klezmer music in the last 10 years. He helped introduce it to Toronto audiences, but stresses that klezmer groups like his are giving contemporary interpretations of the music that emanated from Eastern Europe in the 19th century.

He notes that some of the most renowned klezmer musicians will grace the Harbourfront stage this summer, among them, the Florida-based Epstein Brothers, the subject of the film, *A Tickle in the Heart*; the Klezmatics and Kapelye of New York City; and the Chicago Klezmer Ensemble.

He says the gala will feature Yiddish fiddler Alicia Svigals of the Klezmatics, "one of the best of this genre; the phenomenal New York City jazz man, saxophonist John Zorn; and the great choreographer and dancer Neta Pulvermacher."

The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band

Journalist Linda Frum, who will chair the gala, says she attended the first Ashkenaz festival two years ago "out of a sense of duty" and did not expect to like the show.

But, she adds, "I had the most wonderful time. It spoke very loudly to the part of me that is Jewish. I really admired what David Buchbinder was trying to do. He had a dream to revive something that was lost to my generation. I told him I wanted to help in the future."

Frum was asked to chair the Gala by Sharp, who has been helping festival organizers since they staged the first Ashkenaz festival.

Sharp says she became involved because the music is close to her "Yiddish heart." Yiddish was her first language.

The gala begins at 8 p.m. at the George Weston Recital Hall and will be followed by a dessert reception. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster at 872-2222 and at the Ford Centre box office. A complimentary copy of *Growing up Jewish* will be included.

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Mark Pinkus: Free Spirit

Music brings a sense of relaxation

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

TORONTO — Most artists would be insulted if I tell them their music puts me to sleep. Mark Pinkus sees it as a compliment.

"By going to sleep, my music is putting you into a beautiful sense of relaxation. It brings a sense of peace to the listener," the 38-year-old Toronto musician says. Many people, he says, have told him they and their children have used his music to go to sleep to.

In fact, he is so aware of this particularity of his music, he's naming his tour which brings him to the De Leon White Gallery, 455 King St. W. June 13 at 8 p.m., the Bring Your Own Pillow Tour.

In January, Pinkus released his second Avalon CD *Free Spirit*. It hit number 30 on the "New Age Voice" Airwaves Top 50 chart one month later, charting higher than more popular artists like John Tesh and Tangerine Dream.

Like his first CD *Quiet Place*, which sold over 35,000 copies in its first year, his music is all piano solo with no vocals. It can best be described as "New Age" with strong contemporary classical influences.

"My music stimulates a person's imagination. It helps you face and accept your inner feelings on a deeper level and also gives you a sensation of calmness." Less Zenish perhaps his music, "is a mixture of a strong classical base with a calming atmosphere attached to it."

Not that all his songs are so completely ambient-based you forget it's there the moment you put it on.

The opening track *Journey to Trust*, for example, has a very strong melodic base to it. It had me humming its tune through a recent long-weekend traffic jam. My favorite song *The Horse* begins with a barrage of galloping chords and settles into a peaceful, slow canter.

The music, Pinkus says, is inspired by actual life experiences and each song title is a simple description of the piece. *The Girl with the Red Balloon*, for instance was inspired when he stepped off the subway and saw a girl in a scarlet dress holding a red balloon on a string.

Pinkus compares his art to that of a painter. "It's very visual. I compose music with my eyes. It's more visual than audible."

It's perfect mood music. I find it very relaxing listening to it at work. For some it might be great to listen to after a day of hard work to lie on the couch with a drink of brandy or a good novel.

As the song *Music to Make Love To* overtly implies, it's not just for sleeping.

Pinkus' CDs are available in all major record stores and on Solitudes racks in most gift shops.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

DRABINSKY PROFILED IN THE NEW YORKER

Toronto theatre producer **Garth Drabinsky**, head of the mammoth Livent theatrical company, is the subject of *The High Roller*, a highly laudatory eight-page article by **John Lahr** in the June 2 issue of the *New Yorker* magazine.

The article asserts that Drabinsky has essentially reshaped the way theatre business is traditionally conducted and found new ways for creative partnerships to thrive.

It also details Livent's various theatrical hits, which continue to generate revenues in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

Lahr relates that the creative team associated with Livent's much-touted production of *Ragtime*, which closes in North York at the end of August, is still tightening scenes, adding effects and otherwise refining what many theatregoers already considered a superlative theatrical experience.

Theatrical experience

One production opens soon in Los Angeles, and another in January in a historic Manhattan theatre complex on 42nd Street, now known as the Ford Centre, which Livent has massively refurbished.

The *New Yorker* piece is rightfully brimming with enthusiasm about what Livent, and particularly Drabinsky, has accomplished. It's just the kind of piece that our own *Toronto Life* magazine should have run — in place of the puerile, poison-pen portrait by **Sandra Martin** that, regrettably, appeared last February.

Richler's 'Fighting Words'

Readers of the June 1 edition of the *New York Times Book Review* were treated to one of Mordecai Richler's funniest essays yet on Quebec's so-called language police or "tongue troopers." Richler clearly loves being a thorn in the side of the separatists, as (for instance) when he describes an irate pet shop customer who complains because a caged parrot is speaking only English.

"If Quebec's language laws tighten just one more noteh," he writes, "I may have to write my novels in words half the size of the French so as not to antagonize our linguistic vigilantes."

Commenting on last year's Matzahgate scandal, in which boxes of unilingually labelled matzah were pulled from grocery shelves, Richler notes that the province later allowed a 68-day period of grace before, during and after the holiday.

Then he adds: "Those Jewish felons who, like me, might fancy a delicious matzaoh brei on the illegal 69th day will at least have the satisfaction of knowing that we are bonding with the Conversos of late 15th-century Spain, who also had to practise their religious rites in secret."

Oy Mordecai! Oy Quebec!

Music, Theatre, Video

• Moscow-born **Ilya Poletaev**, a 17-year-old student at Forest Hill Collegiate, is this year's winner of the Temple Sinai's Ben Steinberg Musical Legacy Award. A student of the Royal Conservatory of Music, the pianist is to receive the award during a recital he is giving June 18, 8 p.m. at Toronto's Temple Sinai. Admission free.

• Tribal Productions Inc. presents *Death Defying Acts*, by **David Mamet**, **Elaine May** and **Woody Allen**, a "three-act examination of the circus of life...ranging from offbeat comedy to ironic tragedy and finally physical mayhem."

Running until at least June 22 at Factory Theatre Studio, Toronto. Adults $18. 416-504-9971.

• Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto and the Bloor JCC present a second staged concert reading of *Bitter Apples*, by **Victoria Keidan** of Alliston, Ont., June 15, 8 p.m. Bathurst Jewish Centre. $5. 416-924-6211.

• The Cranbrooke Friendship Club of the United Jewish People's Order presents **Endre Klein's** video *My Cuba*, with a discussion. Screening preceded by a light lunch. June 16, 12:30 p.m. Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Admission $3. 416-789-5502.

• **Tafelmusik**, Canada's leading period-instrument ensemble, was to have performed at the Israel Festival in Jerusalem June 7 and 8, and this week in Thessaloniki and Athens, Greece. The Israel-Canada Cultural Foundation assisted the baroque orchestra for the Jerusalem concerts.

•The Off Centre Music Series presents world class artists in the intimiate setting of the 19th century salon. the grand finale of the season takes place June 15, 2:30 p.m. at the Arts and Letters Club, 14 Elm Street,Toronto. Canadian pianist **Boris Zarankin** will perform Brahms and Scriabin and Pasternak's poetry will be discussed. $20. 416-466-1870.

Documnetary

•Vision TV will air *A Man of Conscience* on June 16 at 10 p.m. This documentary film, dircted by **Cayle Chernin** is the story of the life and times of Morris Saxe, the driving force behind the Canadian Jewish School and the rescue of 79 Jewish orphans from Poland during the 1930s.

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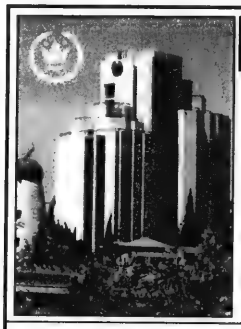
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Top South African real estate magnate did it the hard way

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Aida Geffen

TORONTO — South African real estate magnate Aida Geffen is chair and managing director of the largest residential real estate firm in her country. Last year she was named one of the top 50 world-class executives by the Los Angeles journal *Worldbusiness: The Global Perspective*. More recently she was honored as one of the top 10 women entrepreneurs in the world at an international conference in Paris, France. But make no mistake about it: she has paid her dues.

"I did it the hard way," said Geffen in an interview during her recent visit here to speak at an international conference hosted by Women Entrepreneurs of Canada.

In 1958, divorced and struggling, the young mother gave up her career as a union activist and established her eponymous real estate business (pronounced Ah-eeda) on a shoestring.

She began her real estate career with little save mettle and leadership skills. (As head of the Chemical Worker's Union in the mid-'50s, she had overseen its fourfold growth.)

"I started out with no money, not even a motorcar. I couldn't get credit – that's always been a problem [for] women."

Since that time, Aida Real Estate Ltd. has grown from a one-woman operation to a 90-office enterprise with over 1,100 agents. Aida National Franchises has 110 franchised offices across South Africa, and the Aida group of companies has an annual turnover of 2 billion Rand (about $600 million) per year.

Now a stylish grandmother (and newlywed) with a direct, unexpectedly down-to-earth speaking manner, Geffen advises fledgling entrepreneurs to "be consistent, give people good service and have a good name."

As a franchiser, it's important to give franchisees service and advice, she added.

Doubtless her success was also due in no small part to her energy and innovative thinking. "I used to work 16-hour days," she recalls.

In the mid-1980s Geffen introduced "show days" (the equivalent of North American open houses) and the concept of sole mandate (exclusive listings). Twenty years earlier she had pioneered new ways of training real estate agents.

Her first show day was a smashing success. "It was a recluse's house in a fashionable area. We must have had hundreds of people."

In 1987, Geffen became the first woman on the development capital board of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and her company the first residential estate agency to be listed.

Unlike a considerable number of her compatriots, Geffen hasn't considered emigrating. With a history as an anti-apartheid activist, she is convinced that South Africa is moving in the right direction. She also believes the country offers much opportunity for entrepreneurs to make money.

"I have such confidence in the future of the country. We've had our ups and downs. The transition didn't really help the economy. We're still going through the growing stage. It will take 10 years, but it will be a fantastic country."

Choir commemorates Yom Yerushalayim

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In its first ever North American concert, the Pirchei Netanya Boys Choir had the audience clapping, humming and swaying to the music.

The 27-member choir, of whom 15 are on this tour, consists of boys 10 to 15 years of age from the Netanya area. It performed recently at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue in commemoration of Yom Yerushalayim and the 30th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem. Its second performance was at Beth Sholom Synagogue.

Under the direction of Yaacov (Yankele) Rottner, the boys ran to the stage waving Israeli flags and began singing a selection of Hebrew and chassidic songs ranging from cheerful to reminiscent to melancholy.

Whether singing about Jerusalem, the synagogue or the Gulf war, the boys, dressed in white shirts, red bow-ties and black pants sang of their own experiences.

They showed a maturity beyond their years when remembering their first visit to synagogue with their fathers. "I wondered what was in the Arc, and now I know [everything.]"

In another song, the choir thanked G-d for the miracles that occurred during the Gulf War. "Forty-five missiles fell on Israel and no one was hurt." Because of their upbeat, synchronized voices, it was easy to understand that this was a song of thanks, even among those who speak no Hebrew.

In a song of anguish, they talked about the young people who went out for Purim dressed in costumes and were hit by a bomb. "Their torn costumes were on the ground. G-d help us for the kids who don't have Purim anymore."

They prayed for peace in a song about the beauty of Jerusalem on Shabbat: "Especially Friday night, give us peace in Jerusalem."

Also appearing at the concert was the Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am choir under the direction of Cantor Yehuda Rottner, who arranged for the concert.

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Shmulnik's Waltz correction

In the story "Holy Blossom company staging Shmulnik's Waltz" (CJN, May 29, page 40) it should have read that the director was Gerry Babins and the producer was Michael Ryval. *The CJN* regrets the error

Pictured left are Suzanne Egier and Eric Kirsh performing a scene from Allan Knee's comedy *Shmulnik's Waltz* which was performed at Holy Blossom Temple May 29, 31 and June 1.

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Gordons set to launch health scholarship fund

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Allan and Carol Gordon will be honored at a dinner at the Sheraton Centre Hotel June 18, in recognition of their contributions to the development of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science (CSWIS) and Weizmann Women & Science in Rehovot.

The Carol and Allan Gordon Scholarship Fund in Women's Health Research will be established using the contributions to the tribute dinner. The fund will support PhD students at the institute as they work towards understanding and developing new approaches to diseases affecting the lives and well being of women. These include breast and ovarian cancer, heart disease, osteoporosis, lupus and reproductive disorders.

A graduate of the University of Toronto, neurologist Allan Gordon is an associate professor at the University of Toronto and head of neurology at Mount Sinai Hospital and the Combined University Division of Neurology at Mount Sinai Hospital and the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

His research interests include craniofacial pain and headaches, diabetic neuropathy, malignant hyperthermia and Alzheimer's disease. Since 1992, he has served as assistant dean of development in the Faculty of Medicine. He is also co-chair of the women's health planning committee at U of T.

Gordon is currently national vice-president and chair of the Toronto chapter of CSWIS and has been involved in a number of fund-raising events for the institute.

Carol Gordon, a former secondary school teacher with the North York Board of Education now in real estate sales, has been involved in communal activities including the United Jewish Appeal Women's Division, the board of directors of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto and State of Israel Bonds. She is co-founder and chair of Weizmann Women of Science in Toronto.

"Carol and I are proud of the Weizmann Institute and of our connections to it," Gordon said. "Our involvement with the institute and its programs allows us to combine support of science with support of the State of Israel."

Founded in 1934 by Chaim Weizmann, who later became Israel's first president, the Weizmann Institute of Science, with a staff of 2,400, is a multidisciplinary centre devoted to research and teaching in the natural sciences. The institute is comprised of five faculties, as well as the Feinberg Graduate School and the Science Teaching Department.

Dinner chairs are Honey and Barry Sherman. Honorary chairs are Mary and Tom Beck and Marvelle and Murray Koffler. Tribute committee chairs are Dr. Arnold Aberman and Dr. Louis Siminovitch.

Carol and Allan Gordon, honorees at the Weizmann dinner

Baycrest to offer home care program

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For the first time, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care will offer home nursing and homemaking services, beginning in July.

The centre is teaming up with a private agency, Spectrum Health Care, to offer these services under the name of Baycrest Home Services.

The rates are still being worked out and will be announced soon, said Vice-President Moshe Greengarten.

"They will be competitive," he said.

All levels of nursing, including registered nurses, home care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, audiology and social work, will be offered.

The move is being made to cope with the shortage of long-term and nursing home beds and the projected closure by the year 2000 of several hospitals in the Metro area, and in recognition of the fact that the aging Jewish population is growing at nearly twice the rate of the general population.

According to 1991 census data, 7.4 percent of the Jewish population in the Greater Toronto Area is over 75 years of age, a percentage that will not be reached in the general population until the year 2021.

"With this expansion of home services, Baycrest is honoring a commitment made years ago by its board," Greengarten said.

Attempts were made to work out an agreement with Senior Care, which already serves a large Jewish population, but they failed.

"There is more than enough need for both agencies to be serving the elderly Jewish population," said Stephen Herbert, Baycrest president.

Senior Care will continue to provide kosher meals on wheels, which are prepared in the Baycrest kitchen, the largest kosher kitchen in North America.

The agreement with Spectrum Health Care concludes an intensive and lengthy search, said Herbert.

Ultimately, Baycrest Home Care will reach a couple of thousand homes, but the immediate primary targets are the people already in the Baycrest system, said Greengarten

This group of several hundred people includes those discharged from Baycrest Hospital, those who attend the day hospital and day clinics, and those on waiting lists for the home and the Baycrest Terrace.

The new services will be extended to senior Jews wherever they live, in North York, Toronto, York Region or City of York.

Baycrest will be responsible for the quality of the new services, for training of the Spectrum personnel and for meeting the special needs of Jewish clients. "They will be plugged into the full range of Baycrest services," said Greengarten.

Spectrum has been established for 20 years, already serves many Jewish clients and has an excellent reputation, he said.

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Vic & Samy's TORONTO GRILL

COR 453 Glatt Kosher
CATERING FOR ALL OCCASIONS
featuring our new
PARTY SANDWICHES
egg, tuna, salmon, salami, smoked meat & smoked turkey
Starting at only $25.99 per box of 5 doz
24 hours notice required Free delivery for $20 or more
1045 STEELES AVE. W. 736-7227

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

BATHURST / SHEPPARD

4 bedroom bungalow on 43 x 160 ft. lot, sep. entry + in-law suite, ACT FAST, WON'T LAST! Only $269,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — NEW LISTING

3 bdrm. detached home on 50 ft. frontage. Best deal in area, only $219,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE RANCHER

Spacious renovated bungalow on 60 ft. frontage, new windows, new roof, new ceramic floors, fabulous location, only $365,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK

Very spacious back-split, 4 bdrms., family room, custom library, gorgeous 50' x 154' lot. Call Esther Rubenstein or Michael Klugman (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / PRUE — RENTAL

Prestigious area! Close to Viewmount Park, subway, shops, 4 bdrm. executive home, family room, library — asking $3,000 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN

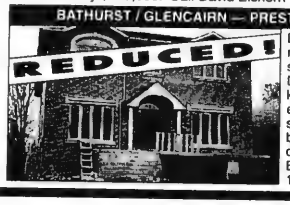
Lots of home — low price! 5 bdrms., 4 baths, family room, bright open concept, hardwood floors, Finnish spa in basement, only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE RD. / GLENCAIRN – FAB. BLDG. LOT – REDUCED!

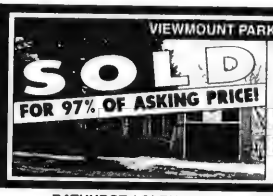
70 ft. frontage, OMB approved for 5,000+ sq. ft. new home. Fab. location! Only $379,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS!



Brand new, 6 bedrooms, custom designed luxury home. Dream maple kitchen, oak panelled library, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. basement. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT PARK



Custom built, pride of ownership, 3 + 1 bedrooms, gorgeous family room, hardwood floors, separate entry to in-law suite. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — STORE FOR SALE

Popular retail strip, good opportunity for user, asking $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR — IMMACULATE 3 BDRM. SIDE-SPLIT

Exclusive listing, bungalow, 52.20 ft. frontage, fam. room, Jacuzzi. ACT NOW — only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT — A HONEY OF A HOME

Renovated 3 bdrm., 2 storey, eat-in kitchen, new baths, thermopane windows, 50 x 140 ft. lot, $429,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — REDUCED

Fab. bldg. lot in prestigious location. 50 ft. x 136 ft. Existing bung. renovated. Only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

GLEN PARK — NEW HOME TO BE BUILT

Fabulous location! Approx. 3,400 sq. ft., 5 bdrms., fam. room, library — choose your finishes! Pre-construction price only $599,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

LARNELL REAL ESTATE LIMITED

Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

• **BATHURST MANOR** - $195,000. 3 bd. semi-detached home, c/a, 3 bths (1 on main), fin. bsmt. apt. Must sell!
• **BATHURST MANOR** - Two $269,000, 2x3 bd., 1x1 bd., dbl gar., excellent income. SOLD

THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME? FOR PROVEN RESULTS CALL

Larry Wronzberg

Sales Representative
BUY & SELL WITH RESULTS
ALAN NEWTON REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR
(905) 764-7200

900 Steeles #514
Townhouse at Bathurst and Steeles, 3 bdrms., eat-in kit.
MUST SELL! $194,000

40 McKelvey Drive
Bayview & John St. 4 bdrms, fin bsmt, dble garage.
ASKING $279,900

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

OVERBROOK-WILMINGTON
1st time offered, split lvl., 3 bdrm. + den, liv. & din. comb., kit. w/out to deck, dble. drive, gar.

• • •

BATHURST-WILSON
2 storey, 3 bdrm., 2 bths., fin. bsmnt., 55'x125' lot, best buy, act now!

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES
4 bdrm. bung., sep. liv. & din., mod. kit., fin. bsmnt., walk-out to yard.

• • •

BATHURST-WILSON CONDO
$129,900, 2 bdrm., 2 bths., 5 appls., bth. & lndry. ensuite, balc., don't miss!

• • •

STORE & APARTMENT
Busy location, fast poss., must sell! A-1 Buy!

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN (416) 633-7373

COTTAGES! BELLE EWART!
Two separate side-by-side waterfront cottages, lots totalling 125' x 240', very quiet street, short walk to synagogue, motivated vendors! Buy one or both!

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / BROOKE
Newly built 3 bdrm. back-split on generous 45' x 130' lot, self-contained in-law suite, large kitchen. Close to all amenities.

• • •

CLANTON PARK / EXCLUSIVE
Fully renovated 3 bedroom side-split on generous lot & quiet street, in-law suite, hardwood floors, CAC, shows beautifully! $349,900.

Call **Jacob Florans,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

MILL ST. - BATHURST
Heritage Estate, 4,000 + 2,000 sq. ft., 5 bdrms., 5 baths, jacuzzi! move in cond. Don't miss it!!

BATHURST - ANTIBES
2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, large wrap around balcony.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

BATHURST/CENTRE
Just listed. 2 bdrm. + sol., eat-in kit., 2 bths., pantry & lndry.
Linda Joffe
CENTURY 21 HERITAGE GROUP LTD.
(905) 764-7111

GISELA WOLF
★ INDEPENDENT BROKER ★
Gila Home Mart Realty Inc.

AISH HATORAH - BATHURST/CLARK - EXECUTIVE 4BDRM, APP.3000SF CENTRE HALL PLAN, GORGEOUS ROOM SIZE, OPEN OAK CIRC. STAIRCASE, 2 FIRE PLACES, HUGE KIT. W/BREAKFAST AREA & W/O, MASTER W/SITTING RM. ONLY $357K!
BATHURST/CLARK - DET. 3 BDRM 3BATH, EAT/IN KIT, W/OUT, SHORT WALK TO SHUL. ONLY $245K!
BATHURST/WILSON - RARE 4+4 BDRM. DET. RAISED BUNG. IDEAL FOR GROWING FAMILY AND GOOD INCOME POTENTIAL! STEPS TO ALL. ONLY $315K!
BATHURST/CLARK - RENTAL 4 BDRM EXECUTIVE, MAIN FLOOR, $1495.

For a free confidential consultation or estimate, please call Gila
(416) 222-6669
Internet access: www.realestate.ca/toronto/gwolf
Email: homemart@yesic.com

JUST LISTED – BEST BUY

$249,000. Bathurst/Clark. Large. 3+1 bedroom, family room, with fireplace, 4 baths, 2 car garage, large deck & garden. Prof. fin. bsmt., CAC

OVER 2050 S.F. BEAUTY IN THORNHILL

Vendor bought. Must sell. Immac. lg. 3 bdrm., 3 baths, fam. rm. w/fpl., dbl gar., lg. 150' lot. Two tier deck, CAC, alarm & much more. Only **$267,000.**

BATHURST MANOR 80 FT. FRONT

Hamishe home, 3+1 bedroom, family room, large deck & garden. Professional finished basement, play room, bar **$270,000.**

Call **NAT STARK**
"To buy or sell satisfaction guaranteed"
(416) 229-6090 *or* **(905) 764-6000**

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

REDUCED! CASA LOMA AREA – 210' LOT
2 stry., 4 bdrm., 5 bath, main flr. fam. rm., w/o/ to deck. G. Mitchell** 488-2875

BATHURST/EGLINTON – JUST $499K
Charming Tudor home, 4 bdrm., fin. bsmt. F. Sversky** 488-2875

FAB RENTAL HAS GOT IT ALL!!!
3 bdrm., 2 bath, total reno., cent. air! C. Himelfarb* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BRIDLE PATH GEM! EXQUISITE LUX. RENO!
4 + bed., 6 bath, mag. grd. + pool. J. Rosenblatt* 488-2875

DESTINY ROSE HOMES & FOREST HILL R.E.
Presents 6 custom built homes in North York. F. Sversky** 488-2875

REDUCED! MAGPIE CRES. NOW $599,000
Spacious 4 bdrm., gourmet kit. A. Pollock* 226-1987

NEW LISTING! LESLIE/YORK MILLS
Ren. bung., gourmet kit., pool. Anna Pollock* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

OLDE THORNHILL - 4000 S.F. TO BE BUILT
Huge lot - custom $799K. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

***NEW PRICE* WILTSHIRE**
4 bdrm., big lot, great street! Hurry! Marlene Olan* 226-1987

***NEW PRICE* WON'T LAST!! $259,900**
German Mills, 4 br. ens. Marlene Olan* 226-1987

1ST AD - THORNHILL – $259K
3 br. det., fam. rm., 4 appl., 2 car gar! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATKINSON & CLARK – $209,900!
3 br., quiet cres! Try an offer! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

131 TORRESDALE - PARK VIEW
2 bdrm., parking, approx. 1200 sq. ft. Sammy Roth** 488-2875

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

BATHURST-CENTRE – NEW HOMES!
Custom built, about 3,600 sq. ft., loaded with extras, mature area, steps to everything! *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

SPRING GATE BLVD. –BUILDERS OWN HOUSE
Top quality construction, finished bsmt., private lot w/mature trees, steps to synagogue. *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

BATHURST VILLAGE – VALUE + + +
4 bdrm. backsplit, built-ins, inground pool, hardwood, large principle rooms, fab. landscaped lot! *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-ELGIN MILLS $314,900
Lovely 4 bdrm about 2,800 sq. ft., fabulous lower level, black/white kit.+ w/o to beautiful garden. *Helen Gould

ATTENTION INVESTORS!!
Totally renovated house on Finch near Bathurst. 62.5 ft. frontage, can be used as an office, fantastic investment! *Cila Fleischmann or *Sarah Tamin

CUSTOM STARTER HOME
Bathurst-Clark, 3+2 bdrms., prof. fin. bsmt., large pantry in huge kitchen. Call Carey or Sharon Rosenzweig

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BRAND NEW BUILDING - 11 TOWNSGATE BATHURST & STEELES
Large 3 bdrm., huge solarium, balcony, best exp., very upgraded, strip hardwood, upgraded kit. w/top line appls. Must sell! **Berta Kogan (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248

DON MILLS-STEELES CONDO TOWNHOUSE
Large 3 bdrm., garage, appliances, walk-out bsmt., fireplace, air + + + Super complex! $209,900. *Ted Waxman

BATHURST-STEELES "PRIMROSE"
Just listed! 2 bdrms., large kitchen, solarium, shows beautifully. SOLD *Ted Waxman

TORRESDALE-STEELES
Executive 3 bdrm. townhome, finished bsmt., air, appliances, 2 car parking, sh... SOLD ...well! $219,900. *Ted Waxman

THE WEST MALL – $79,900
Great 1 bedroom, balcony, hdwd. floors. *Helen Gould

FOR RENT

7 TOWNSGATE – BATHURST/STEELES
Unique unit with ... garden terrace. Grey & white decor, immediate p... RENTED ...$1,950/mo. *Helen Gould

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

MAGNIFICENT CUSTOM HOME!!
Bathurst/Lawrence Area

- Builder's own Custom Home
- Premium quality and workmanship
- Spacious, bright and elegant
- Large 70' ft. frontage landscaped lot
- Gourmet Kosher and Passover Kitchen with many extra features
- 5 + 2 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms
- Separate entrance to finished basement
- Solarium/Succah
- Close to Shuls, TTC & Amenities

Call 781-9101
between 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. for appointment.
– No agents please –

Bath./York Downs, lge lot, 3 bdrms + den, dble gar, exclusive area.**No Agents**. 633-8165

Nr. Bath./Ave. Rd.- Bannockburn Ave., 9 yrs. old, 2-stry, 4 bdrms, 4 bths, fin. bsmt, lge principal rms, hrdwd flrs, cac, cvac, heated driveway, alarm sys. **Private Sale**. $509K. **No Agents**. 416-787-7646, evgs.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

THORNHILL– SPRING FARM
4 bdrm., walk to shul, upgrds., finished basement. $323,600. No agents.
905 - 886-5696

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

CHANGE YOUR LIFE WITH STYLE!
Governor's Hill - 1542 sq. ft., 2 Br., 2 baths, parking & locker. $379,000. Excellent Amenities
Marilyn Feldman 229-4454
Home/LifePartners Realty Inc.

DENISE ABRAHAM
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle Real Estate
416 - 485-2299

Glencairn W. Subway - $132,900, 2 bdrm., fab. view, pool, sauna, parking.
Bathurst/Lawrence - $230K, 3 bdrm., 1.5 garage, deep lot.
Glencairn W. Subway - $1,050/mo. inclusive, 2 bdrm., shabat elev., avail. immediate.

COLDWELL BANKER PINNACLE REAL ESTATE

PROMENADE TOWERS
2 bdrm., 2 full baths, many upgrades, approx. 1224 sq. ft. $179,000.
ED GELERNTER
Re/Max Venture
(416) 798-7588

3000 Bathurst, 2 bdrms, 2 bths, deluxe kit. **Must be sold by June 15. No Agents**. 416-756-0594 or 416-787-2098

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst St., 1 bdrm + den, 5 appls, cac, cable, pkg, 24 hr. secur, sabbath elev, avail July 1.$1100/mo. 905-780-0685

Marlee/Ridelle, 2 bdrms, clean bldg, close to TTC & shopping, spac. rms, incl util, cable, lokr, pkg nr. elev, new kit, ind. pool, to w/out patio & sundeck on roof. $1,060./mo. Steve, 416-783-8098.

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp,spac. condo, furn, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc, pool, pkg, $950. inclusive. 416-444-4813.

45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED

Shomer Shabbas. Need to purchase condo. at Promenade Towers (corner unit), or Conservatory Towers. Please call Erika, 416-739-7200.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Davisville area, avail. immed, share fully furn 2 bdrm apt, June/July/Aug, female pref, beautifully furn. 483-0256, Zack

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE
Various Locations
Bachelors-4 bdrm. townhouses
PLEASE CALL:
Anforth Property Management
(416) 485-1193
Monday to Friday
Bus. Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Wilson, 1 bdrm. bsmt apt, bright, lge windows, quiet neigh, nr. TTC, shopping, use of lndry facil, lge. yard, $600./mo., incl. pkg & util. Avail. July 1, n/smkrs only. Call Ron at 636-6248 or Phil at 633-1426

St. Clair/Wychwood North, 2 bdrm apt, liv rm, din rm, lndr rm. in duplex, backyard, gar,$945. 783-8431 or evg.905-886-5515.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Corporate Rentals & Relocating Service. Worldwide. Short/ long-term, min 4 mos. 778-7600

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bdrm. + den to rent, lux. townhouse, walk to Promenade shopping, sep. 3-pce bth, pkg, avail. Aug. 1. Call Anna, 740-2714, 'til 3 pm

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

BELLE EWART
148 ft. of prime sandy waterfront, double lot, year round 1800 sq. ft. home, 4 bdrms., 3 baths, very private, walk to synagogue. Asking price $359K.
Call: **KEVIN HOLLIDAY,** *Sales representative*
RE/MAX CHAY REALTY
Tor. (416) 362-7100 or (705) 722-7100

ANITA LATNER

SUNRISES/SUNSETS to die for! Rambling 6 bdrm., 3-f/p/, sauna, hot-tub, skylts., 2-slip BH., 230' Sparrow Lk Pt. $519K.

UP YOUR SCALE in this custom cedar 4-bdrm + nanny rm. Cathedral ceiling, skylts. Lk. Muskoka $395K.

'YE OLDE LOG' 3-bdrm., BH/deck atop, Lk. Muskoka water-ski bay $249K.

MUSKOKA COTTAGE LINE
705-687-2879

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Gravenhurst (Hwy. 169), 4 bdrms, waterfront, exclus. area, avail. for season. 416-630-2975

Gravenhurst area, (Reay Lake), 1200', lakefront, fully equip, lge screened-in porch, 3 bdrms, mo. of Aug. $4,000. 905-470-1080 (leave msg.).

Lake Simcoe, 40 mins. from TO, 1 acre, lake frontage, 5 bdrms, liv rm, din rm, kit, 2 bths, wshr/dryer, sauna, $3,000./mo. + secur. deposit, kosher,shul 5 miles, all water sports, tennis, golf. 485-3268.

Nr. Jackson's Pt., 4 bdrm priv. cottage on very lge property, eat-in sun porch, access to priv. beach, July &/or Aug. 224-1165

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Big Cedar Pt., 3 bdrm. cottage for sale/rent, priv. beach steps away, seconds from Camp Arrowhead, priv., cute, clean. 905-771-8678.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boynton Beach, prestigious c.c., dec furn, 3 br, 2 ba, 2 cg, fam rm, enc patio, villa, golf/tennis, eq. avail. 561-364-5698.

Hallandale, Hemispheres, ocean south, 2 bdrm, high flr, south exposure, furn, $145K U.S. 416-963-8469.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903

Belle Ewart, lovely 4 bdrm, liv. rm/din. rm., nr. shul. 633-3151.

165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Jerusalem Time Share. Sheraton Four Points, kosher hotel, furn 2 rms, 2 bths, kitchenette. 4 wks., commencing Aug. 24/97. $1,000./wk. U.S. or Sale $29,9K U.S. 905-731-9664.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

LAKE SIMCOE
Rare opportunity only 45 min. from Toronto, south of Barrie. Meandering drive thru 2.5 ACRES natural woodlands to 136' sandy shallow shore. Build your dream estate. Walk to synagogue. VRM $490K- $600K.
Pattie Harper, *Sales Rep.*
The Prudential Andrews Realty Group
416-213-7224/800-254-3695

198 SPACE FOR LEASE

Duff./Lawr,2000', in plaza, pkg, 2 washrooms,reas. 444-6137.

215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Property Management: Established professional company provides discreet, reasonable & comprehensive management of income producing properties within Southern Ontario.Please call or fax for further information: **Bansley Property Management Inc.**, 3185 Bathurst St.,Suite 103, North York,Ont., Canada, M6A 2B2. Tel: (416) 781-6606 or fax:(416) 781-3270

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Is Your Business for Sale? Are You Wishing to Retire?
Experienced manager looking to purchase profitable mfg/svc business. Suite 200/258; 131 Bloor St. W.,Toronto, M5S 1R8.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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HALF PRICE BOOKS & MUSIC
OPEN YOUR OWN
Reuseable Book & CD Store
. . . With A Difference
• Turnkey Operation • High Profit Margin
FOR FRANCHISE INFORMATION
CALL 416-699-0646

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

UPWARDOR CORP.

Expanding established Manufacturer of Commercial/Industrial Doors and Door Opening Systems is seeking senior Sales Representatives with proven track records.

Must be resourceful, motivated, well organized. Career position. Salary to be base + commission.

Reply to:

Human Resources
1074 Westport Cres.
Mississauga, ON L5T 1G1
Fax: (905) 670-8838
No calls please.

An Executive Assistant is req'd. immediately to support the administrative demands of a busy mgmt. consulting firm. This role directly supports the partner and 5 consultants, and ensures the smooth operation of the office. Qualified candidates must have: extensive knowledge & application of Microsoft Word, Excel & PowerPoint; a proven capacity for learning new software applications; the ability to multi-task, prioritize and "shift gears" on short notice. Ideal candidates thrive in a fast-paced, changeable work environ., work well independently, have exceptional detail orientation and a strong work ethic. Salary: $36K/yr Please respond in confidence to: File #EA-463, c/o Rose Alcamo, fax: 416-467-7071.

Part-time position avail. for individuals who are comfortable in dealing with the retail market. The successful candidate will be able to work with min. supervision & have good verbal & written comm. skills. Job prerequisite: selling space in an upcoming publication at a daily rate. Phone 416-410-9083.

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Exper. Polish male is looking for any job in landscaping, painting or other home improvements. 905-832-6747.

Exper. gentleman, 65, with a background in Credit, seeks a position as a Credit Mgr., bookkeeper, or Office Mgr., part-time or full-time. Résumé and refs. available upon request. **Please call Harry, 905-886-7054.**

247 DAY CARE

Babysitting avail. full or part time, from 3 mos. & up, beginning Sept., refs. avail. Shomer Shabbas. Call 905-881-5433.

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

Prof. childcare by E.C.E. teacher in unique home environ.Bath/Yonge/Finch 250-6374

247 DAY CARE

Day Care - I Care, Thornhill, more for your child, more for your money. Personal care. Loving, safe & educational environment in home pre-school. In operation since 1988 with ECE teacher, over 15 yrs. exp., limited space, full or part time. Refs.. receipts. 905-764-6936.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
APPLE DOMESTICS
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
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MARLA'S DOMESTICS
RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

***Golden Care has qualified & exper. live-in/out help for seniors,HCA's RN's, cleaners. Bonded, refs. Good rates. 416-665-4229.**

Young woman seeking live-out position, to work with small children or elderly. 246-1078.

Cleaning ladies available. Call Peter (416) 245-5247.

Cleaning lady avail. with exper. & refs for houses/apts.249-2430

EC Access Employ. Agency (filipino owned & operated) Low fee/nanny/housekeeper Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

Exper. Polish cleaning lady avail. in Ajax, Whitby & Oshawa area. Refs. 905-430-6330.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Lady to do cleaning for the elderly, houses/apts. 245-7636.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs.416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Polish cleaning ladies looking for job. Dorota, 243-2808

Polish cleaning lady with exper. looking for job. 398-1012.

Shining Cleaning Services. Our service speaks for itself! Call 492-7545 or 497-3796, leave message.

258 HEALTHCARE

HCA/RPN seeks work with elderly or disabled, also babysitting, refs. 267-0035

RN's, RPN's, seek job in priv. homes, to offer quality nursing care, foot care & palliative care. Call 391-0582.

Exper. Certif. Nurses aide with CPR certif. seeks work with elderly/disabled, private. In home or an inst. 242-5314, Karen.

259 SENIORS

Gentleman, living in Thornhill, offering transportation to appt's., shopping, etc. at reas. rates. Refs. **Call Harry, 905-886-7054.**

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***Soulmates Worldwide Jewish Introduction Service!** The last Service you'll ever need! Hundreds of upscale clients. **Call Evelyn 905-709-3868 www.soulmates.net**

1 match can light a fire! At least 1engagement/mo.Bringing People Together 905-731-5204

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PELC, Sam - on May 19, 1997, late of 622 South Fair Oaks Dr.
GOTLIB, Lou - on May 22, 1997, late of 155 Dunblaine Ave.
KOPSTICK, Marvin - on May 23, 1997, late of 8 Bernick Rd.
RAYMAN, Sarah - on May 23, 1997, late of 683A Markham St.
TUCHMAYER, Max - on May 23, 1997, late of 18 Dundurn Cres.
BIEN, Fay - on May 24, 1997, late of 7420 Bathurst St., #309.
BLIMAN, Max - on May 24, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
OBADIA, Mnashi (Manny) - on May 24, 1997, late of 14 James Gray Dr.
WINEBERG, Lawrence - on May 25, 1997, late of 2121 Bathurst St., #914.
MOSS, Ralph - on May 26, 1997, late of 77 Avenue Rd., #207.
MURPHY, Rosie - on May 27, 1997, late of 45 Carlton St., #1215.
SHUGAR, Louis - on May 27, 1997, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.
STILLMAN, Jack - on May 27, 1997, late of 47 Colvin Cres.
FRANKEL, Rochelle - on May 28, 1997, late of 80 Willowbrook Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

BIVALL, Edward - on May 27, 1997, late of 4350 Bathurst St.
GUERTSOVSKI, Iakov - on May 27, 1997, late of 4001 Bayview Ave.
MARIGOLD, Fanny - on May 27, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BRANDRISS, Bella - on May 29, 1997.
DINETZ, Bernard - on May 29, 1997, late of 268 Ridley Blvd.
LAZAROVITS, Miksa - on May 29, 1997, late of Baycrest Centre.
MENDEL, Jennie - on May 29, 1997, late of 306 Finch Ave. E.
WAINTMAN, David Samuel - on May 29, 1997, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
BAICHER, Sarah - on May 30, 1997, late of 28 Sunnycrest Rd.
VODIANOI, Michal- on May 30, 1997, late of 1 Vendome Pl.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Rose Applebaum ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 11:00 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Apter Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Mrs. Jeanne Francès ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 15h, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Toby Greenspoon ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 15th, 10:00 a.m.
Dawes Road. Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

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CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

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for information on rates

INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
26 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
256 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
378 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
548 WORD PROCESSING
550 WORKSHOPS

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RRSP/RRIF RULES HAVE CHANGED
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Sports

AGE 69, 70 OR 71 IN 1997?
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Pro players named to Maccabi hockey team

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — They're not exactly household names, but they're certainly not shleppers either.

In fact, the quality of the talent that coach Jacques Demers, team manager Charlie Henry, and the professional scouts from the Hull Olympiques recently evaluated at a tryout camp for Maccabi Canada's hockey team did not fail to impress. Following two days of scrimmages at the Robert Guertin Arena in Hull, they selected the 22 skaters who will represent Canada at the Maccabiah Games in July.

With several professionals leading the way, backed up by a supporting cast of college and major junior players, Canada figures to be the odds-on favorite to win gold in the four-team event.

Only the Americans, with a lineup consisting of NCAA college players, should give the Canucks a tussle, but even their lineup was clouded in mystery as of last week. Former NHLer Mike Hartman has been announced as their player/coach.

The Russians as well are an unknown quantity, while the Israelis, who struggle for respectability in Pool D of the IIHF, are sure to face the best talent they've seen since they were blown out in games against the Latvian and Ukrainian national teams back in 1993.

Canada, meanwhile, boasts a lineup that Maccabi Canada official David Lisbona believes could take on the national teams of France or Britain.

NHLers Ronnie Stern of Calgary Flames, Steve Dubinsky of Chicago Blackhawks, David Nemirovsky of the Florida Panthers and onetime Los Angeles King Brian Wilks were selected to lead the Canadian contingent, though late last week Stern and Dubinsky announced they would be unable to play because of their wives' pregnancies. Todd Simon of Toronto, consistently one of the top scorers in the AHL and with Detroit of the IHL, will be getting married the week of the games and also will be unable to participate.

NHLers Ron Stern (left), Steve Dubinsky (centre) and David Nemirovsky model their Maccabi Canada hockey sweaters. [All Sports Photograhic]

Even without that trio, the Canadian team figures to be strong. Others with professional experience on the team include winger Mikhail Nemirovsky, David's brother, who played in the "I" and in the Colonial League last season; forward Harold Hersh, a Montreal native who plays in Fredericton in the Habs' system; Torontonian Aaron Brand, a winger with St. John's Maple Leafs, Toronto's farm team; defenceman Stuart Marston, a Montreal native who played in Pittsburgh's system after being drafted from Longueil of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL) in 1985; and defenceman Brandon Gray, a Torontonian who played in the East Coast Hockey League last season after a junior career in Drummondville of the QMJHL.

The defence corps includes Torontonian Jamie Sokolsky, who played for Owen Sound of the OHL last season and was a Philadelphia draft pick; Emanuel Labranche, a 6-foot-5 tower who played for Victoriaville Tigres of the QMJHL; Joel Bond, a native of Calgary who played NCAA division one hockey for Union College in the East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC); Jean-Alain Schneider, Matthieu's brother, who played for McGill Redmen last season; Rob Starke, a Montrealer who played for Beaudouin College, a prep school; and Daniel Nathan, who played for John Abbott College in Montreal last year.

Forwards include Vancouver native Ryan Donovan, who played for Union College; Jamin Kerner of Montreal, who played for Harvard University in ECAC; Torontonian Michael Henrich, a rookie with Barrie Colts of the Ontario Hockey League; Montrealer Corey Pecker, a highly-touted youngster who was a first round pick in the OHL draft last weekend; Montreal native Earl Morris, a veteran of Longeuil and Drummondville of the QMJHL; and Matt Saper of Winnipeg, a rookie with Clarkson University, another ECAC team.

The goaltenders are Torontonian Greg Gardner, who played for Niagara University in New York State and Leeor Shtrom, puckstopper for Union College. Allan Lisbona and Larry Routtenberg are the alternates.

"Everyone was surprised by the level of play" at the final Hull tryout, said Lisbona, who along with Gideon Lee helped scout talent for the team. "No one expected the level of play to be that good. Even the scouts were impressed and Demers was surprised at the level of talent.

"It's an incredibly strong team... the expectation, of course, is always for a gold medal."

For ex-NHLer Brian Wilks, the chance to play hockey in the Holy Land is something he's been looking forward to for years. It will be his first visit to Israel and "it should be a great experience," he said.

For Henrich, a 6-foot-3, 205-pound winger with Barrie Colts, "going to Israel, competing for your country, is an honor."

Henrich, 17, was nervous going into camp and "I was really happy [to make the team]. It was a good camp and I said to myself, this is a tough team to make...There were a lot of good hockey players. There was no room for error. If you made a mistake, they'd jump on it."

Saper, a 6-foot-1, 198-lb centre at Clarkson University, said "I'm very excited about going to Israel. I can't wait to get there and see what it's like."

Jamie Sokolsky, who will re-enter the NHL draft this summer as an unsigned 20-year-old, was pleasantly surprised there were as many good Jewish hockey players at the camp. He's also thrilled at the prospect of his first trip to Israel, particularly since his mother is Israeli.

It's ironic, he says, that a busy hockey schedule has kept him from visiting the Holy Land. "Now it's my ticket to get me there."

The hockey competition will take place at the Olympic-sized rink at Canada Centre, a recreational complex built in large part with funds donated from Canada and transferred via the United Israel Appeal. It will mark the debut of the winter sport at the Maccabiah Games, which will bring together 6,000 athletes from 58 countries to participate in 40 events at the "Jewish Olympics."

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LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

	A	F	T		M	O	H	E	L		C	H	E	T
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The Inside Back

NO SOAP OPERA AT WESTERN WALL

Laura Harring, one of the stars of the daytime soap opera *Sunset Beach* recently visited the Western Wall. The cast of *Sunset Beach* was in Israel for two days of filming in Tel Aviv. [RNS/Reuters photo]

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
WE SELL SUB-ZERO FOR LESS

A NEW TWIST ON... MEAT BALLS IN JELLY SAUCE

Meatballs:
- 1 lb. lean ground beef or veal
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/2 cup fine bread crumbs
- 1 tblsp. parsley, chopped
- 1/2 cup onions, chopped
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper

Sauce:
- 1 3/4 cups bottled chili sauce
- 14 oz can jellied cranberry sauce
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 2 tblsp. brown sugar

Mix ground meat with first group of ingredients. Roll into balls 1" in diameter. Heat the sauce ingredients together in a large pot. Bring to a boil, add meatballs, and simmer in sauce for 30 minutes. Freezes well. Yield: 40 meatballs.

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

About Life

Dear Ella,

My sister-in-law, Judy, is forever borrowing things from me. I use the term "borrowing" loosely as I never get anything back.

Last year, she borrowed a spring jacket that was never returned. She has my books, videos, CDs, pyrex cookware, even kitchen spices.

I normally don't mind lending anything I own, but I usually get the items back.

In all fairness though, I often forget that I've lent out something until I go looking for it, and then I can't remember to whom I've lent it. I feel like saying no everytime someone wants to borrow something.

I would like to go to Judy's house, do a mass search and recover all my missing items. I know this is not practical, but I can't even bring myself to mention to Judy that she has my jacket. It makes me feel petty.

Is there any appropriate way I can get my stuff returned without sounding like a shrew?

Lends A Lot

Dear Lends A Lot,

A person who lends out their belongings freely is a trusting person who wants to share with others. I don't think this is a poor trait. On the contrary, it shows you are a warm and giving person.

I can understand that Judy has left you with an uncomfortable feeling for lending things out, but if you make a "no lending" rule, it forces you to go against an endearing quality you have in your personality. Instead why not deal with the problem you have with Judy and with keeping track of what you lend out and to whom.

Write down anything you lend in a day-timer or calendar. This way you'll know where your items are.

Ask for your belongings back. There is usually no reason for someone to keep something for more than a month. Don't be shy, these are your items. You have a right to ask for their return. No one will think twice, not even Judy. You may even get an apology.

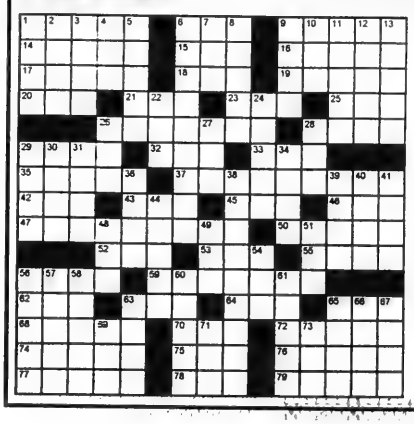
If Judy doesn't have a subscription to *The CJN!* make sure you lend her this week's issue.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across
1. Rosh Hashanah treat?
6. David O. Selznick
9. Agadah
14. Moses on the mount
15. Bezalel study
16. Shofar blast
17. Bealzebub
18. Vav (Eng.)
19. Olympiad Strug
20. Haifa to Hebron
21. Three: combined form
23. Israeli pilot
25. Received
26. "Odd Couple" star
28. Ache
29. Columnist Barrett
32. Ark's back
33. Ellis Island locale
35. Graven__
37. Rabbi's wife
42. Biblical fishing device
43. Elie Wiesel novel
45. Haifa to Tiberias (dir)
46. Exist
47. Hammerin' Hank
50. Old Israeli newspaper
52. Distant
53. Baby's cover
55. Prepare clothes for funeral
56. Cloven
59. David's wandering wife?
62. Vase
63. Golfer Alcott
64. Town for Koch
65. Wiggling tref fish
68. Noah's forecast
70. 1501
72. American shalom
74. Crouch
75. Dreidel letter
76. Meir to Golda Meyerson
77. Homes for Israelites
78. Golden rule
79. Bohr

Down
1. Mama __ Elliott
2. Oy Vey!
3. Tekiah or Teruah
4. Tay-Sachs carrier
5. Yiddish busybody
6. Comedian (2 wds)
7. Solomon's mine product
8. Act the gonif
9. Remove
10. Shikker's choice?
11. "Key __" Bacall film
12. Bautista stat
13. Kill biblically
22. Genetic messenger
24. Canasta suit
26. Shmatah (Eng)
27. Enjoyed gribenes
28. Used his tuches
29. Baer's milieu
30. Tenth part of an ephah
31. Sharansky to friends?
34. Pomegranate plenty
36. Writer Ferber
38. Genesis
39. Preserve from harm
40. Esther's kingdom?
41. Nebbish?
44. Abraham once
48. Fay (Eng)
49. Al Rosen stat
51. Supply with Uzis
54. Yeled (Eng)
56. Writer Fannie
57. Emulate Abba Eban
58. Gribbenis ingredient
60. Psalms
61. Hid Jericho spoils
63. Cleo killers
65. Wiesel
66. Airline
67. Reason for Shiva
69. Never
71. Usurious word
73. Wallach

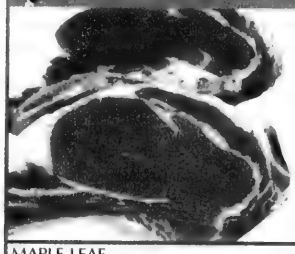
These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

HIGHLAND FARMS

Come see what you're missing

Prices Effective from
Sun. June 8, 1997 until
Sat. June 14, 1997



RIB STEAKS
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Fresh
5.49 LB
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MAPLE LEAF
ALL BEEF
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Freshly Sliced at the Deli
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4 L Plastic Pail
3.99 EA

SALMON FILLETS
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13.21 kg

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Fresh
Extra Large Size
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99 LB

ASPARAGUS
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No. 1 Grade
Fresh
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1.99 EA

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FRUIT JUICE & DRINKS
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2.99
Case of
12 x 300 ml
Bottles

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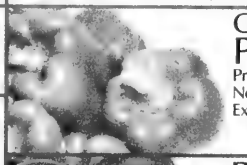
ONION BUNS
Fresh
2/1.00



GREEN PEPPERS
Product of USA, Georgia
No. 1 Grade, Fresh
Extra Large Size
2.18 kg
99 LB

CLOVER LEAF
FLAKED LIGHT
TUNA
in water
170 g Tin
89 EA

SCHNEIDERS
TURKEY BREAST
Cooked or Smoked
Freshly Sliced at the Deli
19.82 kg
8.99 LB

PLUMS
Product of USA, California
No. 1 Grade
Fresh
Large Size
3.28 kg
1.49 LB

HUMPTY DUMPTY
SNACKS
• Doodles • Mexitos
Assorted Varieties
140 - 200 g Bag
99 EA

STREIT'S
EGG NOODLES
Assorted Varieties
375 g Bag
1.39 EA

NABOB
TRADITION
COFFEE
1 kg Tin
6.99 EA

MAN.
WAFFERS
Chocolate Flavoured
500 g Package
1.99 EA

BANANAS
From the Tropics
.64 kg
29 LB

SAFFLO
SUNFLOWER
OIL
Pure
1 L Bottle
2.99 EA

MARIANI
PRUNES
Pitted
375 g Package
1.29 EA

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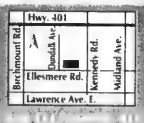

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Private investigator Steven Rambam quitting investigation of Nazi war criminals in Canada. *Page 3*

On Campus

Foreign students enjoy studying at Israeli universities. *Page 20*

Tribute to Israel

Tamara Sidgy enjoys herself at the Israel Day Festival held in North York.

Arts

Page 27

Elusive author Anne Michaels talks about her best-selling novel *Fugitive Pieces.*

Sports

Page 35

Israeli kids "going ga-ga" over prospect of attending

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 16
Just Between Us 19
On Campus 20
Coast to Coast 21
International 23
Tribute to Israel 27
Travel, Arts & Business 33
Health 37
Classified 38
Sports 42
Ask Jesse 43
Crossword 43

Shabbat: Behaalotcha
Candlelighting: 8:43
Sivan 15, 5757
Havdalah: 9:48

Court ends Bar-On affair

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The Bar-On affair may finally be over.

Israel's High Court of Justice rejected last Sunday an appeal to indict Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on charges of fraud and breach of trust.

The justices ruled 4-1 that prosecutors had made a "reasonable" decision when they decided in April that there was not enough evidence to indict Netanyahu in connection with the short-lived January appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general.

By a 5-0 vote, the court rejected petitions demanding that Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi also be indicted in connection with the affair.

Netanyahu welcomed the court rulings, saying they had once and for all brought an end to the affair that has dogged his government for months.

"We can move forward now, and focus on achieving peace and security and economic prosperity," he told reporters.

The one justice who dissented from the ruling was Dalia Dorner. She wrote that the state attorney should have been ordered to show cause for the decision not to indict the prime minister.

A three-month police investigation was launched earlier this year after an Israel Television report alleged that Bar-On was appointed as part of a deal to provide a plea bargain to Shas Knesset member Aryeh Deri, who is on trial for corruption.

In turn, Deri allegedly promised his party's support for the Hebron agreement, which was coming up for cabinet approval at the time, the television report said.

Police investigators had recommended that Netanyahu and Hanegbi – as well as senior aide Avidgor Lieberman and Shas Knesset member Aryeh Deri – be indicted in connection with the influence-peddling scandal.

But Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein and State Prosecutor Edna Arbel decided in April that there was insufficient evidence against Netanyahu and Hanegbi, and that only Deri should be indicted.

An investigation of Lieberman's role in the affair continues.

At the hearing last month, the five-justice panel of the high court rejected petitions requesting a state commission of inquiry into the Bar-On affair and asking that the police report on the investigation be published.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gestures to photographers as he enters his office last week after the high court rejected the petition that he be indicted for fraud in the Bar-On affair.
[RNS/Reuters photo]

A JEWISH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
Herb Gray is sworn in as Canada's first full-time deputy prime minister, as Prime Minister Jean Chrétien looks on. ***Please see related story on page 3.***
[Canapress photo]

Rabbis present case on conversion bill

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A delegation of leading rabbis from the Conservative and Reform movements in Israel and the United States emerged from a meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with no promises that the conversion bill would be shelved, but confident that the premier genuinely wishes to reach a compromise.

The meeting began what is to be a marathon of talks between the non-Orthodox leaders and members of the Israeli establishment, including what one member of the delegation described as "Orthodox rabbis in key positions." The only Orthodox politicians they are to meet are Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy and MK Shaul Yahalom, both of the National Religious Party.

Meeting with Netanyahu last Sunday night were Reform rabbis Eric Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and Uri Regev, director of the Israel Religious Action Centre. Also at the meeting were Conservative rabbis Reuven Hammer, head of the Rabbinical Assembly of Israel; Gil Nativ, its spokesperson; Joel Meyers, executive vice president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America; and Jerome Epstein, executive vice president of the United Synagogue of America.

Continued on page 24

INSIDE

How the Jewish Community in Iraq came to an end.
Please see page 9.

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PA warns of more confrontations — please see page 23

The News in Brief

CANADA

Hate Trial Stopped

WINNIPEG — A landmark prosecution of hate on the Internet has been shortcircuited because the Crown attorney didn't show up in court.

A Winnipeg teen was arrested last year and charged with uttering threats and possession of a weapon dangerous to the public peace, after a local gay activist received a hate message on his e-mail. Police traced the youth through his Internet server and found Nazi and anarchist paraphernalia in his room.

The case was scheduled to begin on May 23. When the prosecutor didn't show up, Judge Robert Kopstein dismissed the charges. The Crown attorney had prepared for a May 30 start date to the trial.

Order of Ontario

TORONTO — Several members of the Jewish community were among 25 outstanding people invested into the Order of Ontario last week by Lieutenant Governor Hilary Weston.

New members are: former Ontario Chief Justice Charles Dubin; architect Jack Diamond; philanthropist and arts patron Bluma Appel; former provincial Tory leader Larry Grossman; philanthropist and Novopharm chair Leslie Dan; and Jack Rabinovitch, volunteer building committee chair of the Ontario Cancer Institute/ Princess Margaret Hospital and founder of the annual Giller Prize for Canadian fiction.

The Order, Ontario's highest honor, recognizes those who have enriched the lives of others by achieving excellence in their field.

CJC Request

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress have called on the government of Canada, the United Nations and its member states, and international human rights NGOs to press authorities, in Iran and Syria in particular, to help secure the release of all missing Israeli servicemen.

Three Israeli soldiers — Yehuda Katz, Zachary Baumel and Zvi Feldman — were captured in a tank battle in Lebanon 15 years ago on June 11, 1982.

Island Bash

TORONTO — Israel Cancer Research Fund will hold its third annual Island Bash at The Docks, 11 Posluns St. in Toronto on June 22. In partnership with Club Med, the evening is sponsored by Scotia-McLeod and Vista Eye Institute. Event chair will be Jonathan Kirshblum.

For more information call Amoryn Engel at 416-929-2935 or Kirshblum at 416-818-7579.

ISRAEL

Youth Programs

JERUSALEM — Participation in Israel Experience programs is up at least 20 percent this year.

There will be over 11,000 participants in short-term Israel programs this year, from the following locales: North America – 4,350; South Africa – 180; South America – 150; England – 1,100; Europe – 1,500; Eastern Europe – 200.

Heart Transplant

JERUSALEM — Israeli doctors have performed their first implant of an artificial heart.

The patient, a 50-year-old man, was listed in critical condition after the operation was performed last week at Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer.

Dr. Ya'acov Lavi, director of the transplant department at the hospital and head of the surgery team, said the operation took eight hours.

WORLD

Honors for Clemens

NEW YORK — Ben Clemens of Toronto, executive vice-president of the Great Lakes region, Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, has been named to receive the Ma'Asim Tovim (Good Deeds) Award from the region.

The award will be presented at the organization's international convention to be held July 13-17 at the Concord Hotel, Kiamesha Lake.

The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs is comprised of some 30,000 members of Conservative synagogue-affiliated Men's Clubs/ Brotherhoods located throughout Canada, the United States, Europe and Israel.

Clemens, a native of Montreal, moved to Toronto with his family in 1970. He is a member of Adath Israel Congregation.

Homes for Children

MOSCOW — Two Jewish homes for children have opened in an attempt to confront a dire social situation in the former Soviet Union.

A new facility, which opened last week in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, is providing a home for 35 Jewish girls, aged 10 to 16, from Ukraine and Russia.

A corresponding home for boys will move to a new location in Dnepropetrovsk after renovation work at the site is completed.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday June 16, 1972

ISRAEL TO AVENGE KILLINGS, MINISTER SAYS

Israel will not let the killing of Jews go unpunished, declared Minister of Housing Ze'ev Sharef at the Israel Bonds Dinner of State in Toronto Monday night.

"We do not accept that Arabs have a licence to kill Jews; we will not allow it," Sharef said. "As long as the president of Egypt can rejoice publicly over the killings, there can be no peace." (Sharef was referring to the recent massacre of 26 people at Lydda Airport.)

NEED TO GIVE MORE TO UNITED APPEAL

The Toronto Jewish Community must mobilize to increase its contributions to the United Appeal by at least 20 percent this year to assure that the vital social and recreational facilities provided by its agencies can be continued, Harry L. Wolfson, president of the United Jewish Welfare Fund of Toronto, declared this week.

Wolfson was commenting on the announcement that the United Appeal plans this year to "close the gap" between the $14,120,000 — the budgeted needs of the member agencies — and the amount collected in 1971.

This means raising $2 million more than last year. Last year's campaign fell short of its target by $500,000.

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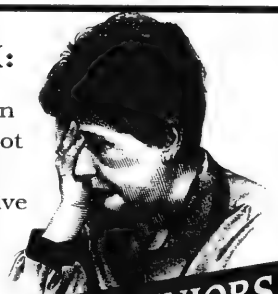

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue 46,711 copies
Average net paid circulation per issue. 45,109 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997

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Rambam retiring from pursuit of war criminals

Cites lack of community support

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Blaming the Canadian Jewish community for not supporting him in his quest to bring Nazi war criminals to justice, American private investigator Steven Rambam is calling it quits.

"I am tired and dispirited and it is fair to say I should go on with my life. These people killed your brothers and sisters, yet you're not going to do anything about it," he said at the evening meeting of Toronto's second conference for children of Holocaust survivors, sponsored by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation.

Tracking down Nazi war criminals, he said, "many of whom are old men who pay their taxes and mow their lawns...is not a Canadian issue but an issue of Jewish honor. How much is a Jewish life worth if these people can kill Jewish babies and then move into Jewish neighborhoods?

"The Christian community sympathizes with us, but that's it. They are not out there in the trenches besieging their MPs. Don't have the illusion that you can be lax on the issue. You have five or 10 years at the most to recover your honor. If you don't do as much as you can, as often as you can, then nothing will be accomplished."

Armed only with a phone book, Rambam was able to find a number of war criminals living in Canada. "If nothing else," he said, "that speaks of the fact that they are unafraid living here — they feel at home. I had always understood that war criminals had snuck one by one into [places such as] Bolivia, not that they were eating at Marky's."

Although he had a list of about 1,100 names, he said, he was only able to select 200 criminals to search out. "Selecting only 200 names for me was a hideous process. How do you select who is the worst murderer of Jews?

"Of those 200 names, we found 161 without a lot of problems. They are not hiding and they are not afraid...Maybe only five percent altered their names. The others are living here under the name in which they killed Jews."

He said that although he established a false identity in order to interview these men, he "could have gone in naked with no identification. Fifty-eight killers of Jews invited me into their home and seven told how they murdered Jews. My biggest problem was not getting them to talk — my biggest problem was not killing them."

When the story appeared in the *Jerusalem Post* along with pictures, he said, he was "condemned by Sol Littman [of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre], who issued a press release without reading the story. Bernie Farber, [national director of community relations, Canadian Jewish Congress], however, issued a press release in support of us. He gave us credibility. If Sol had his way, the story would have died."

B'nai Brith, he charged, also issued a press release condemning his work. "There is quite a bit that can be done and should be done, that the blood of six million Jews is crying to be done, but I am not getting help. I have not received money from a single Jew in Canada. I am quitting because the chance of the Canadian Jewish community doing anything is clearly non-existent."

In an interview with one war criminal, he said, the man described taking a group of Jews to a pit and having them lie down, holding hands. "I had to ask him, 'Didn't anyone fight?'

"He told me they came and lay down and they were shot. They died like sheep. They didn't fight — no running, no fighting, no shouting.

"Your obligation as Jews on behalf of those that died is to run and fight and shout in their place. That is your responsibility," Rambam charged.

Gray named deputy PM

OTTAWA — Canada has its first full-time deputy prime minister. And he's Jewish to boot.

For Herbert Eser Gray, the appointment as Jean Chretien's second-in-command is another first. The 66-year-old eminence gris of Parliament was Canada's first Jewish cabinet minister, appointed by Pierre Trudeau in 1969, and he has served in senior cabinet posts in every Liberal government since.

Now, Gray, who has been Windsor West's MP since 1963, has risen to the highest position occupied by a Jewish politician in Canadian history.

Wearing a kippah and holding the Tanach, Gray was sworn in as the country's first full-time deputy PM along with the rest of the federal cabinet at a Rideau Hall ceremony last week.

"As the deputy prime minister, I'll be working closely with [Chretien] in the overall management and coordination of a range of government matters," Gray explained in a telephone interview.

Steiner takes over as president of UJA Federation

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Respect for various religious streams was pledged by Joseph Steiner, as he took over as president of UJA Federation at its annual meeting held recently at Leah Posluns Theatre.

"Pending events have the potential to rent the fabric of our unity," he said, referring to consideration by the Knesset in Israel of a bill which would legalize only Orthodox conversions.

Conversion bill opposed

The "politicization" of religion "debases" unity of the Jewish people, he said.

Earlier in the meeting, outgoing president Sandra Brown said its board of directors has endorsed a resolution by the Council of Jewish Federations (Canadian) opposing this bill and any change in the Law of Return, and asking the Israeli government to consult the Jewish Agency before submitting any legislation affecting the Diaspora.

"UJA Federation is a home for all Jews," Brown said. "We must find common ground. Do you realize how vulnerable we are as a divided community?"

The new president was described by Brown as "a second generational leader" because he is the son of the late Labor Zionist leader, Harry Steiner.

"He is intelligent, thorough, and operates from a great ethical base," she said. "In these years these are just the qualities we need."

From 1,200 to 1,500 people will attend a UJA Federation mission to Israel in February to celebrate that country's 50th anniversary in 1998, she said.

To honor Brown, scholarships are being awarded so that a number of teachers can attend a course in Jewish family education in California, Steiner announced.

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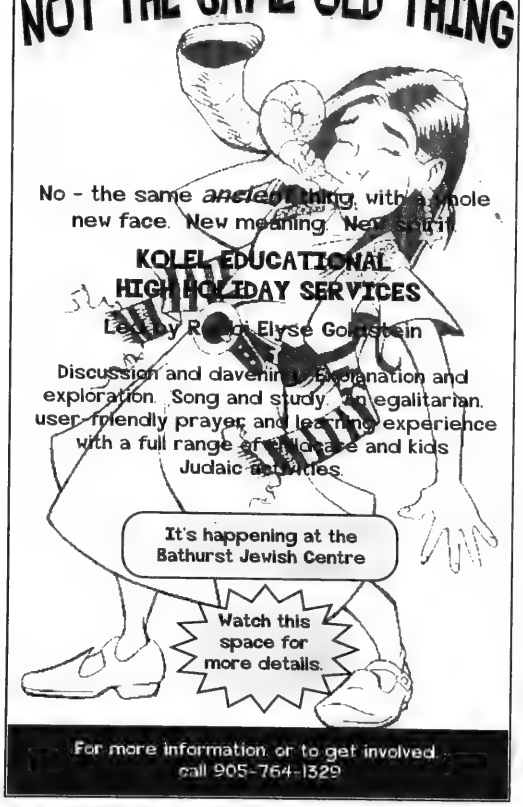

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Taking a step forward

Over the course of this week and next, in countless schools of countless communities across the country, commencement ceremonies will be held for students "graduating" from a successfully-completed stage of formal education.

Mostly, it is an exciting time.

Exhaling the splendid air of pride and achievement, mixed perhaps with relief, students take a step forward, toward a horizon that shines for them with dreamy possibilities, both seen and unseen.

Their parents, sighing gently, stand and watch, for they know more of the truth about horizons.

But graduation can also be a melancholy time for students. Many paths now diverge. For young people especially, must follow the stirrings of their heart, even at the cost of separation, if they are to truly believe in their own possibilities. Tearfully, friends will say goodbye with the hope that the lines of their lives will intersect at some future point.

In anticipation, therefore, of that excitement and of that melancholy, we convey our best wishes of congratulations to all students, of whatever age and in whichever community who are graduating in the next few days.

We wish also to point to the special efforts of those students graduating from institutions of Jewish learning. In most cases their workloads are heavier than that of the public school system. And the efforts of their families also deserve recognition because of the extra financial burdens they must bear in providing for their children's Jewish education.

As I have written in this column on a number of occasions, one cannot overstate the importance of Jewish education in ensuring commitment among our young to a meaningfully Jewish way of life.

Mordechai Kaplan once wrote that "where Jewish education is neglected, the whole content of Judaism is reduced to merely an awareness of anti-Semitism. Judaism ceases then to be a civilization, and becomes a complex."

In his typically pithy and almost epigrammatic manner, Kaplan expressed the essential point about the importance of Jewish education in the modern world.

If being Jewish is to mean something more to our young than a historical stigma they must tolerate or hide from, then they must be taught how and why to travel the road of Jewish discovery.

Education is one of the core values of Judaism and thus, one of its uncompromisable obligations.

The central prayer of faith, Shema Yisrael, proclaims the education of our children to be a religious and therefore, a moral, obligation incumbent upon every family without exception. In the earliest of ancient times, this obligation was accepted by the head of the household, personally.

But very quickly in the development of the Jewish people, the obligation to educate youngsters evolved from being an individual one to being a collective one. The "community" bore responsibility for educating its children. In each Jewish community, regardless of locale, the elders were charged with the duty to establish houses of learning.

Raphael Patai, the noted Jewish thinker, pointed out that the instruction of children passed from the hands of the parents to those of professional teachers even before the end of the biblical era. Indeed, the special regard with which these teachers were held, was evidenced according to him, in the fact that they were known by no fewer than five distinct terms: *omnim, morim, melamdim, mevinim* and *maskilim.*

Therefore, to those people who teach our children, to those people whom we, the parents, have delegated our personal obligation of teaching our children, we owe an enormous debt.

In the deficit-reducing world of the 1990s in which teaching – including teaching in the Jewish school system – is considered a "public sector" line of work; and in which "public sector" work is expediently belittled by politicians; and in which, all too frequently, "public sector" employees are unfairly and callously held up for scorn and cynicism, we must acknowledge with unreserved gratitude the significance of teachers' work.

In an essay entitled *Philosophy in the Talmud and the Midrash*, the wise and formidable late Dr. Isaac Halevy Herzog, former chief Ashkenazi rabbi of Israel, quotes Abba bar Kahana as saying the nations of the world once asked two great philosophers of the heathen world, Balaam and Abnimos Hagardi, how they might prevail against the Jewish people. The two philosophers answered: "Go and visit their synagogues and their houses of learning. *As long as the chirping voices of the children are heard there, you will not prevail against them.*" (My emphasis)

The "chirping voices" of the children is an elegant, sweet and totally descriptive image of the learning process. Of course, it is an image of innocence and enthusiasm, of young starlings clamoring at their mentors in chaotic cacophony for nourishment and sustenance.

But as we all know, the learning process is only innocent on the very first day of school, if at all; nor is it always enthusiastic.

It is, as we know from experience, always hard work, requiring discipline and focus. Jewish tradition and lore readily acknowledge this. The Talmud does not romanticize the day-to-day difficulty of teaching and learning.

For example, consider the following two quotations attributed to Hillel and Rav Huna, respectively.

"Reviewing a lesson a hundred times cannot be compared with reviewing it a hundred and one times."

"If a student crams, his learning diminishes; but if he gathers little by little, it shall increase."

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Greater Toronto Area

Photographer hangs up camera after distinguished career

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Joe Black is finally hanging up his camera after photographing world-famous actors and athletes, and taking pictures for *The CJN* for 20 years.

Hundreds of his photos bearing the credit line Graphic Artists have appeared in *The CJN* and he has been a familiar figure at Jewish events. At one time he was the official photographer at Maple Leaf Gardens and the old Maple Leaf baseball stadium.

As a farewell gesture, he has donated several hundred of the negatives of shots he took for *The CJN* to this newspaper.

Now at age 72, Black is retiring from the business, although his zest for recording history may lead him to take on special assignments.

He is selling much of his studio equipment but retaining the name Graphic Artists to protect royalties on some of his famous pictures.

And there have been many — the wedding of Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, for instance, and his official photographs of the Beatles.

He still owns the building on Bathurst Street at Wellington Street where Graphic Artists is located.

Black is well into his second career as an inventor and his tee-up for golfers is selling well in United States and as far away as Hawaii.

He still plays a lot of tennis and golf even though for the past two years he has had two artificial knees.

He had to give up his pilot's license because of age but he often flew a rented aircraft to assignments in northern Canada.

It's not only as a photographer that he is well known in the Jewish community, for he is a quiet volunteer for many causes including working at the religious services at Lyndhurst Lodge for seniors.

His interest in Jewish matters encouraged him to seek out old Jewish settlements and cemeteries in western Canada when he had free time while covering Argonaut games. One assignment for *The CJN* took him to the old Holy Blossom Temple cemetery on Pape Avenue, south of Gerrard Street, where he saw gravestones for children who had died in the flu epidemic.

When he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force he was advised to change his name from Schwartz to Black in case he was taken prisoner.

He recalls the time that he was called in by the old Toronto Maple Leaf baseball team and developed the idea of sending different action photos to the three daily newspapers. "Each newspaper would get an exclusive shot," he said.

Now he can spend more time at his three-acre property on Warden Avenue in Markham township between Unionville and Gormley, and with his three grandchildren.

Back in 1956, Joe Black was in Israel taking pictures for a UJA mission and a friend photographed him with David Ben Gurion and his wife in the study of Ben Gurion's home.

Israel Pavilion set for Carabram

BRAMPTON — Har Tikvah Congregation is presenting a new, interactive view of life in Israel at the Israel Pavilion at this year's Carabram festival.

The pavilion will feature seven performances of an interactive, improvisational musical comedy, *The Briss*, by playwright Michael Rosenberg, who wrote the hit show *The Wedding*, which ran in Toronto in 1995.

Rosenberg advises, somewhat cryptically, for people who want to see *The Briss* to bring along a cucumber and sharp knife.

The pavilion will also feature performances from two klezmer bands, Soul of the Gypsy and The Gypsy Jive Band.

Ziva's kitchen will be producing blintzes and other Jewish culinary delights.

Carabram will run July 4 to 6 at Hart Lake Secondary School on Conestoga Road in Brampton. For ticket and passport information, call Har Tivkah at 905-846-5376.

IT'S CARAVAN TIME AGAIN

Jerusalem Pavilion princess Jordana Ballas, is flanked by pavilion co-mayors Allen Feig, left, and Larry Levy, both of B'nai Brith Canada's Metro Toronto lodge. The Bloor JCC pavilion will feature singer Dafna Tzur and comedian/singer Tsufit, a Jerusalem photo display and Israeli food including falafel, hummus, baklava and Goldstar (non-alcoholic) Israeli beer. The pavilion, one of 32 at the annual multicultural festival, is open through June 21 (excluding Friday, and reopening after Shabbat until 1 a.m.).

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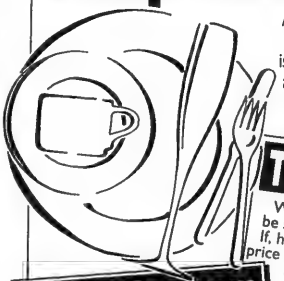

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Greater Toronto Area

Early marriages would promote continuity: rabbi

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — One way to try and maintain Jewish continuity is to encourage Jewish youth to marry at an earlier age, says Rabbi Mark Dratch, spiritual leader of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

"People who postpone marriage have a harder time finding a Jewish partner. We need to find a way to encourage them to marry earlier and we need to train our youth for marriage and parenthood," said Rabbi Dratch, the final speaker in a three-part symposium on the Jewish Family in Crisis sponsored by the Canadian Friends of Shalom Hartman Institute.

The Jewish family, Rabbi Dratch said, has clearly changed since its traditional roles were outlined in the Talmud. "Halachah sets the parameters of what has to be done ...[but] we have come to a period where we can appreciate that each individual brings certain talents into a family."

Whether certain things are performed by the mother or father, he said, the major role of the Jewish family is to maintain continuity.

"In North America today, a number of things are undermining families and we are failing miserably [at that role]."

Having Jewish children is necessary for continuity, but many people feel it is too expensive to provide them with camp, education and other necessities, he said. "Kids do not really need everything we give them. They need our time. [As well], the cost of education needs to come down. We have to make it a priority that parents can provide their children with a Jewish education and not go bankrupt."

Many children, he said, are being raised by nannies so that their parents can afford to pay for their education. "As important as a career is, however, the family must be a priority. There have to be ways to maintain a family in the proper way."

Families are up against a number of outside influences that make life difficult, he said. "Television is public enemy number 1 and it is something that is difficult to monitor. The Internet is another major problem from which kids learn all kinds of things.

"For most families today, the traditional composition does not exist. There are single parent families, blended families and divorced families, and even though the traditional family is a minority, most community programming is geared towards them. Too many people do not feel welcome in the community. More has to be done to welcome different types of families. Many families are dysfunctional — with child abuse, domestic violence or poor parenting skills. These parents are not always capable of passing on values."

Parents, he said, need to create time for each other and for their children. "Shabbat is a good time for this because they can't take part in activities that are distracting. Parents focus on themselves and on their family. By observing Shabbat, we are taking traditional patterns and imposing them on the modern family.

"People also have to fight intermarriage right away before they have kids. They need to establish a pattern of Jewish life immediately."

Only within a family, he said, can true freedom be found.

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CYCLE FOR THE ARTS

Koffler Centre president Dorothy Shoichet, (left) avid cyclist, prepares for upcoming Cycle for the Arts on June 22 in Sunnybrook Park. Beatrice Fischer, heading the 'tricycle' division, cheers her on.

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Greater Toronto Area

NCSY scholarships help cement Jewish identity

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Against all odds, it looks like Leah Basin is going to fulfil her dream of studying at an Orthodox girls' yeshivah in Israel next year.

An alumna of Rockford Elementary School and Willowdale Middle School, Basin pursued a growing interest in Orthodox Judaism at a young age and entered Eitz Chaim Day School in Grade 8 against the wishes of her parents.

Now completing her last year at Bais Yaakov High School for Girls, the 18-year-old, who plans to study gerontology at Seneca College on her return from Israel, is one of about 40 teens to have been named as a National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY) scholarship recipient at the organization's recent senior regional convention held at Olympia Village in Huntsville.

The privately funded scholarships help graduating high school students pursue yeshivah studies, programs at Bar-Ilan University or NCSY summer Torah/touring programs in Israel.

"In our opinion, if a kid goes to Israel, we have secured a serious commitment to Judaism and continuity," said Rabbi Glenn Black, NCSY's youthful regional director.

Leah Basin

The organization, under the auspices of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, runs programs such as Shabbatonim for junior and senior high school students, Free Torah High School (a supplementary educational program) and Jewish clubs within public high schools.

Its 4200-square-foot headquarters in a plaza at Bathurst Street and Steeles Avenue serves as a drop-in centre for local teens. The Canadian organization also serves students in Montreal, Ottawa and a number of smaller communities. (Some western cities are served by NCSY in American centres.)

The recent convention, attended by about 180 students, featured sports activities and an educational component, including a presentation on cults by Rabbi Michael Skobac of Jewish Campus Services.

For Rabbi Black, the highlight of the weekend was the banquet at which the scholarships were presented, an affair with heartfelt speeches about each recipient and donor.

"These kids are tremendous kids," said Stephen Rosen, who with his wife Ruthie funds nine memorial scholarships. "The fact that we have a chance to play a small part in someone's life is an unbelievable feeling. We get more back than we put out."

Qualifying NCSYers typically have helped in the community and/or made strides in their own lives, committing to a Jewish lifestyle, said Rabbi Black. Scholarship commitments totalled $50,000. Individual awards, which were instituted about a decade ago, range from $500 to $3,000.

NCSY supplements the scholarships, which don't come close to covering expenses like tuition at a boys' yeshivah, which can run $11,000 (US).

Most of the recipients, like Basin, do not come from an Orthodox background, but Rabbi Black maintains that yeshivah is "not just for Orthodox kids. It's a place where you can take Judaism a lot more seriously." He estimates that about 30 percent of NCSY members are from observant families.

Rachel Singer

Rachel Singer, 17, outgoing president of NCSY Canada, is a student at Northern Secondary School who attended Free Torah High. Although she was unsure of her plans, now that she has been awarded NCSY's David and Fran Woolf scholarship in honor of Sydney and Pearl Woolf, she plans to go to Israel in January, possibly to study at Michlelet Esther, before entering university.

"NCSY has given me such a strong bond with my community. I have a much stronger Jewish identity," said Singer, who served as a youth adviser at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

An alumna of NCSY's summer program for girls at Nevei Yerushalayim, Singer feels something is pulling her to Israel. "I hope to get a better understanding of the Torah, Judaism and where I come from."

Victor Arrobas, 18, who is graduating from the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, plans to study at an Israeli yeshivah for a year, with the help of NCSY's Bleeman Family Yeshiva Scholarship. "I think it's important to learn. It doesn't matter if you start university this year or next."

Basin, who received the Poch Family scholarship award and the Jack Erlich memorial scholarship award, plans to attend B'not Torah Institute (Sharfman's).

"It's like a big miracle for me," said Basin, who joined NCSY in Grade 9. Although she felt very welcome at Bais Yaakov, it's not really meant for baalei teshuvah, she said. "I needed another place to sort of show me the love of Torah. Bais Yaakov taught me the rules of Torah and put me in that atmosphere but I still needed that nurturing, a softer approach to Judaism."

Basin will supplement her two NCSY scholarships (the Poch Family scholarship award and the Jack Erlich Memorial Scholarship Award) with private funding and at least two other scholarships (from Beth Tzedec Congregation and Mizrachi). "What I've learned is that when there's a will there's a way, even if it means moving mountains. It can happen if you really try."

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An empty table

Yasser Arafat continues to move the transparent chessman on a board strewn with mounting human misery and missed opportunities. His manoeuvres are predictable, tiresome, but also bloody.

Last week and over the weekend, Palestinians rioted in the Gaza area and in Hebron. In Gaza, one Palestinian died from a heart attack, possibly brought on by tear gas inhalation, and four others were injured near the community of Morag and at Gush Katif. In Hebron, more than 30 Palestinians were hurt in a melee of stones, firebombs, tear gas and rubber bullets.

Israel has accused the Palestinian Authority (PA) of deliberately provoking the rioting. The security establishment believes the outbreaks are part of a campaign directed by the PA to "manufacture" selected crises within the territories to pressure Israel by shining a television spotlight upon the ugly violence before the accusatory eyes of the Arab and western world.

Palestinians attributed this most recent rioting to frustration and anger over the legislative recommendation passed last week by a vote of 406-17 in the House of Representatives of the United States to recognize Jerusalem as the undivided capital of the state of Israel and to allocate $100 million (US) to facilitate the move of the American Embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv. By approving the bill, American legislators sent a poignant, unambiguous message to the PA and to the world that the outcome of final peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians must include a united Jerusalem. At the same time, the Americans also condemned the Palestinian policy of ultimate "rough justice" for anyone who deigned to sell property to Jews.

In typical indifference to truth or to moderation, Arafat belittled the American concern over "the real estate murders." He also pointed to a "conspiracy (American-Israeli) against the peace process." According to the *Jerusalem Post*, Arafat told Palestinian students that "Israel must understand that Jerusalem is the Palestinian nation's capital and will remain forever as an Arab, Islamic and Christian capital."

Then he let loose the rioters.

It is one of his favorite tactics, the gambit of bloodshed, spurning negotiation in favor of confrontation, preferring to sacrifice human life rather than to cherish and protect it.

Within this inflamed and increasingly violent atmosphere, the effort at mediation by Egypt's Osama el-Baz failed to bring the pugilistic peace partners back to the table. Indeed Israelis and Palestinians both, were skeptical of the initiative even before it began. Some Israelis questioned the propriety of Egyptian involvement, citing Egypt's unabated stream of hostile public rhetoric against Israel as well as its widely observed campaign to undermine Israeli economic and diplomatic links with African and other Third World countries. Similarly, many Palestinians discounted the Egyptian initiative as merely a ploy to curry favor in Washington.

Negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians are still at an impasse. The peace process appears moribund. The peace table is now empty. Any move to bring the negotiators back to the table must come from the parties themselves. Outsiders cannot and will not do so. The Americans have already told the parties that they have no intention of launching a new Mideast peace initiative under current conditions.

The next move on the chessboard must be by Arafat. He must consign his grisly gambit to history.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"Wherever we shall be, and however distant the accomplishment of our task, let our Congress be earnest and high-minded, a source of welfare to the unhappy...of honour to all Jewry. Let it be worthy of our past, the renown of which, though remote, is eternal."

(From Herzl's opening address to the Congress)

Dry Bones

WOW! BIBI NOW FACES AN ORGANIZED OPPOSITION ALIGNED AGAINST HIM!
SIP
SO?... FROM THE DAY HE TOOK OFFICE HE'S FACED AN ORGANIZED OPPOSITION ALIGNED AGAINST HIM!
REALLY?
YUP
IT'S CALLED "THE REST OF THE WORLD"
BRIAN LEGER

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

June 21, 1916 Maurice Lipton was born in Sydney, N.S. He was director of all RCAF training during World War II and became chief of operations of the RCAF in 1959. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Breast Cancer risk exaggerated

Like many women, I am well aware of how common breast cancer is in North America, with one out of every nine women affected in her lifetime. Accordingly, I would have been terror-stricken by your article, "Mutated Genes Predispose Jews to Breast Cancer," which was published in the *CJN*, June 5, had I not realized how many inaccuracies and omissions this article contained.

Breast cancer is only slightly more common among Ashkenazi Jews than among non-Jews. Although this slight excess is probably due to a higher incidence of gene mutations which predispose to breast cancer, the majority of breast cancer cases among Jewish women, and the vast majority of cases that occur in those over 50, are *not* due to inherited mutations. This means that most Jewish women who have a mother or sister who has had breast cancer are not at significantly greater risk for cancer than other women their age.

The goal of the city-wide research study described in the article (for which I am the principal investigator) is to determine precisely how likely it is that breast cancer developing in a Jewish woman of a particular age is due to an inherited mutation. An essential feature of this study is that we obtain a totally representative sample of patients. We have a valid method of choosing this sample through our hospital records and do *not* want volunteers from the community, who might be more likely to have other relatives with breast cancer and thus could be more likely to be mutation carriers.

For Jewish women who are mutation carriers, the risk of breast and ovarian cancer is much lower than the estimates given in the *CJN* article. A study published last month in the *New England Journal of Medicine* of over 5,000 men and women in the Washington area, found the risk of breast cancer by age 70 to be just over 50 percent and only 16 percent for ovarian cancer. No excess risk of colon or pancreatic cancer was found, although there was an elevated risk of prostate cancer.

Genetic testing for predisposition to diseases that are neither easily prevented nor routinely cured raises a host of ethical and social issues beyond the scope of this letter. All participants in my study are urged to strongly consider whether they truly want to receive their test results, and, if they do, to think very carefully about the risks and benefits of sharing these results with loved ones.

Ellen Warner, M.D.
Division of Medical Oncology
Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre

Strong Kinshasa link with Canada

The article on the small brave Jewish community of Kinshasa (*CJN*, June 5 "The Rabbi of Kinshasa" by Elias Levy) was stirring. The connection of its rabbi with Canada was fascinating.

However, readers might wish to know two additional pieces of information.

The first is the warm relationship between Rabbi Bentolila and Canada's sole representative in Kinshasa, the head of the Canadian Bureau, Denis Gregoire de Blois, who is frequently the rabbi's guest at Shabbat dinner.

The second is the fact that the consul of Israel there, also a former Canadian, is part of a circle of friends which includes the rabbi and Gregoire.

The Canadian linkages in that perilous city are thus far stronger than those exhibited in the article.

Judy Feld Carr
Toronto

Precious letters are needed

We are seeking letters written during the Holocaust for a research project. Help us to learn from the words of those whose voices were so brutally silenced. Letters and postcards written just prior to the correspondent's deportation are of particular interest. We will gratefully accept correspondence in any language. Copies, not originals letters, will be used for research purposes. If you have in your possession letters from one spouse to another, from a parent to a child or a child to a parent, or written to a friend, please contact:

Carla Wittes
c/o Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre
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Couple trying to prove they are Jewish

A Polish couple who recently moved to Israel is looking for family believed to be living in Canada.

The wife, Renata (Rachel) Debas (daughter of Samuel and Helen), married Marc Israel in Poland three years ago and they now have a baby.

They are having difficulty proving that they are Jewish and are seeking cousins named Meltser or Melzer in Vancouver.

Rav Yehuda Samuel
Bnai Brak, Israel
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Fax: 97235748635

Baba Sali story

Re: Perspectives article about Rabbi Yisrael Abichazira, the Baba Sali in *The CJN*, May 1.

Cantor Aviv Ouanounou's article about Baba Sali was so informative and interesting. It was very well written and explained why Sephardi Jews especially love and honor this great tzaddik!

David and Evelyn Reviva
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Persecution ended 2,500-year presence in Iraq

By SASSON MAYER

About 2,000 Jewish families living in Canada were once part of a large, prosperous and influential community in Iraq. Less than 50 years ago, about 200,000 Jews lived in Iraq. Today only 30 or 40 are left.

According to the census; the population of Baghdad, the capital of Iraq, in 1917 was 100,000. Forty percent of the city were Jews, many of them educated professionals. When the first Chamber of Commerce was established in 1926, it had 10 directors — five Jews, four Muslims and one Christian.

What happened to that community that dated back more than 2,500 years, considered by some to be the oldest Jewish community in the Diaspora?

The majority went to Israel in the early '50s, many rising to positions of prominence. Included in their number were a former chief rabbi of Rishon Lezion, several cabinet ministers, ambassadors and a chief of staff.

But why did they feel compelled to leave Iraq in the first place?

In May 1948 after the War of Independence started in Israel, martial law was declared throughout Iraq. Thousands of Jews were brought before military courts and charged with all kinds of ridiculous crimes. For example, in a single day, 10 prominent businessmen, most of them over 60 years of age, were arrested and charged with participating in pro-Communist demonstrations. They were each convicted and sentenced to pay severe fines.

Adjusting to life as new immigrants in Beit Lid.

In the city of Basra, a well-known Jewish businessman was arrested and falsely charged with selling arms to Israel. He was sentenced to death by hanging.

No one was spared the barbarity of the show trials, not even a Jewish judge of the Supreme Court or the Jewish friend of the Iraqi prime minister.

Jews were forbidden to leave Iraq.

My brother, who had previously obtained a student exit visa to specialize in surgery in England, was among the last to leave Iraq at that time. In order for him to leave, he had to pay a deposit of 2,000 pounds in cash, as a guaranty of his return to Iraq.(A house in Baghdad at that time was worth about 1,000 pounds.) But even that was not enough to ensure his departure. In addition, it was agreed that I would go to the minister of the interior at his office to personally pay him 400 pounds, in exchange for his signature on my brother's exit visa.

Jews who had held top positions in most of the ministries, and who bore much of the responsibility for conducting the country's business since 1920, when the state was established, began to be fired from their posts.

Pressure was also placed on Jewish importers, whose businesses went back many generations. They began facing delays and difficulties. New import licences appeared that were issued to non-Jewish people who knew nothing about business. The head of the government ministry in charge told me one night: "If you want to continue in the import business, find a Muslim partner."

This painful situation continued, but the Jews were led to believe it was a temporary crisis that would pass like a hurricane passes, leaving damage behind but with a promise of the return to tranquillity and peace.

And in fact, some relief did arrive.

There was a change in the government and the new minister of the interior started issuing exit visas for Jews on the basis of one of three reasons: health, education and business.

Believing that the crisis was temporary, I decided to apply for a visa to England.

Throughout Iraq, however, Jews still suffered. There was high unemployment and the ever-present possibility of violence: being killed or kidnapped, of bombs being thrown, or blackmail.

It seemed to us, the Jewish community, that behind all the laws, the investigations, the trials and the torture, there was a plan to break us up and to defeat us.

A new campaign of arrest, torture and interrogation began after the defeat of the Iraqi forces in Israel. Over 2,000 Jews were arrested in a short period of time, more than 230 of them girls. All were arrested in the late hours of the night.The government even arrested parents for not knowing where their sons and daughters were.

The Jewish community in Iraq was paralyzed and had reached a low level of morale. The authorities seized on the situation to complete the "last chapter" of Jewish communal life in Iraq.

At the beginning of 1949, Nuri Al-Said became prime minister. The martial laws that had been declared in May 1948 were still in force. Al-Said used these laws to strengthen his hold on power by liquidating his opponents.

Even though he failed to achieve his dream of uniting Iraq with Syria, Al-Said, the "old fox," realized that his star would shine if he took a hard line on the Palestinian situation. The opportunity came with the events that followed the cease-fire agreements with Israel.

It was reported that early in 1949, at a meeting with the prime minister of Jordan, Samir Elrafi, in the presence of the British ambassador to Jordan, Al-Said suggested that the Jews of Iraq be loaded on military trucks accompanied by armored cars and taken to the Jordanian-Iraqi border.

Nothing further became of this report; nor was the specifically rumored action ever taken. But the dangerous situation of the Jews of Iraq became widely known around the world. The arrests and the persecutions continued

In July 1949, Al-Said suggested that an exchange of populations be made by transferring the Jews of Iraq to Israel and allowing the Palestinians to live in Iraq. These proposals were sent to Israel's representative in France through a "special" channel. Britain was said to support the idea and reportedly declared her willingness to assist.

In October 1949, a rumor" circulated claiming that Iraq had presented a suggestion in one of the committees of the United Nations that Iraqi Jews be exchanged for Palestinian Arab refugees. However, The *New York Times* published a letter from the Iraqi ambassador in Washington saying that Iraq totally rejected the idea of a population exchange and that the idea was a Zionist idea.

On December 12, 1949, Al-Said resigned. A pro-Egyptian prime minister formed a new government, but he was forced to resign quickly under the pressure of the Iraqi parliament the majority of whom were Al-Said supporters.

A new government was then formed by Tawfiq Al-Suwaidi. On Feb. 27, 1950, it announced that passports would shortly be made available to the Jews.

On March 10, a law was presented to the Iraqi parliament that aimed to denationalize those Jews who wished to renounce their Iraqi nationality. It was passed the same day. The law was received by the Jewish community with a great deal of astonishment mixed, oddly, with hope and despair. The Jews of Iraq realized that the curtain had come down on them and they had no choice but to face the bitter fact and leave the country – the country that they had once served loyally and proudly.

"How could it be true?", they asked

They realized they had been sentenced cruelly and were being forced to leave and to endure the unknown and the hardship of expatriation, leaving behind their all their memories, their friends and their history. Homes and their contents were sold for a fraction of their true value

Then a new law struck the Iraqi Jews. In March 1951, the government of Iraq issued a law to freeze and confiscate the assets of anyone who applied to immigrate to Israel, as well as of those who were already outside the country and would not return within 90 days. Suddenly, the majority of Jews found themselves with no means to exist while they waited to leave for Israel. When it was time to go, they closed the doors of their homes, leaving everything behind, looking back in melancholy upon a place and a past that had once been home.

Iraqi Jews, stripped of their citizenship, start a new life.

But that past has not been lost. Today, in Israel, in Or Yehuda, a suburb near Tel Aviv there is a 10,000-square-feet building called the Babylonian Heritage Centre. It is a museum and research institution that documents and records the history and the traditions of the Iraqi Jewish community. The centre publishes books and produces films. The history of the Jews of Iraq is also now included in the Israeli school curriculum.

Sasson Mayer, an expatriate Iraqi, lives and writes in Toronto.

Nurses tending to the youngest of the new arrivals from Iraq in Kfar Ana. [All photos on this page are from *Fascinating Life and Sensational Death*, Gourji C. Bekhor, Peli Printing, 1990]

Opinions

Help is on the way for agunot

Jewish divorce is the prerogative of the male partner; the husband gives a *get* to the wife, thus freeing her for remarriage. Should he refuse, she becomes an agunah (one who is anchored, chained, tied). Without a *get*, should she remarry, her children will be bastards, prohibited from marrying other Jews. The children of the recalcitrant husband with another wife are not bastards and he can marry at will (although most rabbis would, we hope, refuse to perform such a ceremony if they knew the man had refused his former wife a *get*).

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Legion are the stories of women whose husbands have refused to give a *get*. One Israeli husband died in jail rather than comply. An extreme case of a disturbed individual? Yes, but no remedy could be found by the Rabbanut over the span of decades to help these women.

And here at home? Women who have been abused, women who are forced to surrender assets to which they are legally entitled, women held to ransom by families of men who see this as a way to extort huge parts of a divorce settlement — all these are true cases of the agony of the agunah, the bound wife.

Enter a feisty coalition of women, the Canadian Coalition of Jewish Women for the Get (est. 1986). In just over 10 years, this coalition of women's groups has worked a wonder in our county. They pressed the Canadian government for a secular solution (divorce being a federal matter) and in 1990, they were rewarded. On Aug. 12, Parliament passed a law declaring that "there shall be no divorce if one party retains barriers to the religious marriage of their spouse that are within their control."

According to Norma Joseph, a leader of the coalition, a recent study shows that in about three-quarters of the cases where the *get* was a problem, the law has been effective. Lawyers often advise the husband who is refusing to give a *get* that this law will seriously hamper the divorce.

"It usually works," says Joseph. "The cases usually never get to court once the spouse has sent the required affidavit to court that her husband is recalcitrant."

The judicial weapons are powerful. The judge can suspend the hearings and there will be no divorce when that happens, or where the case is argued over assets, the judge can disregard the husband's claims and rule totally in favor of the wife.

"But," Joseph cautions, "this won't work if the husband flees or the divorce was final before the law was passed."

Other ways have been tried, including vigils, requests to Jewish organizations to withhold membership and privileges from men who won't give a *get*, and education of women in the use of the law.

Evelyn Brook, another leader of the coalition, points out that more and more synagogues are setting policies withholding membership privileges from recalcitrant spouses (who refuse three times to appear before a beit din). The federation in Toronto has also passed a bylaw, and recently Montreal and Winnipeg have joined the ranks. In addition, there are numbers that women in Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal can call for help.

The Montreal number is 514-731-2365. Leave a first name, phone number, and a time when you can be reached, and a return confidential call will be made. No messages are left on machines, in case the other spouse is in the house. The coalition also wants the names of recalcitrant spouses made public so that the culprit can be shunned by the peer group.

The Canadian Coalition and the International Coalition for Agunah Rights (ICAR) want more. In 1993, the Rabbanut of Israel was asked to investigate halachic solutions to this age-long issue. While the amount of literature on *gittin* probably exceeds the distance between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, the rabbinic committee still sits. Meanwhile, women suffer (recall that men can remarry without halachic stigma).

According to Joseph, there are ways to approach the issue, including annulment, a clause in the ketubah, acceptable coercion and conditional divorce. As her sister in Jewish feminism, Blu Greenberg, has put it, "where there is a rabbinic will, there is a halachic way". Then what is the problem? Joseph cites two.

One is that by nature the Jewish court is a conservative body, refusing to use the remedies "expansively" instead of in small, tentative doses.

The second is the heart-breaker. There are, both women note, rabbis whose portion in the world to come is assured because they support women. But as an institution, "the beit din cannot hear the voice of women" and often women do not know how to speak on their own behalf. "If the rabbis can't hear, they need to learn how to listen. If women can't advocate, they need to learn how to advocate" on their own behalf, says Joseph.

It is here that our communities need to stand up. A video and study guide, funded by the Ministry of Multiculturalism and the Status of Women, will be available this fall. I urge communities across Canada to use this important educational tool. Sisterhoods, federations, Congress, synagogues and women's groups like Jewish Women International, Hadassah-Wizo and National Council of Jewish Women who are part of the coalition, here is your chance to educate your communities about the rights of both partners and the responsibilities and remedies available when one Jew would persecute another.

Avoiding the Golem of technology

For all the speed, efficiency — and mistakes — of computers, I have managed to avoid using them without any noticeable deficit. Unless you consider my reasonably straight back, years of unchanged eyesight and a lack of tendonitis in my arms and fingers as defects.

By Shel Krakofsky in London

So don't try to e-mail me with testimonials about modems, bytes and the Internet. I rely on hand-delivered mail, conversations, the telephone, library and personal contact for information and communication. At best, my life is less anxious without these contraptions and at worst, I'm only a couple of days behind the computer junkies who whiz and trip around their world. If they think the universe is incomplete unless it is wired, consider the metaphors and lessons produced by horror and Golem stories.

In the most famous story of this genre, Frankenstein, first published anonymously in 1818 by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley (yes, the wife of Percy Bysshe), Victor Frankenstein, a scientist, creates an ugly creature who asks his maker to give him a mate. When Frankenstein agrees but then reneges in horror, the monster (who is given no name) retaliates by murdering Frankenstein's wife, brother and best friend.

Shelley's monster can speak and although initially gentle and cooperative, eventually turns on his creator. There is prescience in this warning about the coming scientific age and the modern computer.

It is interesting to speculate whether Shelley knew about the Golem legends that preceded her tale by hundreds of years. There are significant and important differences. A Golem cannot speak. Also, it is destroyed before it can go too far. And unlike the Frankenstein model, ultimately it is the creator that destroys the created, not the other way around.

There is also the spiritual dimension. The word Golem appears only once in the Torah, in Psalm 139, verse 16, where it is translated as "embryo," that is, something in a state of incompletion.

The most famous Golem in Jewish folklore is credited to Rabbi Judah Loew ben Bezalel, also known as the Maharal of Prague. The rabbi, so the story goes, put a slip of parchment into the mouth of his clay creation with the ineffable name of God. So long as the parchment remained in his mouth, the Golem took orders and functioned as a body without a soul. This creature helped Rabbi Loew take care of the Jews of Prague between 1580 to 1590.

On Shabbat, the rabbi would remove the parchment and the Golem would become inanimate for the day of rest. After 10 years, one Friday night, the rabbi forgot to remove the Name. The Golem grew to monstrous proportions, ran wild and threatened to destroy the very community it was meant to serve.

Unable to reason with his creation, Rabbi Loew was eventually able to snatch the Name from its mouth. The Golem of Prague toppled to the ground, a mound of lifeless clay, never to rise again.

According to other versions, the word *emet* (truth) was written on the Golem's forehead and when the letter aleph was erased, the word *met* (dead) remained and the Golem was terminated.

Computers and their electronic progeny can be overused by rapid, repetitive and impersonal interaction so that people no longer have to speak or meet. This is undoubtedly part of the allure of these artificial sweeteners of communication.

When it comes time twice a year to change the clocks in our home, I can neither spring forward nor fall back unless somebody under 30 is at home. And if it weren't for these charitable acts of technological loving kindness, there are several appliances that would blink 12:00 indefinitely after power outages. Although I have figured out how to abolish the annoying strobe effect until help arrives — a piece of black tape over the timers.

Maybe I'm just getting cranky and grumpy with age as the Golem of technology is gaining ability and memory while I'm losing my own.

The Jewish Cemetery at Newport

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882) was once a household name, whose poems were taught in school and widely quoted, but I don't know whether the present generation has any notion of this splendid craftsman of verse.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Buried amongst his many creations is a poem that I recently found quoted in full on the Internet. Called *The Jewish Cemetery At Newport*, it consists of 15 stanzas and presents a compassionate and intelligent appreciation of the Jewish people — but ends on a note that history has proven wrong.

Newport was an early American colony and its Jewish cemetery, established in 1677, is believed to be the oldest in the United States. The first Jewish settlers in the Rhode Island town had come from Barbados. Longfellow visited the little enclave and wrote his poem of which some stanzas are reproduced here:

How strange it seems! These Hebrews in their graves,
Close by the street of this fair seaport town,
Silent beside the never-silent waves,
At rest in all this moving up and down!

And these sepulchral stones, so old and brown,
That pave with level flags their burial-place,
Seem like the tablets of the Law thrown down
And broken by Moses at the mountain's base.

The names recorded here are strange,
Of foreign accent, and of different climes;
Alvares and Rivera interchange
With Abraham and Jacob of old times.

"Blessed be God, for he created Death!"
The mourners said, "and Death is rest and peace;"
Then added, in the certainty of faith,
"And giveth Life that nevermore shall cease."

Closed are the portals of their Synagogue,
No psalms of David now the silence break,
The Rabbi reads the ancient Decalogue
In the grand dialect the prophets spake.

Pride and humiliation hand in hand
Walked with them through the world where'er they went;
Trampled and beaten were they as the sand,
And yet unshaken as the continent.

And thus forever with reverted look
The mystic volume of the world they read,
Spelling it backward, like a Hebrew book,
Till life became a Legend of the Dead.

Now comes the last stanza, written with less than prophetic foresight. But in this respect, Longfellow was no worse than some other judges of Jewish destiny. Here is his fogged vision:

But ah! what once has been shall be no more!
The groaning earth in travail and in pain
Brings forth its races, but does not restore,
And the dead nations never rise again.

The Kirshner File

Israel's ties with Switzerland unaffected by controversy

Switzerland is embroiled in an international controversy regarding the policies of its government and the conduct of its

By Sheldon Kirshner

banks during and after World War II. But for all intents and purposes, these swirling conflicts have had no direct effect on Israel's relationship with Switzerland, according to Gabriel Padon, Israel's ambassador in Bern.

"We are not directly involved," said Padon in an interview in his office at the Israeli embassy.

"Israel has decided to let the World Jewish Restitution Organization handle the entire matter," explained Padon, referring to the unresolved question of Jewish dormant accounts in Swiss banks deposited by victims of the Holocaust. "It is better this way."

During the 1950s and 1960s, Israel pressed Switzerland for a full accounting of the fate of heirless Jewish assets. Israel was rebuffed on the grounds that it was not a party to the dispute and did not represent world Jewry.

At times, Israel's intervention stirred tension. "One of my predecessors was accused of interfering in Swiss internal affairs," said Padon, who bears an uncanny resemblance to the late U.S. president Lyndon Baines Johnson.

The Israeli government's calculated decision to remain publicly aloof from the controversy has not, however, insulated Israel from the fallout. "The embassy has received a few hundred anti-Semitic letters in the past year and a half," disclosed Padon, who assumed his current position in 1995, just as Switzerland's role in the disposition of Nazi-looted European gold came under intense scrutiny. "Before, we got a few such letters."

In Padon's view, Switzerland is trying to come to terms with its past. "The Swiss government has done what is possible to do, although a solution will take time, given Switzerland's political system. Of course, all this should have been done 50 years ago."

***

The current disputes cloud Switzerland's role, however indirect, in the birth of Israel. One hundred years ago in August, the first Zionist congress took place in the northern Swiss city of Basel, an hour's train ride from Bern. The Basel Program, which outlined plans for a Jewish state, emerged from these proceedings. Theodor Herzl, the founder of modern political Zionism, claimed he founded the Jewish state in Basel.

A century later, Israel's bilateral ties with Switzerland are on a firm footing, with at least one major irritant having been disposed of since the launch of the Oslo peace process in 1993.

For many years, Swiss companies complied with the Arab economic boycott and refused to deal with Israel. "Not so today," said Padon.

A number of Swiss corporations, spearheaded by Nestle and Movenpick, have invested in Israel. Swiss banks have discovered the Israeli Stock Exchange. The Union Bank of Switzerland, one of the largest, has opened an office in Tel Aviv. In September, a Swiss economic delegation is expected in Israel. And now, Israel and Switzerland are poised to sign a treaty to eliminate the problem of double taxation.

Trade is booming. Last year, Swiss exports to Israel totalled $1.6 billion (US). Raw diamonds led the way, followed by chemicals, high-precision machines, watches, pharmaceuticals and textiles.

Israeli exports to Switzerland, valued at $322 million (US) in 1996, were principally computer software, electronics, medical instruments, agricultural produce and military equipment.

From munitions to fire-control systems, Switzerland is Israel's best European customer of military-related products, Padon noted.

Under a licensing agreement signed about a decade ago, Israel and Switzerland jointly manufacture drones, or teleguided reconnaisance aircraft.

Israel and Switzerland enjoy a close degree of military co-operation. In the wake of the 1948 War of Independence, Yigael Yadin, Israel's chief of staff, went to Switzerland to study its reserve system. Israel embraced it, and the refinements Israel introduced were absorbed by Switzerland.

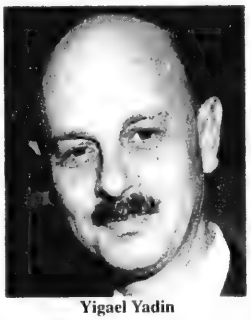
But harmony has not always been the leit motif of Israel's military ties with Switzerland. In 1971, Alfred Frauenknecht, a Swiss aeronautical engineer, was arrested on charges of spying for Israel.

He had provided Israel with blueprints of the newest Mirage jet, whose further sale to Israel France had prohibited following the 1967 Six Day War. Frauenknecht was convicted of industrial espionage and given a four-year prison sentence.

Israel's cultural links with Switzerland are vast and varied, noted Padon, a seasoned, Viennese-born diplomat who has served in Paris, New York, London and Bonn and who was once deputy director of the foreign ministry's cultural relations division.

"There is a lot going on. The Israel Philharmonic, for example, is here practically every year."

As a result of the recent spate of suicide bombings in Jerusalem and



Yigael Yadin

Tel Aviv, there has been a downturn in Swiss tourism to Israel. But terrorism has not inhibited Swiss Jews from visiting Israel: Switzerland has the highest aliyah rate per capita in Europe, and family visits are common.

Switzerland, a neutral power, has an even-handed approach in its dealings with Israel and its Arab neighbors. The Swiss not only support the peace process, but bolster it as a donor nation to the Palestine Authority, as a participant of an unarmed observer force in Hebron and as a member of the human rights working group in the now-suspended multilateral peace track.

Switzerland's relations with the Palestinians are fairly close. Before Israel's rapprochement with the PLO four years ago, Switzerland was supportive of Palestinian self-determination and therefore favored the participation of the PLO in a meaningful peace process. To that end, Swiss officials had regular contacts with PLO representatives in Bern and abroad.

In December 1988, Yasser Arafat, the PLO chieftain, used a forum in Geneva to express support of United Nations Resolution 242 and of Israel's existence.

But Switzerland's status as a neutral was not always respected by the Palestinians.

• In 1969, Palestinian terrorists attacked an El Al plane in Zurich. The Israeli security guard fired back and killed an Arab assailant. He was arrested and jailed for about a year.

• In 1970, in what by far was the worst terrorist incident in Swiss history, a Swissair plane bound for Tel Aviv exploded in midair, killing everyone aboard. The explosion was attributed to Palestinian terrorists.

Since then, Switzerland has been spared similar incidents.

The one obvious point of friction between Israel and Switzerland turns on the Magen David Adom (MDA).

For the past 48 years, Israel has been seeking the admission of the MDA into the Geneva-based International Red Cross. But due to Muslim pressure, the request has been shelved repeatedly.

Officially, the International Red Cross is independent, but in fact it is "a Swiss baby," as an Israeli ambassador here described it a decade ago.

Asked to provide an update of MDA's campaign to be admitted into the International Red Cross, Padon confined himself to two observations. "This is handled by Israel's mission in Geneva," he said. "At the moment, it's not a subject that's being discussed."

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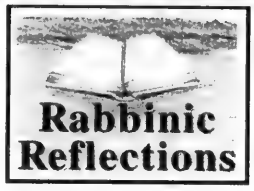

Weighing damages important when evaluating lashon hara

By REUVEN TRADBURKS

If someone asks you for a reference are you allowed to say lashon hara and tell them all the bad things about this person? This question comes up all the time in the context of discussing lashon hara, speaking evil of someone else.

We are not allowed to say bad things about another person. I cannot say "If you are having Chaim over for dinner you better prepare an extra chicken — he eats like a horse." You cannot even give this same negative impression indirectly: "They are serving lox at kiddush today and since Chaim isn't here, there is a good chance we'll even get a piece."

I have a responsibility to not damage Chaim's reputation in your eyes. I may not even use body language to convey the same information — making a face as if smelling a bad smell when Chaim's name is mentioned.

Miriam, Moshe's sister, spoke ill of Moshe in this week's parshah (Numbers, chapter 12) and was punished for doing so.

This principle of lashon hara severely shapes our conversations. When speaking of others we cannot relate their faults — they are messy, slow, lax in getting work done, unreliable, don't tell the truth.

However, what if Chaim works for me, or is a good friend of mine, and does in fact display some of these weaknesses? What if Chaim is unreliable, doesn't tell the full truth, is slow and messy? He is a nice guy, a friend of mine, but truthfully he does have his faults.

What do I do if someone calls me for a reference for this person, or calls me for my input into helping their daughter decide whether to marry Chaim? Do I tell the truth and violate saying lashon hara or do I speak only positive things about Chaim and not tell the truth?

Rav Hershel Shachter, rosh kollel of Yeshiva University, likes to point out that lashon hara is a derivative of the principle of damages. I am not permitted to damage your property. I am not permitted to damage your body by punching you in the nose. I am also not permitted to damage your reputation.

Now, what if I am faced with two conflicting damages — I can damage your reputation by speaking the truth about your unreliability or I can damage this poor young woman's future life by hiding your unreliability? Why should I protect your reputation at the expense of her life? What if the case is a case of abuse — do I protect your reputation at the expense of a child's physical abuse? Why is your reputation more important than a child's life or a battered wife's life? Even in business, why should I protect your reputation while possibly causing an employer financial loss or at least great aggravation?

In all these cases, the greater damage will be caused by protecting your reputation; in all these cases you are required to tell the truth, however damaging to this person's reputation, in order to protect the lives and property of others.

Lashon hara requires us to protect the reputation of others. However, there are many times when we have a much greater responsibility to protect the lives, both physical and emotional, of others.

Rabbi Tradburks is spiritual leader of Kehillat Shaarei Torah in Toronto.

Torah and technology

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

In my previous column, we looked at some of the weekly Torah commentaries that are available on the World Wide Web. But what if you want to read the original Torah? No problem — if you know where to travel on the Jewish Highway.

One of the most impressive sites that I have come across anywhere is World ORT Union's Navigating the Bible **[http://bible.ort.org/]**. This remarkable site is a one-stop resource for anyone studying Torah. There are many goodies here, such as a calendar to look up the proper Torah and Haftorah readings for any Shabbat. And there's even an atlas map so you can follow the Israelites on the trek to the Land of Israel or illustrations of wildlife mentioned in the Bible.

But the centrepiece of this site is the online Torah. Every verse of the Torah can be viewed in Hebrew, Hebrew transliterated into English and English **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/index/inx_tora.htm]**. In addition, each Hebrew verse appears both the way it appears as written on Torah scrolls and in a Chumash with "nekudot" (vowels) and "trope" (musical notation). And since each verse appears as a picture rather than text, you can read the Hebrew on your computer even if you *don't* have Hebrew fonts installed. And last but not least, if you want to have the verse sung to you, simply click on the speaker icon and you'll hear it thanks to RealAudio **[http://get.real.com/products/player/download.html]**.

If you want to hear another version of the Torah's musical notes sung to you, then try out Ellie's Torah Trope Tutor **[http://www.mat.net/~ewackerm/]**. Ellie's audio files use the .wav format. He provides a link on his Tutor page to a site where you can download free .wav plug-ins.

If you do have Hebrew fonts installed, then you should also visit the Hebrew University Bible site **[http://www1.snunit.k12.il/kodesh/bible/mbible.html]**. In a different approach, this Hebrew-only site has every verse of the Torah cross-referenced to any mention in the Talmud. The only drawback is that all of the Torah text is written without nekudot. Unfortunately, browsers such as Netscape Navigator and Internet Explorer cannot yet handle Hebrew text with vowels.

I haven't tried this, but apparently you can even download the entire Tanach in Hebrew and English onto your hard drive. Go to **[http://www.simtel.net/pub/simtelnet/msdos/torah/]** and **[gopher://shamash.org:70/11/judaica/tanach/text]**. Please note that these files are quite large and the downloading can be complicated.

Also, some of these files may be unsuitable for Macs or IBM-compatible PCs.

You can find a straight English translation of the Torah along with a commentary at Navigating the Bible **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/index/inx_tora.htm]**. The translation is taken from *The Living Torah* by Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan. There's even a search engine on that page that enables you to search the entire Torah for a word or a name **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/util/sea.htm]**. You can search other Bible translations at Brown University's Bible Browser Basic Home Page **[http://goon.stg.brown.edu/bible_browser/pbeasy.shtml]**.

How else is technology being used to shed light on the Torah? Well, there is the raging controversy over "Torah Codes." Researchers have entered the entire text of the book of Bereishit (Genesis) into a computer and programmed it to search for unusual word patterns. And some unusual patterns were indeed found. In hindsight, the codes seem to mention the Gulf War and President Bill Clinton's 1992 election. But can these patterns be used to predict events? There lies the controversy. You can find scholarly articles on Official Torah Codes at **[http://www.cybermail.net/~codes/index.htm]** and a *Time* magazine article on this topic at **[http://pathfinder.com/time/magazine/1997/dom/970609/religion.deciphering_g.html]**.

Jews have been the People of the Book for thousands of years. And that's not about to change no matter what newfangled technology comes along.

But there are some Torah sites on the Jewish Highway that offer ingenious features found in no printed text.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Obituary

Ben Dunkelman: A hero in war and peace

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ben Dunkelman was a proud fighter in two wars for two countries, a clothing marketing whiz, a builder, an art connoisseur, a restaurateur and a Zionist who followed through on his ideals. He was also a true larger-than-life hero.

Dunkelman died peacefully June 11 at Mount Sinai Hospital, losing his final battle, this one to cancer. He was 83.

Hollywood screenwriters could not have penned a more storied life. Dunkelman even looked the part: tall, strapping and with flowing hair. But underneath the suave demeanor lurked a warrior ("by necessity, not choice," he would say) for Canada and for Israel, where he fought alongside the founders of the state.

Unlike many in his time, he was born into wealth and privilege in Toronto, where his childhood home was a rambling, English-style mansion set on a 90-acre estate known as Sunnybrook Farm.

The family's wealth was a result of his father's business success. David Dunkelman was a poor immigrant from Macover, Poland, who started a wholesale suit company on Yonge Street, which grew to become Tip Top Tailors.

Academics at Upper Canada College interested Ben little. Rather, it was on the sporting pitch where he came into his own, excelling in football and boxing.

Thanks to Dunkelman's mother, Rose Miller, the family home became a salon for visiting Zionist leaders. One of them particularly impressed the young Dunkelman. The visitor had just returned from a game reserve in Africa. "Although the world has set aside land for animals," the visitor rued, "there is none for the Jews." The man was Chaim Weizmann, who later became Israel's first president.

In 1930, on his 17th birthday, Dunkelman's parents presented him with a return ticket to Palestine. He turned the vacation into a one-year stay.

As an orange grower and watchman at Tel Asher, a small, windswept settlement north of Tel Aviv, Dunkelman endured backbreaking toil, sleep deprivation and the constant tension of keeping watch against Arab marauders, equipped only with an old shotgun and his physical prowess. He was paid 20 piastres (one dollar) a day — enough to buy a donkey.

The pampered kid who left Toronto a year before returned a toughened 19-year-old, ready to make his mark at Tip Top Tailors.

But when Canada declared war on Germany in 1939, Dunkelman signed up for armed service. He joined the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, and rose from rifleman to major. He also won the Distinguished Service Order for heroism.

His wartime exploits made news back home, when the federal Liberals offered him a safe parliamentary seat in the heavily Jewish riding of Spadina in the 1945 election. But he turned the MP's job down after his troops implored him not to leave.

Another far-off war beckoned in 1948. Even before the British pulled out of Palestine, Dunkelman had been serving as Canadian chair of the Haganah, which recruited some 1,000 Canadian volunteers to join Jewish fighters in Palestine — more than from any other country.

Dunkelman became the first member of the Machal (foreign volunteers) to sneak through the British blockade, slipping into the country on a fake British passport.

His immediate superior upon his arrival was a tall lad with a fair complexion and blue eyes. At 26, Yitzhak Rabin was the youngest brigade commander in the Israeli forces.

"We Jews have a secret weapon in our struggle with the Arabs," Rabin once told him. "We have no other place to go."

Rabin handed Dunkelman the task of re-opening the road from the coastal plain and relieving the Arab siege of Jerusalem. Using the know-how he had picked up in Europe, Dunkelman employed mortars and after a fierce fight, the unit retook the entire 50-kilometre strip.

Rabin remained a friend and even wrote the forward to Dunkelman's gripping 1976 biography, *Dual Allegiance*, pointing out that a grateful Israel named a bridge that skirts the Lebanese border Ben's Bridge in Dunkelman's honor.

David Ben-Gurion, the country's first prime minister, also took a keen interest in Dunkelman and named him commander of the Armored 7th Brigade, which captured all of the Galilee in the fight for independence.

During the campaign, Dunkelman met Yael Lifshitz. They were married for nearly 50 years.

At war's end Ben-Gurion offered Dunkelman the peacetime job of commanding the entire Israeli armored corps, with the rank of full colonel, and the likelihood of becoming Israel's chief of staff. But Dunkelman had to go back home to attend to his dying mother.

He took over Tip Top Tailors, and soon, children arrived. But when he visited Israel, Dunkelman would spend hours with Ben-Gurion, who would wonder, "How could you live anywhere else but Israel?"

Dunkelman became firmly established in business in Toronto, building the Cloverdale Shopping Centre and the Constellation Hotel. After a near-fatal heart attack in 1967, he sold the business, and he and Yael realized a dream by opening the Dunkelman Gallery, which was chosen as Picasso's exclusive representative in Canada. They also entered the restaurant business with Dunkelman's Fine Dining and The Daily Planet, which he sold about five years ago.

Dunkelman was fond of saying that his dual allegiance gave him the pleasure of two lives and of serving two countries he loved. Like the Spanish philosopher Yehuda Halevi, Dunkelman was in the West, but his heart was always in Israel.

Besides his wife, he leaves six children, Rose, Lorna, Deenah, Daphna, David and Jonathan, and eight grandchildren.

Ben Dunkelman in Tel Asher uniform, armed to deal with intruders. Photo from *Dual Allegiance* (Crown Publishers Inc., N.Y., 1976)

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An undated photograph of a needlepoint class at Ogden Public School, part of the Torah to Textbook in Toronto exhibit.

Toronto school board exhibit honors Jewish population

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Former and current Jewish residents of downtown Toronto, an area to which today's community owes its origins, won't want to miss a summer exhibit at the Toronto Board of Education (TBE) paying tribute to the city's Jewish population.

"Torah to Textbook in Toronto," which opened in late May in the board's lobby (155 College St.), pays homage to the city's Jewish community, especially the once-vibrant one in the downtown core, for its contributions to education, the arts, sports and medicine.

Dozens of archival photos, artifacts, books, news clips and even report cards trace local Jewry's involvement with the TBE from 1850 on (the 1846 census listed 12 "adult male" Jews in the city), and take the viewer back to the old neighborhoods, with their soda fountains, Yiddish signs, shtiebels, mutual benefit societies and, often, their grinding poverty.

Mounted by the Friends of the Sesquicentennial Museum of the TBE, the exhibit is dedicated to Willie Zimmerman, a Harbord Collegiate grad and co-founder of the Harbord Club. Zimmerman lent many of the photographs. Others came from personal collections and the Ontario Jewish Archives. It took two years to collect all the items, says exhibit committee chair Arlene Freeman.

Divided into sections, the exhibit pays special attention to now-famous Jewish graduates of Toronto public schools, among them, former mayor and MPP Phil Givens; Harry Arthurs, former president of York University; conductor Victor Feldbrill; record magnate Sam Sniderman; one-time federal cabinet minister Robert Kaplan; comics Johnnie Wayne and Frank Shuster; lawyer Eddie Goodman; and community activist and author Irving Abella.

Women aren't forgotten. A section on "Women of Valor" recalls educators Ida Siegal and Trudi Fidler, as well as Beth Sky, Ontario's first Jewish female pharmacist.

But sentimentalists will likely prefer tripping down memory lane: One section is devoted to "The Ward" — downtown Toronto's first really Jewish area — bounded by University and Yonge, and College south to Queen streets. This was before immigrant Jews spread westward to streets like Spadina, Baldwin, Palmerston and Cecil, putting additional demands on the TBE system.

Among the artifacts displayed are authentic textbooks, class pictures, pushkes, and an original "Gentiles Only" sign from the Metro Zoo in the '50s. That's offset by the original Magen David prizefighter Sammy Luftspring wore stitched on his trunks.

In all, the exhibit showcases just how effortlessly Jews found their place in Toronto, and in its public school system. Given the resurgence in recent years of the downtown Jewish community, it's all the more relevant.

The exhibit continues until September.

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A special thank you to the many dedicated volunteers who worked so hard to make this year's visit a resounding success.

Thank you to our generous hosts of special receptions:
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Greater Toronto Area

Warsaw Ghetto fighter had narrow escape

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Enjoying a cup of tea and homemade apple torte with John Fields and his wife Dorothy in their North York home, it is hard to believe that just over half a century ago, this quiet-spoken, gentle man was an underground fighter proficient with guns and grenades, who killed Nazis and those who collaborated with the Germans.

Special Feature

Honored twice by the Polish government for his bravery as a patriot during the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising's final battle in 1943 and for his heroic activities in the Polish Home Army during the Polish Uprising in 1944, Fields still weeps when he talks of his almost unspeakable memories of the war years.

Born in Warsaw, he was 16 years old when the war broke out. His father, Lazer Feldberg, died when he was 3 years old, leaving his widow with three sons, of whom John was the youngest. The oldest, Norman, had left Poland before the war to study at Harvard University and their brother Yiddle, who was in the Polish underground, was parachuted behind the German lines in Russia and was never heard from again.

In 1942, Fields and his mother Gittle were moved with the other Jews to the Warsaw Ghetto. A Polish customer of the family's retail produce business, who was a captain in the Polish army, gave Fields false papers identifying him as an ethnic German living in Poland. Fields became a member of the underground and since he was blond and blue-eyed, he was able to move freely in and out of the ghetto.

He obtained false Polish papers for his mother; however, when he went to the ghetto on a Friday in April 1993, he learned that his mother had been taken away a few days before — never to be seen again.

Filled with grief, he was persuaded by his uncle to stay in the ghetto for the weekend. At 2 a.m. on Sunday morning, April 19, 1943, Wladek, a member of the Jewish Combat Organization in the ghetto, came to alert the population that the Germans were circling the ghetto and they were going to attack in the morning.

Throughout the night, the Jews began building barricades and bringing out guns and ammunition amassed through the underground. At daybreak, 2,000 heavily armed SS troops entered the ghetto.

"We let them move in very close to us, then we opened fire," Fields says. The Germans were stunned and many Germans were killed before they retreated. The ghetto losses were minimal.

Taking the weapons from the Germans who had been killed, the Jews continued fighting as the Germans returned over and over again. History has recorded the 27 days that the Jews displayed fierce resistance to the major attacks of the Nazis.

John and Dorothy Fields are seen in 1993 at the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

Fields describes the bravery of the Jews as they were pushed back, refusing to surrender. He recalls burning buildings, human torches, mothers throwing their children out of burning buildings and Jews taking their own lives to avoid capture.

Along with some others, Fields escaped into the sewer system, where there was panic and chaos and where many Jews drowned. Realizing that some Jews had escaped that way, the Germans threw grenades into the sewer openings.

After three days in darkness and slime, Fields, wearing a Polish underground insignia, climbed out of a manhole during the night and fainted on the road. A passing Polish streetcar conductor stopped and slapped him to revive him.

He created a story that he had been ordered by the underground to deliver weapons to the ghetto and the conductor helped him make contact with the underground, where he continued to pose as a Pole. Fields says the man later discovered he was Jewish but did not betray him.

Among his many brushes with detection and death, Fields recalls being recognized as a Jew by a German officer who called him to his office.

Rather than interrogate him and turn him in, the German allowed him to return to a labor force. While being escorted to work by the German, Fields began backing out of the line.

"I am sure he saw me escaping, but he didn't do anything. Later, I heard that he was arrested and accused of being a Communist."

Zbigniew Mitczarski, the Polish man who had saved Fields after his escape from the sewer, fought with him in the underground.

During the Polish uprising in 1944, Mitczarski was shot. Despite orders from a high ranking officer to retreat and not to return to look for wounded members, Fields, not seeing his friend, disobeyed orders and went back to look for him. Eventually, he found him wounded and sighing with pain. He carried Mitczarski back; the officer whose order he had disobeyed commended Fields.

On Aug. 1, 1944, the Poles capitulated. The Germans captured Fields along with many other members of the underground. As a Polish prisoner of war, Fields was shuffled through three PoW camps in Germany and was liberated by the British on April 27, 1945, at 13:45. This he verified by opening a small briefcase which he had carried throughout the war years, where he had listed the major events of the war on the inside cover.

Following liberation, Fields went by motorcycle to Bergen-Belsen to look for family members. He found that most of his family had perished. At the camp, he met Dorothy Weber, a young survivor from Kalwaria near Krakow. They were married at Bergen-Belsen.

After the war, Fields remained friends with Mitczarski. On the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, the Fields returned to Poland and had a reunion with his Polish friend. Several years ago, Fields arranged to have the righteous among nations citation presented to Mitczarski by Yad Vashem.

With sadness, Fields says that Mitczarski died three years ago.

The Fields have four children, Gertrude Gould, Louis, Harvey and Steven (who lives in Israel), and eight grandchildren.

Fields says he finds it particularly painful when he turns on the television and every few weeks sees Nazis in uniform wearing swastikas appear on American TV shows spewing their hatred.

"They should not be allowed to spread their poison," he says emotionally. "It is very upsetting."

Despite the ugly memories that haunt him, Fields says he is grateful to have survived. "I thank God that I have a wonderful family — good children who are educated and very caring to us."

After liberation, survivor John Fields at Bergen-Belsen.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 23, is deadline for July 3 issue, and Monday, June 30, is deadline for July 10. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, June 20

ONEG SHABBAT

Congregation Shir Libeynu, an egalitarian congregation, Oneg Shabbat service, 8 p.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Talk about what Shabbat means and share songs, poetry, discussion. 537-3435.

SINGLES, YOUNG COUPLES

Pride of Israel Singles and Young Couples Oneg Shabbat, 7:30 p.m. Following the service, **Dr. Saul Szarfer** speaks on Keeping Relationships Alive. 663-7753 or synagogue office 226-0111.

WEST TORONTO

West Toronto Jewish Community Association Oneg Shabbat service 7:30 p.m., Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave. 236-2054.

YEDIDAY SHABBAT

Yediday Shabbat-Friends of the Sabbath celebrate Shabbat and keep the Jewish connection, humanistic-traditional holidays, 8:30 p.m., 645 Castlefield Ave. 488-0688.

Saturday, June 21

CENTRE SPOTLIGHT

Morris Winchevsky School and Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS) coffee-house showcase of Jewish and Yiddish performance, hosted by **Gloria Valentine** and featuring MC **Eddie Rice, Ritasue Fisher, Isabel Fryszberg, Ben Stein, Howard Kaplan, Elizabeth Block, Jack Newman,** 8:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. 789-5502 or 638-2222.

Sunday, June 22

MUSIC OF THE WORLD

Jewish Russian Community Centre (JRC) gala concert '97 at Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, features Canadian tenor **Michael Burgess,** Israeli **Yoel Sharabi,** Nafshenu Orchestra, violinist **Jacques Israelievitch.** $50, $100, $250. Tickets at JRC, 5987 Bathurst St., Suite 3. **Jessica Myers** 222-7105, ext. 28.

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto lecture, Stairway to Heaven, **Rabbi Yaacov Asher Sinclair** of Ohr Somayach Jerusalem, 8:30 p.m., Temmy Latner Learning Exchange, 446 Spadina Rd., Suite 203. $5.

YIDDISH AMERICA SINGS

Yiddish America Sings (Yiddish Amerike Zingt) at the Yiddishland Cafe with **Beth Anne Cole, Anne Lederman, Michael Mandel, Sasha Luminsky, Lona Davis,** 7:30 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W., 498-0106. $10 in advance, $12 at door.

JEWISH SINGLES

Games (Bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Chutzpah, Scrabble) Jewish Singles Play, Group A ages 26-40 and Group B 41-69, 7:30 p.m. Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. $5. Early bird bingo 7:30-8 p.m. **Mollie** 733-3634.

POWER EATING IN THE '90S

Nutritionist/author **Fran Berkoff** speaks on what's right and what's wrong with eating habits today at New Leadership Aid To Disabled Veterans of Israel program and kosher brunch, 11 a.m., 120 Shelbourne Ave. party room. $20 in advance, $25 at door. 638-9896.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kenilworth Ave., annual picnic on the beach, 11:30 a.m. Bring lunch, family and friends. 694-7942.

AMBULANCE DONATION

Toronto chapter of Canadian Magen David Adom formal dedication of the ambulance donated by the Izzy and Betty Kirshenbaum Foundation is at noon at Adath Israel Synagogue. Before the ambulance is conveyed to Israel, it will be on display at various venues. 780-0034.

CHORALAIRS CONCERT

Choralairs of North York annual closing concert of Broadway, pop and folk songs, 2-3:30 p.m., Earl Bales Park Community Centre. Raffle $1.

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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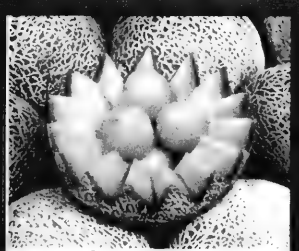
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

GARAGE SALE

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, garage sale, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 114 Haddington Ave. (Wilson-Avenue Road.)

ART THERAPY

Gilda Grossman discusses Art Therapy: Images and Healing at Kehillat Shaarei Torah Sisterhood Wellness Series, 8 p.m.

Monday, June 23

ASHKENAZ GALA

An evening of "New Yiddish" music, literature, song and humor, MC **Al Waxman**, appearances by **Mordecai Richler, Alicia Svigals** (of the Klezmatics), Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, pre-show entertainment 7:30 p.m., performances 8 p.m., dessert reception 9:30 p.m., Ford Centre for the Performing Arts Recital Hall. $100. Ticketmaster 872-222 or **Linda Frum** 961-4840.

HANNAH

Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, New Leadership Division, and Toronto Jewish Film Festival present the Canadian premiere of *Hannah* , about a Nazi conspiracy in a small town toy factory, 7 p.m., Cineplex Odeon York Cinema (Yonge and Eglinton), followed by party at Shark City. $25. Tax receipt available. 324-8600.

MEDINA THEATRE

Medina Theatre Ensemble showcases four one-act comedies, staged readings by members, 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Members $5, non-members $7. 633-2057.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, gymnasium, 2nd floor, 3:30-7:30 p.m. Photo/signature required. **Claudia Aversa** 974-9900, ext. 3573.

Tuesday, June 24

MACCABIAH SEND-OFF

Community send-off for 150 Ontario athletes going to the Maccabiah Games in Israel in July, 7:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St.

Wednesday, June 25

BREAST CANCER

Mount Sinai Hospital and its Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute with Jewish Women's Federation and Bathurst Jewish Centre free education seminar on Hereditary Breast Cancer in the Ashkenazi Jewish Population, panelists **Dr. Pam Goodwin**, Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre of Mount Sinai, and **Dr. Irene Andrulis**, Ontario Cancer Genetics Network, 7:30 p.m., BJC, 4588 Bathurst St. 586-8338.

JEWISH GENEALOGY

Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada annual general meeting and Breakthroughs of the Past Year, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Non-members $3.

INVESTMENTS

Investments — Do You Know All You Should Know?, hosted by **Michael Earle** of Price Warner Securities, 8 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

MAN TO MAN

Prostate cancer awareness, Impotence and Incontinence Can Be Dealt With — Learn How! **Dr. Sydney Radomski,** Toronto Hospital, Western Division, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Civic Garden Centre, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. 932-8820.

Thursday, June 26

COMEDY NIGHT

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Single Jewish Parents Comedy Night, laughter and nosh at Comedywood, 800 Steeles Ave. W. Doors open 7:30 p.m., show at 8:30. $8. Reserve by June 23. Synagogue office 633-5500.

And What Else Is New

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

Ohr Somayach new women's study group, Torah With a Jolt, led by **Rebbitzen Rena Schochet** every Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., Chapters Book Store (Yonge Street, just north of Steeles). Grab a coffee and walk over to the multimedia section for an hour of study and discussion of the Book of Bereshit (Genesis). 905-886-5730.

FRANCOPHONE FESTIVAL

Soleil chapter, Jewish Women International, is selling goodies as a fundraising event Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, June 22, 23, 24, at Mel Lastman Square. Lots of fun, food, activities, entertainment. 395-7350.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Kabbalah and Relationships, free seminar, Monday, June 23, 8 p.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

Kabbalistic astrologer **Tamar Ricardo** is in Toronto until July 6. Book an appointment.

CHALLENGE OF ANGER

Jewish Family & Child Service group, The Challenge of Anger For Women, will help women express anger in an effective, assertive and non-aggressive way. Daytime and evening groups begin in July. Registration/information **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

PLAY GROUP

Have your children sing and play in a fun-filled friendly Jewish atmosphere. Programs for ages two and three (need not be toilet trained), five mornings a week, 8:45-11:45, 44 Edinburgh Dr. Qualified teachers. A summer program also available. **Reva** 638-2566.

THEATRE OUTING

Kinnereth Club, Na'amat, theatre outing to Port Dover for the musical comedy *Hard Hats* , Thursday, Aug. 7. $42 includes deluxe bus transportation and partial tax exempt receipt from Na'amat. **Rita Tobias** 783-1656 or **Norma Zeldin** 633-8276.

REUNION IN WINNIPEG

Are you an alumnus of West Kildonan Collegiate Institute in Winnipeg? There's a reunion of students of the "Jewitt Years" (September 1955-June 1963), Aug. 1-3. 1-800-665-1366.

JF&CS GROUPS

The Self-Confident Woman, begins in July; Adult Children Losing a Parent; Looking Ahead for recently separated/divorced individuals, begins June 23. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, June 24, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Guest speaker **Stacey Dawb,** Senior Care. Topic Community Health Services — Will They Be There When We Need Them? **Goldie Leibman** 635-2860.

Cafe L'Europa of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation, June 23 meeting has been cancelled due to circumstances beyond its control. Look for fall announcements in this column.

The Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP) free seminar for seniors on Personal Safety, by Metro Police, Tuesday, June 24, 1-3 p.m., Rooms 308 and 309, Metro Hall, John St., downtown Toronto. Guests **Metro Chairman Alan Tonks, Cam Jackson**, Ontario Minister Responsible for Seniors, Toronto **Mayor Barbara Hall** and **Lillian Morgenthau**, president of CARP. Reserve. 363-3748, ext. 240.

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group 55 Plus presents **Adam Timoon** stand-up musical comedy, Monday, June 23, 8 p.m. at the synagogue. Members $7, non-members $8. Reserve by June 19. **Althea** 905-707-5774.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 19, video *Riverdance* — Irish dance. Sunday, June 22, Shavuot party 7:30 p.m., Teddy Band, light meal, members $8, non-members $10. Tuesday, June 24, picnic, Earl Bales Park, 11 a.m., non-members $2. Thursday, June 26, bingo, other games. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

LZA Seniors Club: *Shirley Valentine* June 25, Stage West, and *Camelot* Sept. 3, Stratford. Tickets at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m., Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Monday, June 23, 1 p.m., **Stanley Witkin** travelogue on Italy; July 15, Kingston trip; Aug. 5, Boat Farm cruise, Grand River, entertainment; Aug. 17-20, Ottawa; Sept. 17, *Camelot* , Stratford; September trip to Catskills Homowak Hotel. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hotel in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: ladies hairdresser, Thursdays 10 a.m., members only; Oscardo factory June 25; Catskills Raleigh Hotel, July 21-27; barbecue party, Aug. 10, 1 p.m., club house; *Jolson* at Royal Alexandra Theatre, Aug. 28; upcoming trips to Washington Holocaust Museum and more, dates to be announced. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskill trip July 25-Aug. 3 to Raleigh Hotel $1,291 or newly renovated Pines Hotel, Glatt kosher kitchen $1,197, non-kosher $1,129. Canadian funds, double occupancy, medical cancellation. Also, charity yard sale, Sunday, June 22, 63 Comb Ave., 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steels Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, June 24, 1:30-3:30 p.m., resource person **Joan Turner,** guest speaker **Ronald Morris**, Tai Chi expert.

On Thursday, June 26, **Uzi Grunvald** of Lenscrafters discusses How to Choose the Best Sunglasses to Resist Exposure, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Canada Day celebration Wednesday, July 2, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., **Irina** or **Cara**.

Israeli Etrog Club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays in the auditorium. Programs include movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-alongs, dances, bingo. Program June 25 is the Volunteer Dinner. **Anna**.

Movie *Casablanca* Sunday, June 22, 2:15 p.m.

Dance to music of the Creative Band, Sunday, June 22, 7:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Teen specialty camps for ages 13-14: City Scapes, July 14-18 and Aug. 11-15; and Pottery Summer Workshop July 2-11.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Visit to Redpath Sugar Museum Thursday, June 19; Closing program of the season, Tea on the Roof, Thursday, June 26, 2 p.m. **Judy**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. Phone 636-1880.

Limited junior and senior kindergarten morning spaces available for September. Curriculum includes Hebrew and music enrichment and fun centre time. Ext. 248.

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Women's Campaign
Bathurst Jewish Centre

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Breast Cancer in the Ashkenazi Jewish Population

- Did you know that up to 2-3% of Ashkenazi Jewish women may carry a genetic trait that can predispose them to breast and ovarian cancer?
- Learn the latest in diagnosis, family assessment, and research.

Wednesday, June 25, 1997 • 7:30 p.m.
Jerusalem Room, Bathurst Jewish Centre,
4588 Bathurst Street
A question and answer period will follow.
Kosher refreshments will be served. Free Parking.
RSVP to (416) 586-8338
(Free admission - seating is limited)

The panel

Dr. Pam Goodwin
Director of the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre
of Mount Sinai Hospital, Senior Scientist, SLRI

Dr. Irene Andrulis
Scotiabank Scientist & Senior Scientist,
Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute (SLRI)
Director of Ontario Cancer Genetics Network

Moderated by Carol Seidman,
MSW, Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation.

Brought to you by Mount Sinai Hospital and its Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute in partnership with the Jewish Women's Federation and the Bathurst Jewish Centre as part of the new Healthy Living Series.

Mount Sinai Healthy Living Series

SINGLES EVENTS

*** An advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*.**
*** Deadline is Wednesday, 4 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.**
*** For rates, or to place an ad, please call Lisa at (416) 391-1836.**

*** NEW IMAGE 50+ SINGLES** is having a dance on Sat., June 21st at Earl Bales Comm. Centre. Refreshments, prizes, DJ Phil Allenbick. Members$5.,Guests $7. **Free Dance Lesson** from 7:45-8:15 pm. Enjoy!

***GAMES JEWISH SINGLES PLAY! Sunday, June 22, 7:30pm**, Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook, Ages 26-40, 41-69. ***BRIDGE, Rummicube, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, etc. Early Bird Bingo**, 7:30-8pm. Prizes, refreshments. $5.00, 62 couples have already met! Free introductions, Mollie, 416-733-3634.

Attention Jewish Single Parents! Our May computer night was a great success! Next computer night is Wed., June 25th, 7 pm. Reserve now! Sunday, June 22nd is our picnic with kids, 12 noon. For location & info: **905-881-0376**, call now! Thanks to a grant from the UJA Federation Action Comm. for Jewish Continuity.

BETH DAVID B'NAI ISRAEL BETH AM Jewish Single Parents Group (30-50) presents **Comedy Night** An evening of laughter and nosh at **Comedywood,** 800 Steeles Ave W,, Thursday June 26 Doors open 7:30 p.m. Show starts 8:30 p.m.., $8.00 at door Reservations required by June 23. For info. call: (416) 633-5500.

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METRO TORONTO SINGLES & SPORTS PROUDLY PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL CANADA DAY LONG WEEKEND PARTY, MON. JUNE 30, 8 P.M. COVER $12. FEATURING TORONTO'S HOTTEST GO-GO- DANCERS. FOR INFO CALL 222-7111. NO WORK THE NEXT DAY!

Niagara Wineries Cycling Tour: Cycle the Niagara Escarpment,taste Ontario's wines. Ride to leading wineries for prearranged in-house tours, June 22nd. Warm up with Cycle in the City, June 8th. **Info: The Adventure Network 905-707-0147**

POWER EATING IN THE 90'S Fran Berkoff, well-known nutritionist and author will speak on what we're doing right and wrong with our eating habits today. Join **New Leadership Aid To Disabled Veterans of Israel** for program and delicious Kosher brunch, Sun., June 22, 1997, 11:00 a.m., 120 Shelborne Ave (Party Room). $20 in advance, $25. at the door. To reserve or for more information call 416-638-9896

Super Singles Weekend! MTS Presents...Our annual **Sports & Wellness Weekend Getaway,** June 20-22, at Clevelands House Resorts in Muskoka. Featuring: tennis, golf, water skiing, wine tasting, live band & much more! **Next registrations:** Wed., June 11 & Wed., June 18, from 7-9pm at Tickled Toad,330 Steeles Ave. W. For info. call: 416-222-7111.

Zimriya a success

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The annual Zimriya presented by Jewish Music Toronto presented a sampling of the rich and diverse tradition of Jewish choral music.

Nine choirs from across Toronto participated in Zimriya 1997, the choral festival held recently at Adath Israel Congregation.

Dedicated to the music of Diaspora Jews, Zimriya 97 offered a varied program of songs performed in Hebrew, Spanish, English and Yiddish.

The Zimriya Chorus, a mass choir that included many members of the various groups, also premiered an original piece of music, a tradition at the festival.

Toronto-based composer Milton Barnes created the work for this occasion. His composition *Sefarad*, based on Ladino folk songs, was the highlight of the evening.

Barnes, who has composed for orchestras and chamber groups across the country, as well as for such artists as Erica Goodman, Moshe Hammer and Ofra Harnoy, said with so many world class Jewish choirs, Toronto is unique.

"Zimriya is a very important musical event. I wish the public would take it more seriously," Barnes added.

Charles Heller, music director at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue and the driving force behind Zimriya, lamented that Jewish choral singing does not attract young people.

He noted that 30 years ago most members of synagogue choirs were in their 20s and 30s, and those same people, now in their 50s and 60s, continue to be the mainstay of most Jewish choral groups.

"We're having a problem attracting younger people," Heller said, adding that one can sing in a choir sponsored by a synagogue without joining a synagogue.

"Any choir director would be delighted if somebody walked through the door and said, 'I want to sing with you.'"

Jewish Music Toronto runs workshops offering choral singers a "phenomenal educational opportunity," he said. "We have the budget to try to bring in top conductors — national and international specialists in choral singing."

He said he was pleased to announce that the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir, conducted by Esther Ghan Firestone, is the only Jewish choir to be performing at an international music festival to be held in Ottawa this summer.

Other participating choirs in Zimriya 97 included Kol Shira and Beth Tikvah Synagogue choirs, conducted by Srul Irving Glick; Temple Kol Ami Choir, conducted by Daniel Berlin; Lachan-Toronto Jewish Chamber Choir, Holy Blossom Temple Singers and Ne'imot Singers, conducted by Benjamin Maissner; Zemer Chorale of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, conducted by Charles Heller; and the Heritage Singers, conducted by Edith Narvey Komisar.

Teens teach teens

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When five Toronto teens set off for Beersheva this year to teach English to Israeli high school and junior high school students, little did they suspect they'd end up teaching aerobics or running mock television game shows.

"Anything to get them talking," said Jessica Labi, 19, who was among the group of volunteers to participate in a pilot project called Kesher (Hebrew for "link"), run by Canadian Young Judaea (CYJ).

Labi, along with Sheri Chaim, Kerri Joffe, Michelle Nagy and Evan Pilz, spent three months at Eshel Hanasi, a boarding school in an agricultural moshav-like setting.

The Canadian students were also involved after hours in some of the extra-curricular activities. Some days they helped out as teaching assistants in six or seven classes, Chaim said.

Although Joffe, a graduate of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, had already been to Israel on CYJ's Biluim Israel program, this year she experienced what it was like to live there and to be with Israelis her own age, she said. "I knew I wanted to do something constructive."

Chaim who, like the others, completed high school in mid-year, wanted to work with kids. Foremost for the four students interviewed (Pilz was still in Israel) was a desire to spend time in Israel before entering university.

"We kind of made up the program on our own," said Nagy, referring to their ongoing efforts to find innovative ways of engaging the students in the use of English.

"They basically had a good background in English already, but it was hard in the beginning. We had to use our hands a lot," said Labi, who had minimal knowledge of Hebrew before going on the program.

"We learned so much about their culture, the way they are, the things they have to face that we really don't have to," said Nagy. "They're all going off to the army. They think we have it so easy."

The students, in an interview at Chaim's home, noted the contrast between the Israeli students' serious attitudes regarding army and political issues and their attitudes regarding other aspects of their life. "They live for the day," said Nagy. "Everything's a party."

"Just Between Us"

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

ביקורת על ישראל - כמה ולמה:

מידי חודש בחודשו אני מקבל מכתבי שיטנה מאנשים שכותבים לי שאני סתם משמיץ, שבישראל קורים הרבה דברים טובים ושכתיבה עיתונאית צריכה להיות מאוזנת. מאחר ואני מקפיד לכתוב על כל דבר ישראלי טוב ישאני שומע או רואה או קורא, עשיתי סטטיסטיקה של השנה וחצי האחרונות וגיליתי שה"טוב" עולה על ה"רע" ב- 60%. השיטה של "להרוג את השליח" היא ישנה כאורך ההסטוריה. בישראל קורים דברים נפלאים לצד דברים חמורים ביותר, ואין שום סיבה שישראלים לא ידברו על כך! בתמונה הגדולה - הרגישות הרבה הזו איננה מפליאה. כל אחד במשפחה יכול להשמיץ, לשנוא ולהתווכח עם אחיו ואפילו עם הוריו. אבל אוי ואבוי למי שישמיץ את משפחתו מבחוץ! כולנו כאלה וגם אני - את מה שאני כותב ב"שישאר בינינו", לא הייתי כותב באנגלית. לפחות חמש שש פעמים בשנה יוצא לי לייצג בצורה זו או אחרת את "העמדה ישראלית", וכמובן שלא אגיד דברים שאני אומר בתוך המשפחה, אבל כתיבה בעברית היא "בתוך המשפחה": קוראים את הדברים רק אנשים שקוראים עברית, וזו מטבע הדברים קבוצה די הומוגנית של אנשים שקשורים לחוויה הישראלית ממילא. הנסיון לכתוב עיתון"דבר" של שנות החמישים, עם איזון מלאכותי, ממילא מסרית. לסיכום אני אמשיך לכתוב את מה שבראש שלי. כך שמה שנשאר למי שלא יכול לשמוע ביקורת על מה שקורה בישראל, זה לא לקרוא את המדור, ולעטוף עם הדף הזה דגים.

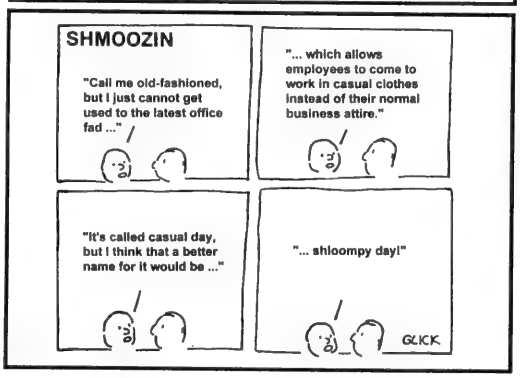
חג הקורבנות והקצבים - יורם פירוצקי

עוד בימי קדם הפך חג השבועות לחגם הגדול של הירקנים ומוכרי האבטיחים שהצליחו למכור הרבה פירות בזכות סלי הביכורים. אחרי קום המדינה התחילו לחגוג בארץ את יום העצמאות, ועד מהרה הפך החג להיות חגם של הקצבים באטליזים ומוכרי הפחמים, ולהבדיל, יום הדין לעופות, לפרות, ובעיקר לכבשים. אז גם השנה פשטו בעלי המנגלים על המארקים הלאומיים והפרטיים, חופי הרחצה והאגמים. אפילו איי תנועה רבים לא נשארו השנה מקופחים, בעיקר אחרי שמשפדי השיפודים גילו יתרון בזרם האוויר אשר נוצר כתוצאה ממכוניות שחולפות משני הצדדים. השנה כמה משפחות חרדים כבשו את גבעת התחמושת כדי להניח מזבח על המצבה לנופלים, עליו הקריבו קורבן לאלוהים, כבש צעיר ששופד בין עגבניות ובצלים. ובאשר עוברים ושבים פנו בזעם לזובחים ומחו על חילול כבוד הנופלים, ענו החברה שלכוהן אשר על הגריל כואב הגב והנ"ל לא מסוגל להתכופף. תארו לעצמכם מה היה קורה אילו בקנדה או בארה"ב היה גוי או אפילו יהודי מכין סטייק עסיסי על מצבה בבית קברות יהודי או על מצבה של איזה חיל אלמוני.

התבוללות הילדים:

"לגידי קורן,

אני קוראת את הכתבות שלך תמיד ונהנית מאוד. ברצוני לכתוב לך על הנושא שביקשת תגובות מקוראים - ענין ההתבוללות של הילדים שלנו. בקיץ שעבר ניסיתי לארגן קבוצה בבית הכנסת שלי (Darchei Noam), כי זאת הדאגה מס' אחד שלנו, הורים לילדים בגיל ה+20. עשינו תוכנית, הצענו אותה ל UJA כחלק מה "Grants" שנתנו בקהילה לארגן קבוצה בעיר לממש את התוכנית. בקיצור, לא זכינו במימון, וזה לא נורא, אבל כשהמשכתי לנסות לערב את ה UJA לראות אם יש עניין לעשות משהו בנידון, לא ענו לי בכלל לטלפונים מפורטים. ביום שישי שעבר ראיתי ב CJN הודעה של ה National fund שטליה רותם-אסף רוצה לעשות משהו בנידון. שלחתי לה היום פקס עם ההצעה שלנו. אולי נתחיל משהו. אני חושבת שזאת בעיה מספר 1 שלנו עכשיו. באופן אישי הפתרון שלי הוא לנהל ערב שבת בבית ולהזמין חברים של הבן שלי, ומשפחות חברות שלנו עם צעירים. כל טוב, שירלי שגב "



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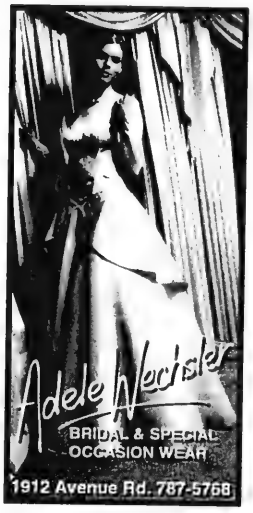

Students value Israeli university programs

By MICHELE CHABIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — It is easy to spot them – lounging on the lawn or sitting in loose circles, laughing and joking in exuberant voices.

Even from a distance, before one can hear the English, it is obvious that these tanned, smiling young adults, gathered at the Hebrew University to attend a daylong Hillel seminar, are North Americans.

It is not so much the stone-washed denims and cotton T-shirts they wear on this hot spring day, but the overwhelming sense of confidence they exude.

"They act as if they belong here, as if they own the place," says one of the organizers of the recent seminar, which attracted North American students from five Israeli universities.

"Sure, they brought a lot of confidence with them, but Jewishly speaking, I think it really came together for them here in Israel."

The students, who are just completing a semester or full year of study at one of Israel's universities, readily agree.

"This was the best, best, best year," says University of Wisconsin student Elizabeth Lamin, who spent her junior year studying at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Sporting a button proclaiming "I Love Israel," Lamin says, "This was my first time in the country, and it really blew me away."

During her freshman year at Wisconsin, Lamin was the only Jew among 63 students on her dorm floor.

"On Yom Kippur and other holidays, I felt compelled to go from room to room and explain what being Jewish is all about," she says.

In Israel, "there's nothing to explain," she adds. "I don't have to be a teacher. I can just participate with other Jews."

Lamin, who in 1979 moved with her family from Russia to St. Paul, Minn., says that her experience in Israel has changed her life.

The product of a day school education, Lamin says she was already interested in Judaism before coming to Israel.

After spending a year in Israel, she says, "my love for the religion has grown."

Her experience has led her to believe that after college, she should move to New York or Los Angeles or "even Israel."

"I need to be a part of a bigger Jewish community. Judaism is an integral part of my life now."

Comments like these are music to the ears of David Harman, director general of the Jewish Agency for Israel/World Zionist Organization's Joint Authority for Jewish-Zionist Education.

Harman, who oversees dozens of programs for teens and young adults, believes that the most effective Israel-based programs are the ones designed for post-high school or college students, as well as recent graduates.

Referring to the 2,000 to 2,500 overseas students – three-quarters of whom are North Americans – who attend Israeli universities and programs every year, Harman says: "In terms of an Israel experience, you could not ask for a better age group."

Time in Israel contributes to formation of Jewish identities

While he wholeheartedly supports summer programs for high school students as a means of strengthening Jewish identity, Harman maintains older students can benefit the most.

While acknowledging that some Diaspora students spend more time partying than studying, Harman maintains that "a period of time spent well in Israel contributes significantly to the formation of the students' Jewish identities, and helps form the Jewish attitudes and behaviors they will carry with them in the future."

This view is shared by Yisrael Roi, vice provost of Hebrew University's Rothberg School for Overseas Students.

Citing follow-up surveys conducted by the university one or two years after the foreign students have returned to their home countries, he says, "The uniform picture is of greater commitment and involvement in Jewish practice, whether that be social, religious or in a leadership context.

"Our former students tell us that they're more committed to their Jewish communities in the Diaspora thanks to their studies with us," he says.

Harman, who would like to see the number of overseas students quadruple within the next few years, says that educators are constantly trying to find ways to make post-high school study in Israel a more attractive option.

"The post-high school students we get are self-motivated. They're coming because they want to, not because they're parents are forcing them to come. Their expectation is to have a good time and to bond with the country."

The real challenge, says Harman, is to attract those with fewer ties to their Jewish roots.

"Done right, an Israel experience at this age is the defining experience in [the students'] Jewish identity.

"Unfortunately, the lure of Israel and Judaism isn't as great as we'd like it to be," he says, noting that young people have many alternatives and many want to move straight into their careers.

To woo college-age youths, the Joint Authority was involved last year in launching a marketing consortium called Israel Experience Inc., which is designed to promote Israel programs to high school seniors and college students.

Harman says that it is "equally important to provide programs that young educated people will be interested in."

Courses in ecology and sports have been offered, and Harman hopes next year to attract computer, science and pre-med students with programs tailored to their needs.

Roi, whose university attracts about 1,000 North American students every year, agrees. "The key is to provide courses that students feel contribute to their goals, not detract from them."

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel
Beit Halochem Canada (BHC)

Notice **Annual General Meeting of Members**

The Annual General Meeting of the Members of BHC will be held in the **Mezzanine Hall** of the **Beth Tzedec Synagogue** on **Thursday, June 26, 1997** at **7:30 p.m.** for the following purposes:

To approve a special resolution reducing the number of directors and to conduct such other business as is normally conducted at an Annual General Meeting. Information is available through the Secretary Diane Shiffman at 416-488-7649.

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From coast to coast

Parents join teens at weekend kallah

WYEVALE, Ont. — For the first time in the history of the 12-year-old High School Outreach Program for Jewish teenagers living in Ontario small communities, parents were invited to part of a weekend kallah (gathering).

'Program helped reassure us about what our children would be experiencing in Israel'

Many parents took the opportunity to drive to the Wildfire Outdoor Education Centre in Wyevale (near Barrie) to participate in an information session prior to their children's July departure for a five-week study tour in Israel.

Outlining the trip's itinerary and responding to questions were the two Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region staffers who will be accompanying the youngsters to Israel — Jennifer Turack, director of community services and youth activities, and Leanne Rosen, coordinator of the outreach program.

The study tour in Israel is the culmination of CJC's three-year program which includes learning by correspondence from materials sent out by Congress, staff visits and a twice-yearly conclave for group study. Twenty-four teenagers living in communities from Timmins to Peterborough are involved.

Parents said the trip to Wyevale was worthwhile because they were able to learn more about the Israel trip as well as meet other parents and their children.

Twenty-four teenagers participating in Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region's, High School Outreach Program for Jewish youngsters living in small communities gathered for a weekend Shabbaton. Among them were (standing from left) Jonathan Marmurek, Dustin Raab, Avi Gross-Sobol, Shanna Park, and Erica Green. Seated is Amber Sperling. [Leanne Rosen photo]

"The program helped reassure us about what our children would be experiencing in Israel," said Elaine Pepper of Cobourg. She said that the most important element of the Outreach program "is that it allows Jewish youth growing up in similar environments to make friends and to bond with others."

Her children, Amy, 16, and Jeff, 17½, a graduate of the previous program, are the only Jewish teenagers in Cobourg.

"It's hard to be a Jewish kid in a small town," said Evelyn Raab of Millbrook. When her son Dustin, 15, became part of the group, "he told me that it was the first time that he did not have to explain about his being Jewish to other youngsters."

Avi Elpern, 14, of Burlington, had initial misgivings about parents coming to the kallah, "but it went pretty well."

Volunteers Aaron Weinroth, Jennifer Shapiro, Robin Hollinger and Shira Fryer, who have spent time in Israel, were invited to the Shabbaton to answer questions and help carry out the weekend program.

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Annual Report
1996 • 1997

Our Mission

The United Israel Appeal of Canada is the legally recognized channel for sending funds raised by United/Combined Jewish Appeals across the country, to Israel. UIA is the primary Canadian vehicle for fundraising on behalf of Israel.

UIA is a member of Keren Hayesod, the fundraising arm of the Jewish Agency for Israel in all Diaspora communities except the United States.

UIA's Mandate is to:

- convey Israel's centrality to Canadian and world Jewry
- manage the campaigns of non-federated communities
- direct and transfer funds from Federations
- document and monitor the transfer of funds to the Jewish Agency and UIA special projects
- ensure accountability for funds received and their effective expenditure
- enhance fundraising for Israel through educational programs, leadership development and training
- organize national missions to Israel and orchestrate special Israel awareness programs
- develop, implement and oversee special projects through the UIA office in Jerusalem and the Israel Residents Committee

For Our Children

For Israel

Forever

United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.

From the President and Executive Vice President

Major changes have taken place in the 30 years since UIA's founding.

Over the years, our UJA and CJA campaigns have flourished largely because a significant majority of donors, particularly major donors, believed their contributions were critical for both their own communities and Israel's well-being. But as we approach the millennium, the emotional philanthropic attachment to Israel is rapidly diminishing. Couple this with increasing local needs and the results do not bode well for UIA and the services we support overseas.

This is especially disturbing because our own ties to Israel are slowly weakening. We need to feel connected to Israel. We need her strength, her vibrancy, her Jewish rhythms. We need the motivation and the inspiration she engenders. Losing our philanthropic connection is more about this loss than about dollars and cents.

Harvey Wolfe, President, UIA Canada

As an organization, we are at a crossroads. Either we find some way to reverse the current trends or we will cease to be a significant component of the Jewish community landscape. We must begin to eliminate the distinctions between local needs and overseas needs, and speak of a single campaign for "Jewish Needs" wherever they may be geographically situated. That means feeding the indigent Jewish elderly in Kiev might have a higher priority than local programs for seniors, or that funding Jewish education in Canada might come before funding the Joint Authority in Israel for Jewish Zionist Education. Even if the State of Israel had the financial capacity to rescue every Jew in the former Soviet Union, it is the obligation of world Jewry to share that burden.

We must immediately begin an extensive communications campaign to educate donors, Federation leaders, and the community about our incredible accomplishments in Israel during the past 49 years. Tens of thousands of Canadian Jews remain unaware of our contribution to Israel. And as we saw first hand on Mission 3000, given the right information and the right opportunity, the public will respond. We have a great product and we are determined to ensure that every contributor receives the message.

Steve Ain, Vice-President, UIA Canada

As we enter the 50th year of Israel's independence, we must change the nature of our spending overseas. Some of our traditionally funded activities will be eliminated. To do this is a painful and time consuming process, but not to do it will ensure the demise of our system. Outside of aliya, klita, and general welfare assistance inside the former Soviet Union, every program that we fund in Israel must have a strong partnership component. For in the end, we are all partners in our only Jewish state - the State of Israel. Although blemished and imperfect, she is still the single greatest hope for the Jewish people.

Finally, in this 50th year of the Third Jewish Commonwealth, we will ensure that celebrations involve as many Canadians as possible. Next February in Jerusalem, we will bring 1,500 contributors to experience the miracle of Israel. We will bring more than 100 Hineni donors to Ramat Gan Stadium on April 30th. We will gather together on Yom Ha'atzmaut in every Canadian community, not only linked electronically by satellite, but spiritually by history. We will once again take pride in all that we have accomplished together, knowing one thing with certainty. This is not an ending, but a new beginning. ✦

Jewish Rescue: The President's Priority

A life-long resident of Montreal, Harvey Wolfe's presidency of UIA Canada is one of the many leadership positions he has held since 1972, when he was asked to join Montreal's FEDERATION CJA Campaign. He eventually headed FEDERATION CJA 19 years later.

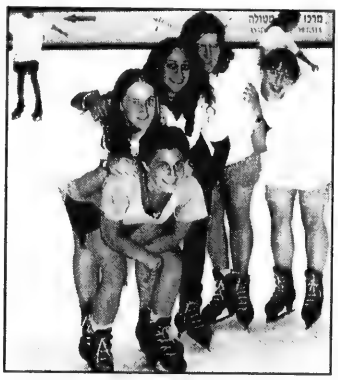
While chairing the 1995 Montreal Campaign, Harvey joined the Jewish Agency Board of Governors. The following year he was elected UIA Canada president.

Harvey has been visiting Israel regularly since 1980 when his children began spending extended periods of time there. In the last 10 years, he's made more than 30 trips. Harvey has travelled extensively in the former Soviet Union and is passionate about the importance of rescue. His quarter century of volunteer service has been fueled by a deep conviction that Jewish rescue and resettlement in Israel is the responsibility of all Jews.

"After losing 6 million I look at the exodus of Jews from the former Soviet Union as a miracle. And that miracle continues."

Harvey and his wife Roslyn, a dedicated community worker herself, frequently joke that his volunteer work leaves little time to attend to his architectural, real estate management and development businesses.

The Wolfes have three married children -- Wendy, 36; Joanne, 35; and Michael, 31 – and five grandchildren. ✦



From Israel's Capital

This year has been one of incredible accomplishment for UIA Canada's Jerusalem office.

We recently completed negotiations for an innovative educational resource centre to be built in Beersheva by Henry and Nettye Greenberg and the Montreal Jewish community. This facility is critical to Beersheva's education system which must accommodate 50,000 new olim who have recently settled there. In the northern Galilee, at Tel Chai, a youth hostel, the first in this vicinity, is being built by Toronto's Wilfred Posluns family.

The ongoing promotion of skating and hockey by Canada Centre, UIA's flagship project, is responsible, in large part, for Canada's high profile. Israel's Ministry of Education has officially recognized Canada Centre as a sports school for ice skating.

This internationally acclaimed recreation complex on Israel's border with Lebanon has developed into a vital resource – an important social venue for thousands of residents in northern Israel and southern Lebanon. Canada Centre, a top tourist attraction spawning many tourism-related enterprises, provides employment for Russian olim with hockey and skating expertise. UIA Canada capitalized on this talent by sponsoring 15 hours of skating lessons for every grade 4 child in the Galilee region. Canada Centre will also be inaugurating a hockey camp for Canadian and Israeli teenagers.

Last year, UIA Canada set new records by bringing over the largest mission to Israel in Canadian history. We hosted 1100 members of Mission 3000 to mark 3000 years since King David designated Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Now the office is gearing up for an even bigger challenge – Mission 98, with an expected 1500 Canadians celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary from February 23 - March 4, 1998. ✦

UIA

Welcoming Tomorrow

UIA Canada is an organization clearly focused on the future. Programs that sensitize Jewish youth to their history and nurture love of Israel are the basic tools for building a new generation of community leaders.

March of the Living

Over the last two years, nearly 500 Canadian Jewish high school students have participated in a life-altering experience. They joined thousands of teenagers from all over the world on the March of the Living, confronting the depths and heights of Jewish history by walking from Auschwitz to Birkenau before visiting Israel. To date, more than 1300 young men and women, from all spectrums of Judaism, have experienced this profound event.

Anguish to Hope

In May, 1997, 40 students from 17 universities and colleges across Canada set out on an emotional, 19-day journey. They observed Holocaust Remembrance Day–Yom Hashoa in the death camps of Poland and celebrated Yom Ha'atzmaut on the streets of Israel. The students were members of the third Anguish to Hope mission, modelled on the March of the Living experience.

This biennial trip has left a deep imprint on participants, many of whom have rediscovered their heritage and developed a life-long link to Israel.

Kefiada

Kefiada, which began as a pilot project, with five participants, in 1995, has become

Canada's most successful Israel experience for university students. In the summer of 1997, over 100 students will volunteer as day camp counsellors, teaching English to Israeli children in Project Renewal communities. Through Kefiada, Canadian students forge strong bonds of friendship with Israeli families.

Young Leadership

UIA's young leadership programs, customized for 25-40 year old young adults, are designed to develop the next generation of community leaders.

In April, 1997, 150 delegates travelled to Ottawa for the biennial National Young Leadership Conference. It was an opportunity for future leaders to network with each other, exchange ideas and build a national leadership.

A group of 50 Canadians made up the largest national contingent, among 175 participants from different nations at Yachdav 96, the International Young Leadership Mission to Israel, held in December, 1996. Participants also visited Basel, Switzerland where the first Zionist Congress had been held 100 years earlier.

Canada Centre

Every year, some 20 Canadian students volunteer to teach hockey and skating at Canada Centre in Metulla for three to four months.

UIA and the Canada Israel Experience Centre have introduced an exciting summer hockey program there, featuring instruction by St. Louis Blues associate coach Roger Neilson and a number of NHL players. Israeli and Canadian children from 10-18, will be able to make a sports dream come true and see Israel at the same time.

The Canada Israel Experience Centre

The centre, a national organization, co-funded by UIA, local Federations, the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Jewish Agency and the CRB Foundation, organizes, promotes and markets educational visits to Israel for high school and university-age students. In 1997, 1200 students will benefit from a CIEC-endorsed Israel program.

Gift of Israel

An education experience in Israel should be a rite of passage for Jewish youth. This ambitious objective is being accomplished through the Gift of Israel, a UIA-funded project, which enables parents to set up a special interest - bearing account in their child's name for a future trip to Israel. Many local Federations and synagogues make significant contributions to the account.

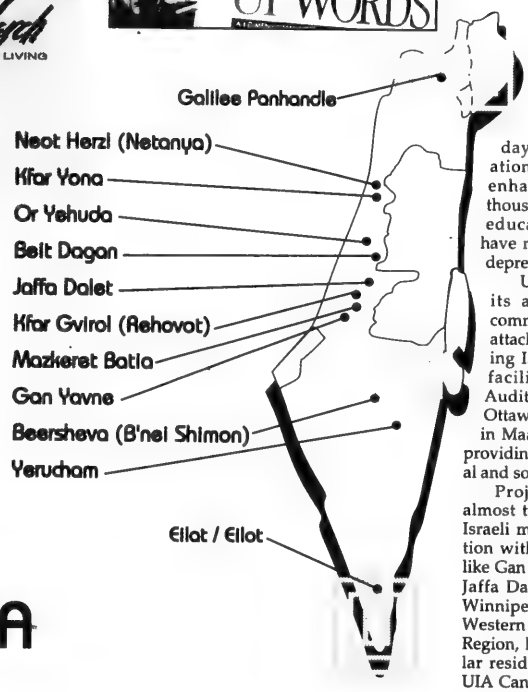
Canada Israel Experience Centre

Gift of Israel

Kefiada

March of the Living

Building Human Bridges



More than 200 UIA Canada projects in Israel reflect the deep commitment of Canadian Jewry to make a difference.

Cultural centres, youth centres, day care facilities, sports and recreational complexes and libraries have enhanced the quality of life for thousands of Israelis. Many UIA social, educational and economic programs have revitalized development towns and depressed neighbourhoods.

UIA Canada is especially known for its attachment to northern Israeli communities, so vulnerable to terrorist attack. Canada Centre in Metulla, housing Israel's only Olympic-size skating facility; the Phil Granovsky Family Auditorium in Kiryat Shmona; and the Ottawa Jewish Community Kindergarten in Maalot, are part of a proud network, providing essential educational, recreational and social services to northern residents.

Project Renewal, in operation for almost two decades, has twinned twelve Israeli municipalities, requiring revitalization with nine Canadian cities. Localities like Gan Yavne, Mazkeret Batia, Kfar Yona, Jaffa Dalet and Or Yehuda, paired with Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver, Canada's Western Region, Ontario and the Atlantic Region, have been transformed into popular residential communities as a result of UIA Canada's investment in libraries, community centres and other capital projects.

The Montreal Jewish community, matched with both Beersheva and the outlying region of B'nei Shimon, has sponsored Beersheva's Early Childhood Education Centre, regarded as a world wide model of early childhood services. Construction is about to begin on the Henry and Nettye Greenberg Educational Resource Centre, an innovative training and development facility for educators.

Dozens of projects, such as the Collier Centre in Eilat, have been undertaken by Toronto, which is paired with Eilat-Eilot, Beit Dagan and Kfar Gvirol.

While the work of Project Renewal continues, Israel and the Diaspora will be welcoming the new millennium with a new concept. Partnership 2000 reflects the changing relationship between Israel and Canadian communities, based on mutual assistance. This new initiative concentrates on projects that build "human bridges."

These exciting people-to-people ties will be built on connections already established through Project Renewal. Canada's smaller communities have been linked with three regional colleges in Safed, Tel Chai and the Jordan Valley. Several educators from Eilat/Eilot will be visiting Toronto day schools to help with curriculum development while Montreal and other cities will send a group of teachers to Beersheva and the Galilee. ✦

UIA

Mission 98
Your Date With History

UIA Canada is preparing for another landmark mission, which will top Mission 3000, which brought 1100 Canadians from across the country to Israel in 1995.

From February 23-March 4, 1998, at least 1500 people from every corner of the country are expected to join Mission 98 to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary. The tour will take mission members from Metulla to Eilat, with ample time for festivities in-between.

UIA missions to Israel are a vital tool for solidifying Jewish identity, generating interest in local campaigns and observing first hand how campaign contributions help thousands. A mission is more than a tour of historical and biblical sites. It helps participants appreciate the social, religious, political and economic complexities of Israeli society. ✦

UIA/CJF-Canada Joint Leadership Conference

In the spring of 1997, the Canadian capital hosted the first ever UIA-Council of Jewish Federations leadership conference in Ottawa, co-chaired by Toronto's Carol Kassel with Barbara and Stan Plotnick from Montreal.

The forum offered fresh creative thinking techniques, based on The Six Hats method, which helped participants develop innovative approaches to their local Campaigns. The guest speaker was Avraham Infeld, director of Israel's Melitz Institute. ✦

Young Leadership Development Conference

Held in Ottawa, in conjunction with the main leadership conference, this series of sessions was co-chaired by Ottawa's Jackie Barwin, Diane Lallouz and Sandi Sparkman from Montreal, Judith-Finer Freedman and Bruce Leboff of Toronto, and Vancouver's Neil Pollock.

The Young Leadership Development Conference was inaugurated in 1995 to nurture new leaders and provide nationwide networking opportunities. ✦

UIA Women's Division

UIA's National Women's Division is in the midst of an energetic rebuilding effort.

The Division, chaired by Joan Stevens, assists local Women's Campaigns and is planning its own leadership training program. Joan and her executive hope to promote greater participation in international women's conferences. ✦

United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.

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1997-1998

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Annual Report designed and produced by the Communications Department of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

UIA

United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.
United Jewish Appeal of Canada Inc.

Summary Statement of Income & Expenditures
for the year ending December 31, 1996

Income		
Donations	33,019,135	
Interest	543,142	
		$ 33,562,277
Expenditures		
Israel Direct		
Immigration & Absorption	15,963,630	
Project Renewal & Partnership 2000	4,832,221	
Canadian Capital Projects	3,901,295	
Youth Aliyah & Student Scholarships	2,508,089	
Joint Distribution Committee	508,501	
Project Genesis	102,263	
		$ 27,815,999
National & Special Allocations		$ 1,333,672
Program & Administrative Costs		
Administrative Expenses (incl. Jerusalem office)	1,630,054	
Campaign Services	585,650	
Canada Israel Educational Programs	755,350	
Youth & Young Adult Programs	323,100	
		$ 3,294,154
		$ 32,443,825
Excess of Income over expenditures		1,118,452

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Israel accuses PA of instigating violence

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Violence erupted last week in the West Bank town of Hebron, where Israeli soldiers fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse stone-throwing Palestinian demonstrators.

Last Sunday's clashes, which came in the wake of similar confrontations a day earlier, underscored the ongoing impasse in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

The peace talks, along with most security cooperation between the two sides, came to a halt after Israel broke ground in mid-March for Jewish housing at Har Choma in southeastern Jerusalem and after a Palestinian suicide bomber killed three Israelis at a Tel Aviv cafe.

Israel accused the Palestinian Authority of fueling the weekend violence, saying it was an attempt to gain political concessions from the Jewish state.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was quoted as saying it was clear that the unrest was organized by Palestinian officials and was not spontaneous.

He added that violence against Israel would not lead to any concessions and he called on the Palestinians to work issues out through dialogue.

The unrest came after the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution June 10 calling on President Bill Clinton to reaffirm that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of Israel.

Israel welcomed the non-binding measure, but Palestinian officials said the move harmed U.S. credibility as a mediator in the region.

The Palestinians want the eastern portion of Jerusalem, which Israel captured in 1967, as the capital of a future independent state.

Palestinian sources said that more than a dozen demonstrators were wounded in the clashes near Hebron's Jewish Quarter.

An Israeli border guard was lightly injured in the clashes, according to Israel Radio.

The clashes first erupted last Saturday in Hebron when hundreds of Palestinians threw stones and firebombs at Israeli troops. More than 30 Palestinians were reportedly hurt.

Palestinian police did not intervene to stop the protesters. One Palestinian official was quoted as saying that the police were busy monitoring high school exams.

In other violence, an Israeli woman was moderately wounded last Friday night in a shooting attack in the Jerusalem hills just inside the West Bank.

Israeli security forces arrested six Palestinians from the nearby village of Bidu in connection with the shooting.

An Israeli soldier readies his automatic rifle as a tear gas canister lands nearby during clashes last week in the southern Gaza Strip at the settlement of Morag. [RNS/Reuters photo]

More confrontations promised

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A statement issued by the Palestinian Authority (PA) cabinet in Nablus escalated PA rhetoric of recent days, blaming the United States, the IDF, and settlers for what it said is an "explosive situation everywhere because of Israeli settlement aggression."

It warned that "the Palestinian masses will confront the settlements."

Referring to the attempt to establish a monument and fence by Morag settlement in Gush Katif, it accused "the occupying army and the settlers who took land near Rafiah" of seeking to reoccupy land that had been ceded.

"They want to cut the main road and encircle Khan Yunis," said the statement issued by WAFA, the PA press agency.

The office of the government coordinator in the territories said the fence and memorial were both placed on state land and not in PA-controlled territory, and the PA knew this because senior PA security officials had been clearly informed in a recent meeting.

The WAFA statement continued by attacking the U.S. Congress decision to transfer the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem and to allocate $100 million for the purpose.

"Nothing is more important than Jerusalem," it said. "If the United States approves this resolution, the whole peace process will be lost," the PA's chief Jerusalem representative Faisal Husseini was quoted by Asssociated Press as saying.

Hungarian Jews get free care

BY AGNES BOHM
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BUDAPEST — Hungarian Holocaust survivors are now receiving the necessary assistance to obtain dental care.

A dental clinic was recently opened in the Budapest Jewish Hospital to provide free service to elderly survivors.

Some 30,000 Jewish elderly live in this city.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which maintains an office here, decided to establish the clinic after several Israeli dental students had proposed the initiative.

The Israelis, who spent six years here, envisioned the clinic as a way to provide both affordable treatment for Holocaust survivors and practical training for students.

"It's good practice for us, but first of all it is for the Holocaust survivors in Hungary," Israeli student Jael Peri said in an interview at the clinic's opening. "We wanted to help them."

About 20 Israeli students will provide dental services to the patients in the Budapest hospital.

The clinic will also help other Hungarian Jews whose dental care is no longer covered by the Hungarian government.

The clinic was created with the help of the Hungarian Semmelweiss University Dental School, with funding from Baltimore's Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation and the Kapsuto family of New York.

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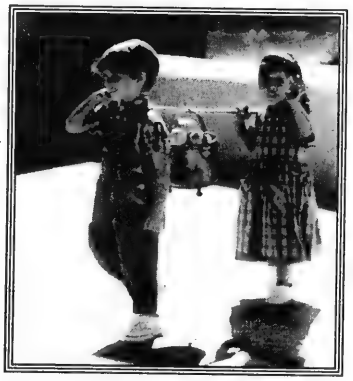

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Rabbis lobby Netanyahu on troublesome conversion bill

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"It was a positive meeting. [Netanyahu] said he wants a solution," Yoffie said.

Netanyahu told them that there is a good chance of a reasonable solution, Yoffie continued. It was clear to the prime minister that passage of the conversion bill would be a disaster. Otherwise he would not have initiated the meeting, Yoffie added.

Regev described the meeting of a prime minister with top non-Orthodox leaders from Israel and abroad as unprecedented.

"There was a real readiness by the government not to postpone any solution indefinitely or to put forward synthetic solutions," Regev said.

However, Hammer pointed out that the coming 2½ days of talks would be critical.

We are looking for a formula

"We are looking for a formula by which our converts can be registered as Jews, but which would at the same time give the Orthodox the feeling that these people were not exactly registered as Jews," Hammer said.

At the same time, the Conservative leader said his movement has no intention of withdrawing its petition to the High Court of Justice, asking it to order the government to recognize as Jews a number of adopted infants converted by its rabbis.

The High Court has given the government until June 30 to answer the petition, and the coalition is attempting to pass the conversion bill first.

Meyers noted that the American Jewish community is watching Israel very carefully, especially after the incident on Shavuot, in which a group of non-Orthodox Jews praying in the Western Wall plaza was attacked by Haredim and forced to leave after police said they could not protect the group.

Netanyahu "acknowledged that terrible incident," Meyers said, but made no further reference to it.

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The Week in Israel

June 9

• Israel rejected a United Nations demand that it pay $1.7 million (US) in compensation for damage resulting from the shelling of a U.N. base in southern Lebanon. About 100 Lebanese refugees were killed in April 1996 when Israel fired at Hezbollah fighters who had launched an attack from a nearby area.

June 10

• Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat ordered the arrest of a security official from the West Bank town of Ramallah suspected of being involved in the murder of Arab land dealers. Hussein Alyan was arrested to prevent Israel from detaining him, according to a Palestinian security official.

June 11

• The police announced that they will investigate three ministers and five members of the Knesset in connection with their possible links to and involvement with Zvi Ben Ari, formerly Gregory Lerner, who has been charged with a number of offences.

June 12

• The Knesset passed a bill on first reading establishing the 12th day of Cheshvan to be a day of remembrance for Yitzhak Rabin.

• In playdowns toward the European basketball championship, Israel defeated the team from Ukraine 97-82.

June 13

• Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky boycotted the cabinet meeting because of what he termed "the failure by the prime minister to live up to his undertakings." Specifically, Sharansky claimed that the prime minister had promised to appoint someone from the ranks of Israel b'Aliyah as the next ambassador to Russia.

• Ben-Gurion University publicly denied any involvement in nuclear weapons research. The pronouncement came a month after the U.S. Commerce Department placed the university at the top of a list of foreign entities believed to be engaged in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

With files from the JTA.

Turkish alliance holds

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Turkey's alliance with Israel looms as one of the issues likely to cause the break up of the current Turkish government and lead to new elections.

Turkey has been in a state of political turmoil since last July, when Tansu Ciller's right-of-centre True Path party formed an unlikely coalition with Necmettin Erbakan's Islamic Welfare party.

They made strange bedfellows, Ciller being secular and pro-Western and Erbakan being a devout Muslim, suspicious of Turkey's ties with the West. As well, Ciller was one of the architects of Turkey's burgeoning relationship with Israel, while Erbakan thought it should be downgraded, if not dismantled.

Nevertheless, Ciller and Erbakan papered over their differences, signing a power-sharing pact in which she became foreign minister and he became modern Turkey's first Islamic prime minister. For a Muslim country which had undergone a secular revolution in the 1920s and 1930s under the guiding hand of the still revered Mustafa Kemal (Ataturk), this was an amazing turn of events.

But given Turkey's deeply-ingrained Kemalist legacy, rigorously enforced by the armed forces, which have staged three coup d'etats since 1960 to enforce their will on civilian governments, Ciller's marriage of convenience with Erbakan was doomed.

From the outset, the Islamic Welfare party has tried to imprint its values on Turkish society, thereby incurring the wrath of the generals. Accusing Erbakan of weakening Turkey's democracy and legal system by "blurring the distinction between the secular and the anti-secular," they demanded the closure of Islamic-oriented secondary schools and the cancellation of prohibitions permitting the wearing of Islamic headscarves in public institutions.

In a further show of force, the army purged pro-Islamic officers from its ranks, and dispatched a column of tanks through a suburb of Ankara after Iran's ambassador to Turkey delivered a speech there calling for strict Islamic rule in Turkey.

The crisis worsened when Turkey's chief prosecutor accused Erbakan of acting against secularism in violation of electoral laws and urged the Constitutional Court to shut down the Islamic Welfare party.

As if these developments were not serious enough, Erbakan alienated the army by dragging his feet in implementing agreements with Israel on free trade, defence industry cooperation and military cooperation. Erbakan, however, has failed to sabotage these accords, the first of which was signed in February 1996.

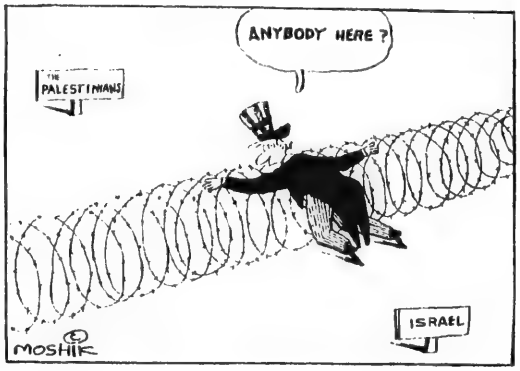
They are wide-ranging in scope. Turkey's trade with Israel is to be quadrupled to $2.5 billion (US) within three years. In a $650 million contract, Israel is to upgrade 54 of Turkey's F-4 Phantom jets. Israel and Turkey are to jointly produce the Popeye II air-to-ground missile. Israeli aircraft are free to train in Turkish airspace. Israel and Turkey are to engage in a strategic dialogue and to share intelligence data.

And in the latest twist, Israel, Turkey and the United States are scheduled to conduct naval exercises in the Mediterranean Sea this summer.

Turkey views these agreements as vital to its interests. It is concerned over Iran's regional ambitions and its military buildup. It has a border dispute with Syria and resents Syria's support of Kurdish separatists. It mistrusts Iraq. It needs Israel to balance its relations with the Arab world, and regards Israel as a dependable supplier of sophisticated weaponry.

In an effort to consolidate links, Israel and Turkey have exchanged three high-level visits of late. Foreign Minister David Levy met with Erbakan, though Erbakan was reluctant to receive him and used the occasion to blast Israeli policies. Subsequently, Turhan Tayan, the defence minister, and Ismail Karadayi, the chief of staff, visited Israel.

It's clear that Erbakan dislikes Turkey's evolving friendship with Israel. But it's also clear that he is is no position to stop it.



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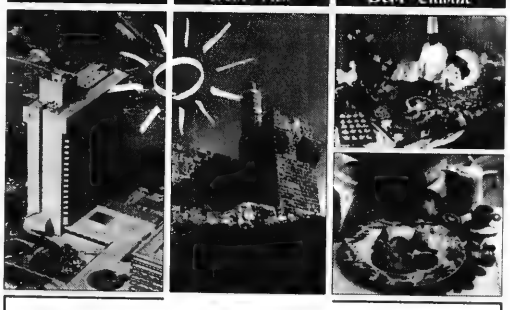

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Israeli cabinet shuffle said in the works

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is weighing several major changes in his cabinet, to allow for the possible appointment of former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman to a cabinet post, following the High Court of Justice decision not to order any more indictments in the Bar-On Affair.

The prospective reshuffling of portfolios could result in Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi's being offered another key ministry, a senior Netanyahu aide said.

"The prime minister is obligated to keep the promise he made to bring Ne'eman back into the cabinet," the aide said, noting, however, that Ne'eman's options "may not be limited to the Justice Ministry.

"It will be possible to find a role for Ne'eman to fill or to come up with some other creative solution," he said, so that Hanegbi could remain in his post.

This could open the way for the Science portfolio to be awarded to Likud MK Sylvan Shalom, the leading candidate. Ze'ev Begin gave up that post five months ago.

Netanyahu evidently considered shifting Hanegbi to an alternate position of comparable status, but "did not want to undermine his position while he was under a cloud of suspicion, and the High Court's verdict had not been reached," the aide said.

Indicating that he now feels his energy can be redirected toward urgent national issues such as the pursuit of peace, Netanyahu said, "This affair is behind us. I intend to move forward and to deal now with the problems connected to achieving peace and security and economic prosperity for the State of Israel."

Dissenting opinion

Labor MK Yossi Beilin, who filed one of the petitions to the High Court, stressed the dissenting opinion of Justice Dalia Dorner, who believed that Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein should be ordered to explain his decision not to indict Netanyahu.

"This means 20 percent of the panel thought this prime minister should stand trial," Beilin said, terming the verdict a political earthquake. "I think today the countdown has begun on Benjamin Netanyahu's rule."

But the prime minister's communications director, David Bar-Illan, scoffed at Beilin's assessment, saying, "This is the first time in the history of democratic government that a minority opinion has been characterized as a victory."

Bar-Illan contended that this is not a legitimate way to bring down a government, which he conceded is the opposition's legitimate objective.

"People who until now loudly preached the supremacy of the law are not prepared to accept the verdict of the court because it does not conform to their expectations," he said.

Last kibbutz children's house closes

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — One of the last traditions of kibbutz living, the children's house, is now a thing of the past.

The era ended when the 80 children at Kibbutz Baram in the lower Galilee recently moved into their parents' homes.

Among Israel's kibbutzim, Baram was the last holdout to the principle of children's houses, where boys and girls of the same age group lived together, visiting their parents during the day.

After a stormy debate, the decision to do away with the children's houses was made more than a year ago.

But kibbutz members said time was needed to expand the parents' homes to make room for their children, adding that a delay was also necessary to enable residents to adapt to the change in lifestyle.

Romania offers to host Israel-Syria peace talks

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Romania has offered to host peace talks between Israel and Syria, suggesting that other Arab states also could enjoy Romanian hospitality and discretion in a Balkan version of Camp David.

Deputy Prime Minister Adrian Severin made the proposal to Foreign Minister David Levy at a meeting last Sunday, during which he also urged him to support Romania's application for NATO membership.

Israeli diplomatic sources reacted favorably to the peacemaking format described by Severin, who also serves as foreign minister. They recalled that the late president Nicolae Ceausescu helped set the stage for the Egyptian-Israeli rapprochement culminating in the late president Anwar Sadat's visit in November 1977.

David Levy

Not only does Bucharest maintain cordial relations with Syria, but its foreign policy always has been friendly toward Israel. It did not follow the former USSR's lead in severing relations.

Severin's bid for Israeli backing on the NATO expansion issue was prompted by the U.S.-led alliance's upcoming conference in Madrid on July 8.

Israeli diplomats favor Romanian membership on the grounds that Romania constitutes a stabilizing factor in the Balkans.

At the bilateral level, Levy and Severin discussed the feasibility of a quota that could regulate the number of Romanian laborers in this country, only 70,000 of whom are here legally. The idea is that the respective governments would supervise the terms of their employment.

The two also signed an agreement eliminating double taxation between the two countries.

Tribute To Israel

DREAMING OF ISRAEL

Even though she is only 2½ years-old, the expression on young Tamara Sidgy's face seems to express perfectly the dreaminess and rapture of the recent celebrations at the Israel Day Festival at Mel Lastman Square in North York. The festival was a commemorative tribute to the centenary of the first Zionist congress, which was held in the late summer months of 1897 in Basel, Switzerland. The annual festival event was sponsored by the Canadian Zionist Federation, central region. [Ron Csillag photo]

We extend our congratulations to the State of Israel on the occasion of its 49th Anniversary of Independence.

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Hilly Shephelah the site of many biblical events

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

The Israelites and Philistines clashed in olden days in the Shephelah, a high region southwest of Jerusalem typified by rolling hills.

It was in this district's ancient city of Bet Shemesh that the Israelites regained the Holy Ark of the Covenant from the Philistines, who had earlier captured it in battle.

Adullam, also in the same region in the southern ancient kingdom of Judah, is famous as the spot where Samson was born and where he slew the lion with his bare hands and later the Philistines with the jawbone of an ass. Another monumental clash occurred nearby in the Valley of Ela when the young David used his slingshot to bring down Goliath.

These are among the important biblical sites one passes on the drive to Beit Guvrin and Tel Maresha, neighboring sites of antiquity situated about a 45-minute journey southwest of Jerusalem, adjacent to the modern kibbutz of Beit Guvrin.

The site still seems largely rural and unspoiled. Looking west towards the Mediterranean coast, one can just make out the port city of Ashqelon in the distance. Looking eastward into the West Bank, one can see the distant holy city of Hebron, where the biblical Abraham and Sarah are buried.

On this spot archeologists have discovered the remains of a large city of caves. The upper city stood atop Tel Maresha, the 33-metre ancient tell also known as Tell Sandahannah because of a medieval church that once stood here devoted to Saint Anna. In the lower city beside the tell, archeologists have discovered hundreds of large manmade cave complexes, several with spectacular painted walls.

Excavations in the tell, the most prominent hill in the vicinity, show two lines of defensive walls, some more than three metres thick, dating to the Hellenistic period (334 to 132 BCE) after Alexander the Great's conquest of Judea. Historians reckon that Maresha was a thriving city of between 6,000 and 10,000 residents in this era. However, some caves date back to the late Iron Age (8th century BCE) and the Persian period (4th century BCE).

Beit Guvrin Caves stairwell. [Bill Gladstone photo]

Visitors may descend into some of the cave complexes, some of which have been rigged with electric lights and guardrails for safety purposes.

In one of the caves I visited, one descends down via a graceful serpentine stairway and other stairways at least 75 steps into the earth.

Carved into the soft chalky limestone, many of the cave complexes were used for the production of olive oil for export to Egypt. By one estimate, no less than 300 metric tons emanated from some 30 processing plants here. Some caves were used as residences, some as pigeon roosts.

Others were elaborate burial chambers with magnificent wall paintings.

John Peters and Hermann Thiersch were the first biblical archeologists to recognize the site as ancient Maresha while on a tour of the Holy Land in 1902. However, they were initially skeptical when their guide led them to "an insignificant looking hole in the ground" near Tell Sandahannah. As their journal shows:

"We had been so often deceived, and induced to descend with exalted expectations into holes that proved to contain nothing of interest, that it was with some hesitation, the hour being then quite late, and only on our guide's reiterated assurances of the real importance of this hole, that one of us descended into it. It proved to be the most remarkable tomb ever discovered in Palestine."

The Romans also built in the region, and a rare amphitheatre with a 5,000-person capacity was discovered here in 1980. The road back to Jerusalem follows much the same path that Roman engineers laid out for it 2,000 years ago. As you follow it on your return to Jerusalem, watch for exposed cuts of the ancient Roman road.

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Tribute To Israel

The Supreme Court building in Jerusalem has a unique architectural character which attempts to evoke biblical images found in traditional Jewish writings. [WZPS photo by Sammy Avnisan]

Israel's 'jewel in the crown'

By RUTH HEIGES
Special to The CJN

For decades. Israel's Supreme Court justices had no choice but to ignore the drab and chilly rented quarters over which they presided in central Jerusalem's Russian Compound. So limited were these facilities that for high profile cases such as the Eichmann trial, courtrooms had to be improvised in the Jerusalem Convention Centre.

Since November 1992. however, the country's highest court has been housed in a building appropriate to its dignity and importance. While the executive and legislative branches usually draw more attention, Israel's judiciary is seen by many to be the most sparkling "jewel in the crown" of democratic rule. In similar metaphor, the magnificent new Supreme Court building dominates the government precinct near the western entrance to Jerusalem, overlooking both the Prime Minister's Office, in one direction, and the Knesset in the other.

Awe-inspiring in its design and richly filled with symbolism, the construction of the building was made possible by the estate of the late James A. de Rothschild, who in 1957 also endorsed the construction of the Knesset building. An international competition, in which 174 prominent architects took part, was conducted for the design of the building. So serious was the quest for the design that even the proposed models served as the focus of museum exhibits viewed by the Israeli public. Ultimately, the concept proposed by an Israeli architectural firm, the brother and sister team of Ram Karmi and Ada Karmi-Melamede, was selected. Even then, however, their fundamental design underwent 16 changes before the form was finalized.

The result is a structure which is simultaneously accessible and awesome. Sunlight reflects off the imposing marble facade, penetrating great arched windows, glass walls and skylights to bathe the warm wooden marble interior. From within, those same windows, which echo the ancient architecture of the city, frame the living panoramas of Jerusalem in each direction.

The psalmist wrote, "He will lead me in the circles of justice..." (Psalms 23:3), so circles and curves are used to express justice. Law and truth are represented through straight lines and direct paths between points. This begins with the main entrance to the building, to where the staircase is reminiscent of a classic Jerusalem passageway, continuing at the opposite end, in a straight pathway to the Knesset.

The straight, rising lines of a pyramid form the main entrance hall of the building, with the three-level law library visible through the glass walls of the pyramid. From here, the building is divided into distinctive and separate wings for the public, administration and the courtrooms themselves.

"The path leading to the public dimension is often strewn with surprises," the architects explain. "For example, although the public level had been totally transformed from the original design, footsteps still fade away and vanish, as in the large foyer (Salle des Pas Perdues) of the Supreme Court building of Paris."

This is also evidenced in the airy foyer, which leads into the courtroom wing. To dignify the old heritage of the people as well as the modern state, one wall is made of modern white stone, evoking the Mediterranean shore, while the other is of natural stone, reminiscent of Jerusalem's historical building style.

Repeating the concept of ancient courts at the city gates, the entrance to each of the five courtrooms evokes a gate. While the public enters directly into these rooms, prisoners are brought up from a lower level, and the justices descend from a higher one.

The design of the courtrooms accommodates the functions of Israel's unique higher court, for the Supreme Court also sits as the High Court of Justice. In such cases, the Supreme Court acts as a court of first and last instance, exercising judicial review over the other branches of government or asserting its powers "in matters in which it considers it necessary to grant relief in the interests of justice and which are not within the jurisdiction of any other court or tribunal."

Such cases often pertain to challenges of government actions and issues of human rights. It is this function as the High Court of Justice, combined with the fact that all Israeli judges are professionals who have proven their worthiness of such responsibilities, that has drawn world approval and admiration of Israel's judicial system.

Since juries are not used, the judges bear total responsibility and authority for the process. Of the 14 justices who serve on the Supreme Court at one time, as many as 11 might be impaneled when sitting as the High Court of Justice on major cases. As the design of the largest courtroom properly accommodates the justices, the imposing effect of the courtroom further dignifies the gravity of these procedures.

The straight walkway to the Knesset, which passes through the beautiful Wohl Rose Garden, provides another opportunity to appreciate the facets and angles of the building, enhanced all the more by the aesthetic setting.

"All our senses came into play," note the architects, "as we attempted to measure those elements which can be measured, to sense that which can be felt, to love that which can be loved and, finally, to behold that which can be seen."

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Haifa-area Druze families welcome visitors into homes

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

A Druze woman bakes bread. [Bill Gladstone photo]

The town of Isfiya in Israel's Carmel' Mountains is so close to Haifa as to be considered almost a suburb. Yet it is markedly different.

Built on the site of an ancient Jewish village, Isfiya is a Druze village, and most of its 9,000 inhabitants are followers of the secretive mystical religion that was founded 1,001 years ago in the year 996. The Druze are instantly recognizable on the streets of Isfiya, the male elders because of their thick mustaches, dark robes and Fez-style hats; the women due to their traditional embroidered dress.

One of 22 Druze villages in Israel, Isfiya has opened some of its homes to outsiders. By pre-arrangement, groups of visitors may come into the dining room of a Druze family home, eat a traditional Druze meal, and afterwards learn something about Druze traditions and beliefs.

The Druze have no territorial aspirations of their own, and the 90,000 or so living in Israel fully accept and support the existence of the Jewish state. Since 1956, their youth have been obliged, like all Israelis, to serve in the army. In many respects, the Druze and the Jews have provided an exemplary model of co-existence.

The main prophet of the Druze is Jethro, the father-in-law of the biblical Moses, whom they call Nabi-Shoab. Their holy books, called Wisdom Books, are not available in any library or bookstore; they are secret texts that may be seen and studied only by religious members of the tribe.

And it is a tribe. Since the year 1043, no newcomers have been admitted into the religion. The only way to become a Druze is through birth. (There are presently about 1.5 million Druze in the world, principally in Lebanon and Syria, with about 200,000 scattered throughout Latin America.)

The Druze do not drink, smoke, use drugs or eat pork, and those who marry outside the tribe are excommunicated. The Druze place of worship is called the *khailwa* and resembles an ordinary house; it is never marked by any sign or emblem to distinguish it to outsiders. The Druze have kept a low profile and remained secretive over the centuries as a result of the persecution they suffered in the Middle Ages from Muslim governors who did not recognize their religion. For similar reasons, Druze villages are always located on remote mountaintops, not on open plains or by the sea, where there would be less protection.

A Druze lunch resembles a typical Middle Eastern meal in the prodigious assortment and variety of dishes served.

Jaber Aburukun, a Druze schoolteacher in Isfiya, addressed our group as we ate lunch, eloquently outlining many of the details of his religion. As Aburukun explained, the Druze are strongly monotheistic and believe fervently in reincarnation. Although they bury their dead, they do not consider the graves of their ancestors as sacred, and eventually re-use all cemetery plots.

"We do not believe in resurrection," said Aburukun. "We believe that the human being comes back to life as spirit. Not the bones! Only the spirit! So I believe that my grandfather lies not in the grave — he lives again as a young person. We're not afraid of death, since we believe we're going to live again."

As the schoolteacher explained, he and his coreligionists believe there is no heaven or hell, and that the soul of a dying person does not linger in purgatory but proceeds almost immediately after death into a newborn or soon-to-be-born baby.

A cousin of Aburukun's, a Druze soldier serving in the Israeli military, was killed while on duty in an explosion in 1983, he said. A child born later in a neighboring Druze village supposedly told his parents, at the age of three or four, that he had another family in a previous life, and accurately described many details of the family of the slain soldier.

"The child knew every member of the family and could describe all the details about living with them," said Aburukun, who frequently asks children in his class if they remember anything about their past lives.

For the Druze of Isfiya, welcoming visitors into their homes allows them to share in the windfall of tourist dollars that is increasingly flowing into Israel. For visitors, it's a way to learn about an intriguing religious minority that has co-existed in harmony with the Jews for centuries. To arrange a group visit to a Druze home, ask your travel agent to contact the Haifa Tourist Board.

Tribute To Israel

Blackout in Jerusalem, 1967

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
The Jerusalem Post

A banshee wail startled me out of a deep sleep and it took several seconds before I registered that I was lying on a grassy slope, that I was in Jerusalem and that there was a war on.

It was mid-morning, Wednesday, June 7, 1967, two days into the Six Day War. I had arrived from the United States a week before to cover the crisis for an American newspaper. Since the shooting began, I had been spending most of my time in border neighborhoods absorbing the awesome sights and sounds of war. I could see the impact of shells in that virtual Jerusalem, at once tangible and unreal, just across the way. In a strange acoustical phenomenon, the sound of explosions reverberated around the hills, seeming to roll round and round and grow louder and louder until they died in a climactic thunderclap.

At night, a huge projector beam from the roof of the Histadrut building on Straus Street periodically swept across the landscape, pinpointing targets for artillery spotters. At first there would be only brief spurts of light, but when Jordanian artillery failed to fire at the projector, it would hold a target for long minutes. The white cone seemed like a theatrical spotlight on an enormous opera stage. Sometimes, when something erupted in its centre, it was like a divine finger of retribution.

The war had its own rhythm. The noise of explosions and gunfire was deafening. But often the city was still enough to hear the distant barking of a dog or the sound of an electric transformer that one would ordinarily not hear on the street. Jerusalem has never been as silent as it was during these battle lulls.

At night, darkness was virtually total. Emerging from the blacked-out premises of the *Jerusalem Post*, then off Zion Square, where I had been given access to a typewriter, I had to feel my way with hands and toes in order to reach the censor's office in the Russian Compound two blocks away. From there, I would feel my way to the telex office in the main post office to send my stories abroad.

The streets seemed totally empty.

Residents of the border areas were trapped in their homes for the two days of the battle, sometimes less than 100 metres from Jordanian positions. The Jordanians maintained heavy artillery and mortar fire on the border area to break up any Israeli attack that might be forming. (Mortars would inflict heavy casualties on a paratroop battalion waiting in the alleys of the Beit Yisrael quarter to cross no-man's-land opposite the American Colony Hotel.)

Border residents, mostly at the lower end of the socio-economic scale, bore their fate with remarkable fortitude. Virtually all young and middle-aged men had been mobilized, leaving womenfolk, children and the elderly. The din of battle was all around them and it did not take an overactive mind to imagine Arab soldiers bursting through the door. I visited many of these houses and nowhere encountered panic. The residents assembled on the ground floor of their buildings as instructed by civil defence wardens before the war and formed a commune for the duration, cooking together and sharing care of the children. In one basement, I found the residents sitting in a circle, most with children on their laps, taking turns telling stories.

At about 3 a.m. on the first night, I was on Shivtei Yisrael Street when a heavy barrage suddenly began to descend. Colonel Mordechai Gur's paratroop brigade had begun its attack on the northern end of the Jordanian line between the American Colony Hotel and Ammunition Hill, and the Jordanians were shelling with everything they had all along the border.

Shaken by the intensity of the blasts, I ducked into a building and found an empty lobby which had too many windows to offer a sense of security. Hearing voices behind a door I knocked and was invited in. The room was totally dark but hands guided me to a place where I could sit. They had gathered there, a voice said, because it was an inside room with no windows. Someone said they numbered nine, but I could not see anyone. I could hear children, but all the voices were calm.

The room was stifling hot. They sat in darkness, a voice explained, because the electricity was off and candles would raise the temperature. Someone offered me water. I never saw the people I spent that hour with. When I emerged from the building, dawn was beginning to light the sky.

From a balcony in Musrara on the second night of the war, I could hear a great rumbling sound from beyond the Mount of Olives where the air force was attacking a Jordanian tank column. Fire raged through part of Augusta Victoria on the Mount of Olives and through a

[Cont'd. on page 32]

Colonel Motta Gur (bareheaded) and his staff on Mount of Olives looking at the Temple Mount as they prepare to enter the Old City. [Photo from *The Battle for Jerusalem*, A. Rabinovich, JPS]

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'The scene was monumental'

[Cont'd. from page 31]

Jordanian army barracks at its foot. The flames seemed to form the outline of a great truncated cross burning silently over Jerusalem.

I had snatched only a few hours of sleep during the two days and I was exhausted. Passing through Independence Park, I lay down and promptly fell asleep. The Jordanian shelling had stopped, but the overhead wail woke me after only a short nap. The sound was traveling from north to south but there was no plane visible. I would later be told that it was a new type of mortar shell being used to support the Jerusalem Brigade as it prepared to move south to conquer the Hebron hills.

With the adrenaline pumping once more, I stopped in at the *Post* where I found Charlie Weiss, the chief copy editor, alone in the newsroom. He said that Israeli troops were reported to have captured the Old City. I suggested we try to get over. We walked to the Mandelbaum Gate crossing point, used by diplomats and pilgrims, hoping to talk our way through the border guards. To our astonishment, the border checkpost was empty.

Approaching Lions' Gate, we passed a smoldering bus and then stepped over the wooden gate itself, which had been felled by paratroop commander Motta Gur's halftrack only four hours before, when he smashed into the walled city. When we reached the Temple Mount, Weiss continued on to the Western Wall, but I decided to linger on the mount.

The scene was monumental. Long lines of Arabs, hands raised, were silhouetted against the sky as they moved across the platform of the Dome of the Rock guarded by helmeted paratroopers cradling Uzis. The prisoners, all in civilian clothing, were ordered to kneel in a line facing a stone wall. They were told to keep hands on their heads until they were called for interrogation. Some were older men, but young men with military bearing could be seen stiff-backed among the rest. The Jordanian soldiers who had remained in the Old City the night before had swapped their uniforms for civilian clothing.

Display of might

When one prisoner put his hands down, a paratrooper barked at him to get them back up and motioned with his Uzi.

A swarthy sergeant-major commanding the guard detail cautioned his men. "They're prisoners but they're also human beings."

The Arabs seemed stunned by the display of might casually bristling about them. Most Jordanians had believed that the Jordanian army would be in Tel Aviv within two days. The debacle was as incomprehensible to them as it was humiliating.

One of the prisoners slumped against a tree with his eyes closed as if hoping the scene would disappear when he opened them. As a plane roared overhead, tears began to flow through his closed lids and his hands trembled.

"They're afraid," a young soldier watching alongside me said, "but we won't harm them."

The paratroopers were bronzed and unshaven and many wore captured Arab kaffiyehs on their heads or around their necks. A group of officers surrounded by the antennae of their radio men watched planes circling beyond the Mount of Olives and darting down above the Jericho road. The compound was filling with supply vehicles, including a mobilized Tnuva milk truck laden with military equipment. Some soldiers climbed into the cabs of the vehicles to sleep. Across the mount a cheer went up from soldiers gathered around an officer who had just finished addressing them.

Despite the bewildering speed of events, the soldiers had obviously given thought to the political implications of the battle. Some said Israel must keep all or part of the territory captured on other fronts. Only one advocated returning everything, including Jerusalem. In this offhand discussion on the Temple Mount before the last shots were fired, all the major positions that would occupy the Israeli political scene in the ensuing three decades were outlined.

The sun was already low when I left the emotion-drenched alleys in front of the Western Wall and headed out of the Old City through Dung Gate, attaching myself to a platoon of Jerusalem Brigade snipers. The village of Silwan across the valley had not yet been combed and the platoon commander ordered his men to keep their eyes on its windows.

The stone houses, all of them flying white flags, seemed to meld into the hillside in the incredibly golden light. Beyond was the great purple cleft of the Jordan Valley. As we climbed the rear slope of Mount Zion, we passed groups of soldiers crowded around transistor radios. Cheers marked announcements of the war's progress.

Soldiers of the Southern Command were already at the Suez Canal and armored units had reached the Jordan River at Jericho. One company sat in a circle singing chassidic songs. At the top of the hill, the Israeli side of the city came into view. It was almost dark now and for the first time since the war began, the lights were on in Jerusalem.

Jerusalem Post staff writer Abraham Rabinovich is author of The Battle for Jerusalem *(Jewish Publication Society).*

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

NOTES FROM THE GALILEE, HAIFA & JAFFA

A Galilean Guest House: Established almost 40 years in the Galilee, the Amirim "moshav" offers visitors an attractive alternative to city hotels in Tzfat or Tiberius.

Amirim is a rural community of about 350 people, set in rolling green hills and brimming with flowering plants. Its residents have been welcoming overnight visitors since tourism took off in Israel in the late 1960s.

Amirim boasts about 90 guest houses and rooms, which are let by travellers eager to fill their eyes with panoramic views of the Sea of Galilee and their lungs with the region's famous fresh air.

They live in a modern religious fashion and make no religious requests of visitors, but their synagogue is usually well-attended on Saturdays and holidays.

What is there to do at Amirim? Guest house operator Sarah Peleg takes only a moment to consider. "Most people just stay in the yard and look at the flowers," she replies.

However, she points out that Amirim's homes and cottages are within half an hour's driving distance of Tiberius and the Lake of Galilee, 20 minutes to Tzfat or Peke'en, and 15 minutes to Carmiel. In short, it is ideally situated as a base from which to explore the Galilee.

During high season in July and August, most visitors book for several days and no single-night bookings are accepted. Rates are roughly 220 NIS or $110 per room.

* * *

The Port City of Haifa: Israel's third-largest city, Haifa, ranks fifth as a tourism destination within Israel. On Thursdays, when the weather is nice, you are almost sure to see a bridal party as you walk along the lovely Bat Gallim Promenade, a favorite spot with locals. The nearby Clandestine Immigration & Navy Museum details the attempts of Zionists to reach land in the British Mandate era.

Near the base of the cable car are two more sites worth visiting.

One is the National Maritime Museum that traces the sea-faring history of the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean since ancient times.

Items on display include the battering ram of a Phoenician ship of the fourth century BCE, and three funerary barques built by Egyptians and Phoenicians in the 20th century BCE.

The museum, at 198 Allenby Rd., also features a collection of old navigational maps and engravings. (The museum was founded in 1953 by Arieh Ben Eli, since deceased, whose daughter Ruthi is married to my brother, Howard Gladstone of Toronto.)

Set into the hill across the street is Elijah's cave, an important religious historical site. Tradition asserts that this cave sheltered the biblical prophet Elijah and other holy people. It now draws pilgrims of all three faiths.

* * *

A Renovated Caravanserai in Jaffa: A picturesque port city south of Tel Aviv, Jaffa offers an assortment of boutiques, crafts shops, restaurants and markets.

A building that was constructed as a Turkish caravanserai about 1740, and which later become the city's first Jewish khan or inn, has recently undergone a massive three-year renovation at a cost of NIS 4 million (about $2 million). Now it is the private Ilana Goor Museum and is worth visiting both to experience the architecture and to see the art collection within.

Ilana Goor, a well-known Israeli artist, filled these atmospheric rooms with gorgeous old rugs, chairs, tables and other antiques and statuary. Her own art, featuring vibrant designs and reflecting a sensibility both old and new, is for sale in the gift shop.

Part of the building was once a house of prayer known as the Libya Synagogue. Admission is 15 NIS (10 NIS for groups). 4 Mazal Dagim St., Old Jaffa. 972-3-6837676.

Guide books to Mideast

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

The Middle East, given its fascinating history as a cradle of civilizations, has always been high on a list of travel destinations.

If you're thinking of venturing there, prepare yourself by consulting a few good guidebooks. The ones that have crossed my desk of late are published by Lonely Planet in London and distributed by Raincoast Books in Vancouver.

Middle East on a Shoestring ($31.50), compiled by a team of knowledgeable writers, is exactly what you should read before setting off on your trip. It is comprehensive as well as practical, containing maps and a wealth of information about Israel, the territories, the Arab world, Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan. It should be of particular use to travellers on a tight budget.

If you plan to spend more than a day in Jerusalem, Andrew Humphreys' pocket-size guide, *Jerusalem* ($18.50), will be of more than passing interest. The author delves into the city's historic, cultural, religious, political, archeological and culinary dimensions. He also provides suggestions for side excursions to the Dead Sea, Jericho and Bethlehem.

Since Israel's 1994 peace treaty with Jordan, a tidal wave of Israelis and Jews from the Diaspora have descended on the Hashemite kingdom, revelling in such sights as Petra, Mount Nebo and Wadi Rum. Readers who still haven't been there should immerse themselves in *Jordan & Syria* ($25.50). Beware, however, that a Syrian visa is difficult, if not impossible, to obtain if you're Jewish.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

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Music & Drama

• Yiddishland Cafe features a bevy of performers on June 22 in a presentation of the Yiddish music that helped nourish the soul and sustain the culture of successive generations of Jews in the "Golden Land." The program, entitled Yiddish America Sings (Yiddishe Amerike Zingt), features actor-singer-songwriter **Beth Anne Cole**, singer **Michael Mandel**, accordionist and pianist **Sasha Luminsky** and pianist **Lona Davis**. Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W., 7:30 p.m. Reserved seating. Tickets $10 in advance, 416-498-0106. A few tickets may be available at the door for $12.

• Minyan Sepharad Congregation presents Sounds of Sepharad: Forty Years of Sephardic Music. Performers include cantors **Armand Moyal**, **Aviv Ounaounou** and **Chalom Sibony**, as well as **David Buzaglo**, **Albert Ohayon** and the **Or Haemet Boys Choir**. Leah Posluns Theatre, June 23, 7:30 p.m. Tickets $18, available at Alef Bet Judaica (south) or Balloon Bash (north), or by calling Leon Elmaleh or Salomon Beldeb, 416-512-8851.

• This month's "Centre Spotlight," featuring Yiddish and Jewish music, theatre and comedy, takes place June 21. The celebration, hosted as usual by **Gloria Valentine**, will feature MC comedian **Eddie Rice**; **Ritasue Fisher**, Hebrew songs and stories of the Jewish people; Yiddish singer **Isabel Fryszberg**, (accompanied by guitarist **Ben Stein**); **Howard Kaplan**, **Elizabeth Block**, **Jack Newman** and more. Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. $10 for first time supporters. Call 416-789-5502.

• A summer of free events and concerts has already begun in Toronto's Nathan Phillips Square. Highlights include Canada Day celebration, July 1, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday Night Live concert with **Amy Sky**, Aug. 14, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

• **The Inkspots**, who made a string of memorable hit records many decades ago, perform at Stage West Theatre Restaurant, Mississauga, Aug. 11 and Oct. 6. 905-238-0042.

• Actor **David Burnham** recently replaced **Donny Osmond** as the lead in Livent's *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, now playing in Toronto.

"I was captivated by David's charisma, handsome appearance and vocal talents," said Livent chair **Garth Drabinsky** after searching two years for the new Joseph. Elgin Theatre, 416-872-2222.

Film

• Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University and the Toronto Jewish Film Festival present the Canadian premiere of *Hannah*, a film about a Nazi conspiracy in a small-town toy factory, full of mystery and romance. Cineplex Odeon York Cinema (Yonge and Eglinton). Followed by a party at Shark City, with cash bar and free food. June 23, 7 p.m. Tickets $25. Full tax receipt available. 416-324-8600.

• Alden Films of Clarksburg, N.J., has commercially released 15 videos on Zionism to commemorate the centennial of the first Zionist Congress. 908-462-3522.

Children's Book Awards

• The Association of Jewish Libraries recently announced the winners of the latest Sydney Taylor Awards, through which it recognizes the best children's books of 1996. For young children, the winning book is *Shalom, Haver: Goodbye, Friend*, by **Barbara Sofer** (Kar-Ben Copies, $16.95 US), a tribute in photos and essays to the late **Yitzhak Rabin**.

For older children, the winner is *When I Left My Village* (Dial, $14.99 US), by **Maxine Rose**, illustrated by **Brian Pinkney**. This book tells the story of an Ethiopian boy and his family and their treacherous journey to new lives as Beta Israel.

Runners-up in both categories, respectively: *Dybbuk: A Story Made in Heaven*, by **Francine Prose** (Greenwillow, $16 US) and *Esther's Story*, by **Diane Wokstein** (Morrow Junior Books, $15 US).

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Sensitive play doesn't quite hang together

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —An extraordinary sensitivity to Jewish mores, but a plot that doesn't hang together, are elements of *Bitter Apples*, by Victoria Keidan of Alliston, winner of the playwriting contest sponsored by the Jewish theatre committee of UJA Federation.

Despite impressive acting by the cast, a staged reading of the full-length play at the Bloor JCC failed to overcome the fact that the main-spring actions do not ring true in today's world.

Keidan, herself a Jew, had laudable aims in trying to show that three generations of women, including a rebellious teenager, have different attachments to Judaism.

But fastening the plot to the refusal of the teenager to have her head shaved because she kicked her rabbi in the shin, is the tactic of an agitprop play.

A first act, which ran much too long and contained arguments already made, did not help.

Nevertheless, Keidan has a keen ear for dialogue when she has one of the characters say: "You are telling a Jewish mother not to be suspicious," and when the mother tells her 16-year-old rebel, "I don't care what they call it, just don't do it."

As the mute grandmother who terrorizes the household with her love for chocolates and French magazines, Patricia Carrol Brown is outstanding, her physical gestures speaking volumes without uttering a sound.

As Maxine, the rebel, Judy Reynolds gave a professional reading to the role. As the mother, Edie Goldstein, and Jennifer Doyle as the older sister, were both competent. *Bitter Apples* was directed by Kevin Sheard.

The play is the seventh premiered winner of the contest, noted committee member Ralph Wintrob.

"Each contest has attracted entries from all across the country, sure proof of the vitality of Jewish creativity in Canada," he said.

"The committee's dream is to promote full commercially viable productions that our winners and runners-up so richly deserve."

Bitter Apples received a second staged reading at Bathurst Jewish Centre June 15.

'Images of war' haunted author of Fugitive Pieces

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — It's not easy to reach Anne Michaels this year. The Toronto poet turned novelist, whose book, *Fugitive Pieces*, is on best-seller lists around the world, has spent a large part of the year promoting the book overseas.

Recently, however, she agreed to a phone interview during a 10-day respite in her travelling.

Soft spoken, polite and happy to discuss her work, she shied away from any questions relating to her personal life. Asked what in her experience had led her to such intimate portrayals of the effects of the Holocaust on the novel's two main characters, a child survivor and a child of survivors, she replied enigmatically, "The war was in the house. I was aware of it from very early on."

Her father's immediate family left Poland in 1931, but much of her remaining family was lost.

Like her characters, whose lives are shaped by events they didn't experience personally, Michaels was profoundly affected by the Holocaust.

"Images of the war haunted me. There was such a deep incomprehension of what I was looking at. There were basic philosophic questions that I couldn't, as a human being, ask myself or not try and answer."

The decision to write her first novel was a long time coming.

The process, once started, Michaels said, was long and painful. Researching the war material was "agonizing" and she found herself needing to put the book aside a number of times during the 10 years it took to write. Entering into the pain of her characters' experiences, she was never quite certain where it would lead.

"When I started writing this book, I had a very strong intuition that the ending could be the ending that's there, but I was determined to write my way through, in order to prove that any kind of faith was still a possibility. I would have to say that certainly for two-thirds of the writing I really despaired."

The rewards have been plentiful. *Fugitive Pieces* has made the short list of a number of prestigious awards, including Canada's Giller Prize and the British Commonwealth's Orange Prize. It has been number one on the *Globe and Mail*'s bestsellers list.

One of the most gratifying experiences for Michaels in the last year has been the book's reception by people of all ages and backgrounds. In Germany when the book came out, she was impressed and moved by the depth of emotion and thought behind the questions she was asked.

"I think that in Germany the union of feeling with all of that intellectual activity is extremely important. If the images are powerful enough to penetrate the reader, to get past the defence, hopefully people will not only feel the images, but also think about what they mean."

She has also been pleasantly surprised by the number of younger readers who are connecting to the book. A woman approached her after a reading, saying she had read the book after her son recommended it to her. When she expressed her reluctance to read a book that might be too painful, he replied, "No, Mom, not at all. It's all about love."

Michaels was delighted. "To hear that from a 17-year-old reader was a tremendous gift to me, because I don't think that summary simplifies the book. To say 'it's all about love' retains the complexity pretty well."

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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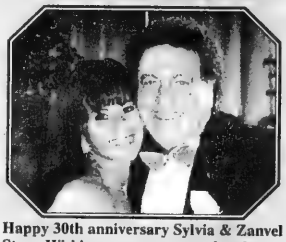
Giselle George (Gigi), daughter of Barbara & David George, graduated honors social work, York University, and is now enrolled in the MSW program at Tulane University, New Orleans.

Mazel tov to Jeffery Dickstein who recently graduated as the outstanding soldier in his unit in the Israel Defence Force's Gadna course.

Mazel tov to Jack Stillman on his 84th birthday. Love from daughter Barbara, son-in-law Edie Rotman and grandsons Marty, Rick and Ron.



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Symposium examines treatment of osteoporosis

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Exercise, proper diet and hormone replacement therapy can overcome the ravages of osteoporosis, a disease that affects one in four Canadian women – some 1.4 million.

This was the message given at a recent all-day symposium on osteoporosis, the seventh Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary symposium on women and health, held at the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts.

Over 300 men and women attended the event, which included lectures, panel discussions, cooking and exercise demonstrations, and exhibits.

Keynote speaker Dr. Ethel Silverman Siris, professor of clinical medicine at Columbia University in New York and director of the Toni Stabile Osteoporosis Prevention and Treatment Centre at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Centre, said that most damage from osteoporosis occurs after menopause.

"If a woman goes through menopause at age 50, she will probably live until 80 – and that means for one-third of her life she will be at increased risk."

Osteoporosis, she said, is "the systemic, skeletal disease characterized by low bone mass and microarchitectural deterioration of bone tissue, with subsequent increase in bone fragility and susceptibility to fracture."

Thus, not only is there lower bone density, but the structure of the bone itself is altered.

Low bone mass, she warned, "is the single most accurate predictor of increased fracture risk."

Fractures of the wrist, she said, may not be life threatening, but may lead to stiffness, osteoarthritis and some loss of function. Damage to the spine can cause loss of height and deformity (the so-called dowager's hump) and pain.

This deformity, she said, can lead to a loss of self-esteem, as well. "You can't find proper clothes, you get depressed, have difficulty walking, and suffer from constipation and bloating."

But the most serious danger is fracture of the hip. "About 50 percent never fully recover from that, and there is up to 20 percent excess mortality within the first year after a hip fracture."

While the single major factor in bone mass is genetic, Siris said, exercise is especially useful in bone building. In old age, she said, exercise strengthens muscles, which may prevent falls.

After menopause, when the ovaries stop producing estrogen, there is accelerated bone loss, especially in the immediate post menopausal years.

Current medical practice, she said, focuses on trying to prevent osteoporosis. "We especially target women who already have low bone mass."

Other risk factors for osteoporosis, she said, include early menopause, Caucasian or Asian race, sedentary lifestyle, smoking, excessive alcohol and caffeine intake, and certain drugs.

Medications used now include bone resorption inhibitors, estrogen and progesterones, and calcitonin.

A diet high in calcium, including dairy products, sardines, certain vegetables, together with calcium supplements is important, as is vitamin D.

Siris is a firm believer in hormone replacement therapy as a prevention of osteoporosis.

"Not only does it help prevent osteoporosis, but it appears to lower the risk of both heart disease and Alzheimer's disease.

While there are some problems with estrogen therapy, she said, such as weight gain, the possible resumption of menstrual periods and a concern about susceptibility to uterine and breast cancer, the current feeling, she said is that "you have to balance those problems against the much more real risk of heart disease."

Osteoporosis, she concluded, is a serious medical problem, often with no symptoms until a fracture occurs. Early diagnosis and treatment is essential.

Michael Devlin, assistant professor in the division of psychiatry at the University of Toronto and program director of the residency training program in the division of physiatry, department of rehabilitation medicine at the U of T, said that exercise improves balance and prevents falls.

Weight bearing exercise is especially good, he said, such as walking, stair climbing, and jumping on and off a one-foot platform.

Other participants in the symposium were Dr. Gillian Hawker, research director, multidisciplinary osteoporosis program, Women's College Hospital; Gail Lemieux, of the Osteoporosis Society of Canada; dietician Marsha Rosen; Dr. Marla Shapiro, of Mount Sinai, North York General and Toronto hospitals; home economist Jan Main; and physical therapist Josie Tominac, coordinator of the prevention and rehabilitation of osteoporosis program at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

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Beautiful 4 bdrm. plus main flr. fam. room. A. Eidlitz* 226-1987

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Approx. 3300 s.f., lux. ens., 4 frpl. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

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Bright & spacious 4 bdrm., dbl. gar., R. Sherman** 226-1987

ARMOUR HEIGHTS – $549K SOLD
Total reno., 4 bdrm., 4 bths., cul-de-sac. P. Pollock*/ B. Westbrook* 226-1987

TRENDY YORKVILLE LOCALE – $449K SOLD
Charming detached brick home. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

BATHURST/EGLINTON – $499K
40'x119' ft., Prim Upper Village. Faith Sversky** 488-2875

MT. PLEASANT & BALLIOL
25'x175' south lot, comp. reno., 3 bdrm & fin. lower. Olga Guvenal* 226-1987

1ST AD! RIVERDALE SEMI– $309K
3 bdrm. & fam. rm., move-in! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

WOODBINE/DANFORTH
3 bdrm., semi private drive, garage! Pretty garden! J. Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
100'x162', 6000 s.f. to be built, 5 bdrm. & fin. lower. O. Guvenal*/S. Bobkin* 226-1987

BAYVIEW RIDGE – ORIGINAL OWNER
100'x250' lot. Must see, call Mark Cowan** 226-1987

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4100 sq. ft., 5 bdrm., blt. '92 location! Janie Lerner* 226-1987

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Great investment. Rose Simon* 226-1987

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Fab. kit. w/centre island. A. Pollock* 226-1987

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Spacious & spotless, the ultimate in kit. A. Pollock* 226-1987

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3 lots available. Priced $325K to $368K. J. Lerner* 226-1987

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Gorgeous grounds. A great buy! Rose Simon* 226-1987

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Richmond Hill, 3 bdrm mn. flr., powder rm. L. Stoneman* 226-1987

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2 Adjacent Lakefronts - 62.5' each (total 125'), near shul, quiet street, motivated vendor- **$259,000 each**
Across from Lake - 3 bdrm. on 75' lot, well maintained. **$125,000**

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Collingwood, lux. 3 bdrm cottage, waterfront, $650. 905-731-4528 or 416-540-8841.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart, lakefront, 4 bdrms, huge lot, dock, nr. shul, 40 min comm.,season/mo. 443-1919.

Big Bay Point, beaut 4 bdrm + loft, fam rm, 3 bth, wrap around deck, sandy bch, 636-8236.

Lake Simcoe, 40 mins. from TO, 1 acre, lake frontage, 5 bdrms, liv rm, din rm, kit, 2 bths, wshr/dryer, sauna, $3,000./mo. + secur. deposit, kosher,shul 5 miles, all water sports, tennis, golf. 485-3268.

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160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

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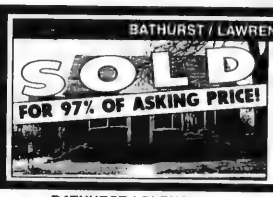

New listing! Detached brick 3 bedroom home near subway, 50 ft. frontage, close to all amenities. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

Renovated 3 bdrm., 2 storey, eat-in kitchen, new baths, thermopane windows, 50 x 140 ft. lot, $429,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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CLANTON PARK
Very spacious back-split, 4 bdrms., family room, custom library, gorgeous 50' x 154' lot. Call Esther Rubenstein or Michael Klugman (416) 787-1712.

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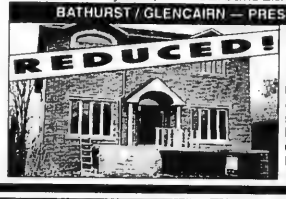
BATHURST MANOR — IMMACULATE 3 BDRM. SIDE-SPLIT
Exclusive listing, bungalow, 52.20 ft. frontage, fam. room, Jacuzzi. ACT NOW — only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.



Brand new, 6 bedrooms, custom designed luxury home. Dream maple kitchen, oak panelled library, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. basement. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — STORE FOR SALE
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330 OBITUARIES

ATKINS, Benjamin - on June 1, 1997, late of 193 Wilson Ave., #429.
GOLDMAN, Faye - on June 1, 1997, late of 605 Finch Ave. W., #1927.
ABELLA, Esther - on June 2, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
CHORNER, Ben - on June 2, 1997, late of 4001 Bayview Ave., #303.
FULLER, Bernie - on June 2, 1997, late of 6040 Bathurst St., #203.
GLUSKIN, Sylvia - on June 2, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
DANIEL, Odon - on June 3, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KHANSIS, Zelman - on June 3, 1997, late of 25 Fisherville Rd., #410.
KUSHNER, Irving - on June 3, 1997, late of 14 Portree Cres.
LEVINE, Sally - on June 3, 1997, late of 210 Northlawn St.
SCHAFFRAN, Anne - on June 4, 1997, late of 65 Skymark Dr., #603.
POLLOCK, Harvey - on June 5, 1997, late of 39 Harrison Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

HELLER, Isaac Jeff - on May 30, 1997, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
MAUSER, Sally - on June 1, 1997.
BABBIN, Rose - on June 2, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. W.
FULLER, Lena - on June 3, 1997, late of 3650 Bathurst St.
KAUFMAN, Pepi - on June 4, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
WEST, Sara - on June 5, 1997, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
ZAGOV, Pauline - on June 5, 1997, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
SANDERS, Pamela Joy - on June 6, 1997, late of 6000 Yonge St.
HOFFMAN, Bernard - on June 7, 1997.
RICHARDSON, Esther - on June 7, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
WEINER, Max- on June 7, 1997, late of 20 Regina Ave.
WOLFF, Hildegarde - on June 7, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Rose Applebaum ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 11:00 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
After Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAM BOJMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 1:00 p.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Radomer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MENDEL GOLDSTEIN ז"ל
beloved husband, grandfather and devoted father to Bob, Gloria & Moishe
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, at 11:45 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
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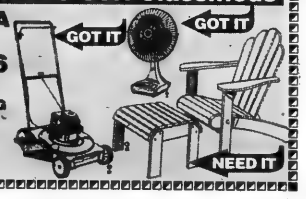

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BRAHM ELVEY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Lubavitch Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HELEN PREST ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst St. South of Steeles
Eastern Children Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JEREMY COOPER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Tikvah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Nathan David Rochwerg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Canadian Hebrew Benevolent Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ROSE FINE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 12:00 noon
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
James H. *(Jimmy)* Silverberg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 29th, 11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
YMHA Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ERNEST KOSTA ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 12:00 noon
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
B'nai Torah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Ida Schlesinger ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst St. South of Steeles
Warsaw-Lodzer Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GEORGE LIBAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, 12:30 p.m.
Holy Blossom Memorial Park
Brimley Rd., North of St. Clair
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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David Wolgelernter ז"ל
beloved husband, devoted father and grandfather
will take place
Sunday, June 22nd, at 12:30 p.m.
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Kiever Section
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5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT-TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Sports

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Canuck runs skating program at Israeli ice palace

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Well, it's happened.

After being exposed to on-ice activities, watching games on satellite TV and anticipating a pro-run summer camp, kids in Israel are going hockey crazy. Some of them can't get enough of the sport.

"I've gotten calls from teachers and parents saying that the kids only want to play hockey," said Jeff Budd, head of hockey instructors at the Canada Centre recreational complex in Metulla. "A lot of the kids are getting hockey sickness."

This is the summer that could cure, or perhaps deepen, the kids' addiction to Canada's winter sport. Not only will Metulla host the Maccabiah Games' first-ever hockey tournament in July, but later in the summer, the Canada Centre ice palace will serve as the venue for a hockey school led by St. Louis Blues' assistant coach Roger Neilson.

The kids in Metulla are going ga-ga over the prospect of attending a hockey camp, said Budd. "They can't believe it's happening."

Budd too must be pinching himself to determine whether his good fortune is really happening. As hockey coach and volunteer coordinator at Canada Centre, Budd can't believe he's landed a job that allows him to teach and play hockey while living in the Holy Land. He's been at it for four years and "I never expected it to last this long."

During a two-week visit to Canada recently, the Kitchener-Waterloo native said "it was just one of those things. You get attached to the kids. It's a great little job I've got going there."

Budd parlayed a volunteer position helping Metulla get a youth hockey program off the ground into a full time job. During the winter, he's in charge of four volunteers and in the summer that number expands to seven.

In addition to Budd, Torontonians Rob Wise, Jordan Grossman, Hartley Springman and Zac Shnier, all Forest Hills Collegiate grads, ran the skating and hockey programs at the centre this past winter/spring.

They supervise recreational skating programs at the centre's two rinks, as well as skating classes for children in grades 4 and 5 from nearby schools. Skating has become part of the regular gym programs at seven area schools, Budd says.

Budd is also in charge of a hockey program for about 50 young people, who come to the rink three times a week. The rinks serve Metulla and surrounding, northern Israeli communities. Some kids come for hockey and skating from as far as the Golan Heights, about an hour away.

Participants are divided among three teams, depending on age. Older players and volunteers play on Metulla's entry in the Israeli national league.

Older kids and volunteers practise and scrimmage once or twice a week and play friendly games versus Canadian peacekeepers stationed in the Golan Heights.

During his four-year stint in Metulla, Budd has watched the calibre of Israeli hockey improve

Some of that is attributable to the influx of players from the former Soviet Union, like Max Birbrauer and Sergei Ostrovski. Ran Oz, a hulking defenceman who played one year with the Toronto Midget Marlies, is a sabra skater. The Guelph Storm of the Ontario Hockey League showed an interest in Oz, but he decided instead to perform his army service. Oz is a member of Israel's national team.

Like Oz, there are a lot of young Israelis who love the sport. "Every kid who sees it, loves it," he says.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

C	A	N	D	Y		D	O	S		T	A	L	E	S
A	L	O	N	E		A	R	T		A	L	A	R	M
S	A	T	A	N		V	E	E		K	E	R	R	I
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U	R	N		A	M	Y		N	Y	C		E	E	L
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S	T	O	O	P		N	U	N		A	L	I	A	S
T	E	N	T	S		S	E	G		N	I	E	L	S

Maccabi athletes get sendoff

TORONTO — On July 14, Maccabi Canada athletes will be going for the gold but on June 24, they'll be going to the Leah Posluns Theatre to enjoy a sendoff celebration.

About 150 Ontario athletes are expected to attend the event, which kicks off at 7:30 p.m. at the theatre at 4588 Bathurst St., North York.

The public is invited to participate in this show of support and celebration for the athletes who'll wear Canada's red and white at the Maccabiah Games, which run from July 14 to 24.

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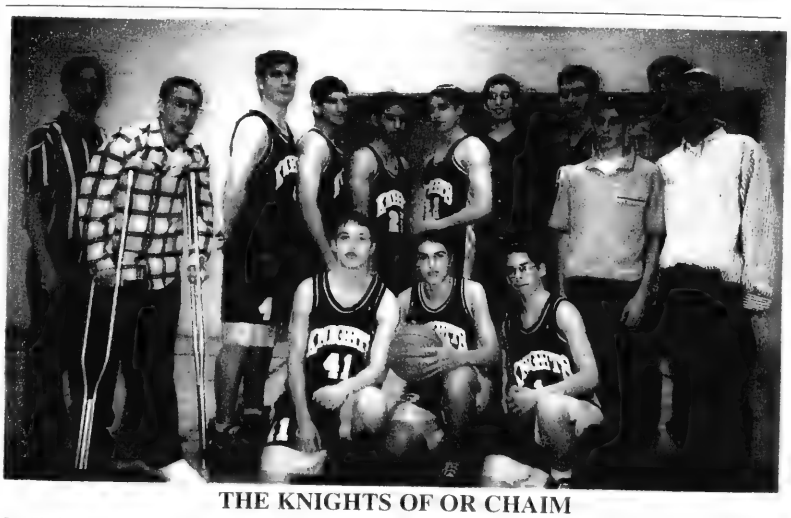

THE KNIGHTS OF OR CHAIM

Or Chaim Knights recently returned from New York City where they posted a 2-2 record in Yeshiva University's annual Red Sarachek Invitational Basketball Tournament. The record was good for a third place finish in their division. Teams from 12 schools in North America participated in the event. The Knights include back row (from left): Ari Fudim, Erez Tzuriel, Aaron Hershtal, Ron Somogyi, Eitan Prisman, Robbie Scheininger, Amir Rosenthal, David Levine, Avi Diamond, Jonathan Spiegelman and Philip Shulman. Kneeling (from left) Avi Elzas, David Ulmer and Ori Goldstein.

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The Inside Back

Jerusalem compromise possible: survey

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A survey on Palestinian attitudes toward Jerusalem indicates that there is some basis for believing an agreement could be reached that would be acceptable to most Israelis, according to researcher Jerome Segal.

Segal's survey, conducted for the Centre for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland in August and September 1996, was completed before the Jerusalem tunnel riots began a confrontation over Jerusalem. A companion survey on Israeli attitudes was completed just after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

However, Segal says his findings still hold, namely that if Palestinians were to receive sovereignty over the areas of Jerusalem most important to them, which are mostly those areas least important to Israelis, agreement could be reached.

The figures, however, show the two sides are still very far from an agreement on this. In a December poll by the Nablus-based Centre for Research and Studies on the six-point "Beilin-Abu Mazen plan," Palestinian support on the Jerusalem aspect of the plan scored lowest by far.

However, at a Jerusalem press conference last week, Segal, who once produced a draft Palestinian constitution, warned of the dangers of postponing the Jerusalem issue until everything else is settled, since he said that would emphasize the religious character of the dispute over Jerusalem, which would otherwise be subsumed in the overall political solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"A Jerusalem-centred conflict can be more explosive than a Palestinian-Israeli conflict," he said.

With the aim of expediting an understanding on Jerusalem, Segal and his co-researcher Nader Said emphasized its more positive aspects. Among the most contentious issues – control over holy sites – the researchers found that 64 percent of Palestinians compared to 35 percent of Israelis supported the idea that sovereignty "should belong to God."

They noted that 20 percent of Palestinians and 40 percent of Israelis recognized that the other side had legitimate rights in the city, a basis from which he said it could be possible to build a majority on both sides. Both people view the Jerusalem boundaries as policy instruments rather than as sacrosanct, he noted.

The basic situation is that 67 percent of Palestinians would consider "a special arrangement" for Jewish neighborhoods established across the Green Line, while 53 percent would consider Israeli sovereignty over Jewish neighborhoods in the Old City if Palestinians got sovereignty over their Old City neighborhoods.

However, any proposal falling short of Palestinian sovereignty in a large part of Arab-populated areas seemed, on the basis of the survey, destined for collapse, with Jerusalem residents being among the most radical on this point, despite their acquisition of Israeli residency rights.

The survey had 870 participants, with a three percent margin of error.

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8 8 oz. salmon fillets (about 1" thick)
2 bunches green onions, ends trimmed
2/3 cup water
chopped green onions

Sauce:
2 cups soy sauce
2 tblsp. cornstarch
2 tblsp. Oriental sesame oil
2 tblsp. minced peeled fresh ginger
2 tblsp. rice wine or dry Sherry
1 tblsp. honey
1 tsp. Tabasco
1 tsp ground black pepper
2 garlic cloves, chopped
1/2 tsp ground turmeric

Preheat oven to 400°F. Lightly oil 2 medium baking dishes. Puree sauce in blender until almost smooth. Divide fish between prepared dishes. Add 1 bunch whole green onions to each dish. Pour 1/2 sauce over fish. Bake 10 mins. basting often. Add 1/3 cup water to each dish if sauce begins to burn. Add remaining sauce. Bake 10 mins. or until just pink inside. Garnish with chopped green onion.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I have lived in the same apartment for the last 27 years. Six months ago, my wife was institutionalized and now, I don't have enough money to pay the rent. My income has dropped and my expenses have gone up. I have to pay for my wife's care, interest rates are down, and I don't know how to cook, so I buy prepared food. I am 86 years old and I don't have the strength to move.

Ashamed

Dear Ashamed,

These are problems common to many seniors, at this time. Cutbacks in health and social services have put more pressure on individuals. Perhaps, you should speak to your financial advisor to determine whether your investments can provide more income or whether you might have to consider using some of your capital. Also, call your local community agency to ensure that you are receiving all the benefits to which you are entitled. They might even be able to help you organize your food shopping at a lesser cost.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

GREETINGS, PILGRIM

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recently received Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexii II in Jerusalem. Patriarch Alexii is leading a group of Christian pilgrims on a tour of the country's holy sites.

[RNS/Reuters photo]

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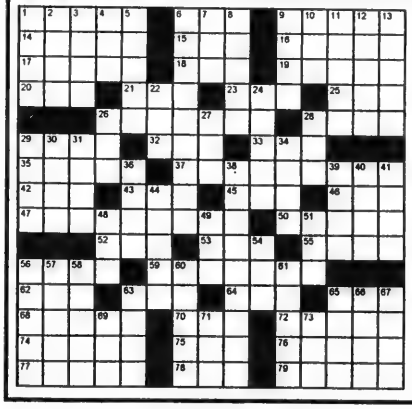
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Research for Niels Bohr
6. Preserves
9. Instruments for David
14. Jane Priestand
15. Dershowitz org?
16. Son of Asher
17. Make Challah
18. Alephbet member
19. Jacob Frank __ messiah
20. Arkia milieu
21. Psalmist on __
23. Sid Gordon's stat
25. El Al posting
26. Eichmann prosecutor
28. Month before Nisan
29. Agadah
32. 601
33. Belief: comb. form
35. Giant Dead Sea tribe
37. Clown prince of baseball
42. Biblical fishing device
43. Mother (Heb)
45. Actor Cobb
46. __Maris, Jerusalem
47. Death camp
50. President of Travelers
52. Supreme (Abbv)
53. Alenu
55. Material
56. Baal __ Tov
59. Fielder function
62. Kosher fish
63. Dotted vavs
64. Wiggling tref fish
65. Netanya specialty
68. Said amen
70. Paul Newman's hobby
72. 100th of a NIS
74. Purim must
75. Stone or Bronze
76. " again" BDL motto
77. Delilah cut Samson's
78. Cane for Moses
79. Singer Lawrence

Down

1. Torah holders
2. Tsahal "chariot"
3. Observe
4. Business degree
5. Torah portion
6. Played in "The Godfather"
7. Fortas, casually
8. Oaks of __, Hebron
9. Stereo
10. Third Judah king
11. Imitated Solomon
12. Italian varmishkes?
13. Nazarite no no
22. Jew (Yid)
24. Actress Fanny
26. Tsitsit site
27. Bubkes (Eng)
28. Jonas Salk's Org.?
29. Acted the usurer?
30. Tenth part of an ephah
31. Circumcision
34. Priestly bread
36. Offer
38. Commandment no no
39. 107
40. Tel (Eng)
41. "Can we ?", Joan Rivers
44. Bandleader Miller
48. Schnorrer (Eng)
49. Oakland A's Holtzman
51. Hester Street time zone
54. Usurious word
56. Havdalah spices
57. Commandment word
58. Singer Cantor
60. Award for Dustin Hoffman
61. Tribes
63. Ibn Gabirol specialty
65. Tithed
66. Night before (Heb)
67. Georgie Woolf mount
69. Eat (Yid)
71. Before
73. Divorce paper

The Canadian Jewish news

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 42.)

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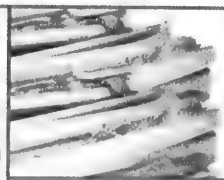

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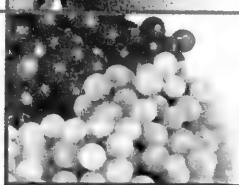

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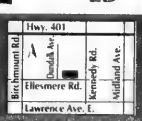

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Toronto Jewish community will unite to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary. *Page 3*

Polish woman, adopted by Catholic family during the war, searches for her natural Jewish family. *Page 15*

Canadian Jewish war vets to take historic trip to Eastern Europe. *Page 19*

International

Builder planning Jewish seniors' home in Moscow. *Page 28*

Arts

Young Toronto journalist makes a name for herself in the "Wild West" of the former Soviet Union. *Page 31*

Time of Your Life

Look for our special pull-out supplement inside. ***Section B***

Index

GTA	3
Editorials and Letters	8
Perspectives	9
Opinions	10
The Kirshner File	11
Jewish Life	12
What's New	16
Yiddish Corner	18
On Campus	22
Coast to Coast	23
International	27
Travel, Arts & Business	31
Health	37
Classified	38
Sports	42
Dear Susan	43
Crossword	43

Shabbat: Shelach Lecha
Candlelighting: 8:44
Sivan 22, 5757
Havdalah: 9:49

Clashes continue in Hebron

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israeli-Palestinian tensions in Hebron remain high after more than a week of violent clashes in this West Bank town.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai accused the Palestinian Authority last Sunday of failing to quell last week's riots and warned that continued unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip would result in Palestinian casualties.

Scores of Palestinians were wounded in eight days of clashes with Israeli security forces along the boundary between the enclave of about 450 Jewish settlers and the Palestinian section of Hebron, home to some 100,000 Arabs.

Speaking during a tour of Hebron, Mordechai said the Palestinian leadership was not doing enough to calm the situation.

"Unfortunately, the Palestinian Authority is not doing what it has to do" to stop the violence, he said.

Continued on page 29

Border police take cover last week as a gas bomb bursts into flames beside them. Countless gas bombs were hurled at Israeli troops and police by Palestinians during clashes in Hebron. The violence has continued in its second week. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Waiting for change in Hong Kong

How the Jewish community will be affected

The Ohel Leah Synagogue in Hong Kong. *[photo by Elaine Lukofsky Goldberg]*

By ELAINE LUKOFSY GOLDBERG
Special to The CJN

Feature

Much has been written and discussed in the western press about the highly anticipated hand-over of Hong Kong to China. Reports have cited China's history of repression, the proposed withdrawal of certain civil liberties in Hong Kong and the memory of Tiananmen Square.

How do Jews living in Hong Kong feel about the historic changes? How will the change in government affect their sense of security, their personal and professional status and the viability of the Jewish community?

While the presence of Jews in China dates as far back as the Silk Trade in the seventh century, the Jewish community in Hong Kong was formally established in the mid-1850s. The earliest members were mostly Sephardi Jews originally from Persia, who came via India, following the British Colonial Empire to the Far East. They were predominantly traders, merchants and financiers.

Prominent Jewish families like the Sassoons and the Kadoories have greatly contributed economically and philanthropically to both the secular and the Jewish communities of China. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed and they, as well as the Jewish community, are held in high regard by the Chinese.

Today, there is a thriving Jewish community in Hong Kong estimated at 3,000 to 4,000 people, one that is young, dynamic, well-educated and prosperous. The community supports several congregations spanning the complete range of religious affiliation, from Orthodox Sephardi and Ashkenazi to Reform, as well as a rich communal Jewish life. The community, originating from over 25 different countries, is a microcosm of any Jewish community around the world facing similar problems and challenges.

Continued on page 29

INSIDE

The Scene in Ottawa returns with our new observer Stephen Bindman. Please see page 23.

Beach terror attack averted — please see page 27

The News in Brief

CANADA

Swiss Meeting

OTTAWA — Canadian Jewish Congress president Goldie Hershon met recently for a second time with Switzerland's ambassador to Canada, Daniel Dayer, to discuss developments in Switzerland's efforts to make restitution to Holocaust survivors and to return the assets of Swiss bank accounts to their rightful owners.

That's Dr. Sam

TORONTO — Sam Sniderman, the colorful founder of the Sam the Record Man chain, was awarded an honorary doctorate of commerce by Ryerson Polytechnic University last week.

"I feel like a rock star receiving a gold record," the 77-year-old Sniderman told the convocation of 400 business graduates.

Bond Appointees

TORONTO — Life insurance professional David Brown and attorney Jeffrey Kaufman have been named co-chairs of the Israel Bonds Ontario board. Also named are Renee Beinbaum, Women's Division; Roz Davidson, Community Liaison; Varda Feiner, Builder's Division; David Rosenbaum, Lawyers; Mike Rosenberg, Societies; Allan Rutman, Accountants; and Mitch Korman and Gary Morris, New Leadership.

Leukemia Awards

TORONTO – The Leukemia Research Fund of Canada, Toronto branch, has presented its most coveted volunteer prize, the Bess Klotz Heart of Gold Award, to three of its members — a first for the organization.

Two have previously received the North York Volunteers of the Year Award — Myrna Lefko in 1994 and Joy Gurden in 1995. The third, Zelda Harris, is currently the organization's national president.

ISRAEL

Hartman Seminar

JERUSALEM – The 11th annual Rabbinic Torah Study Seminar will be held at the Shalom Hartman Institute from June 30 to July 10 in Jerusalem.

Koschitzky Honored

JERUSALEM – Toronto community leader Mira Koschitzky of Toronto was recently honored at Bar-Ilan University when she dedicated the university's Land of Israel Studies Department in memory of her parents Vilma and Frank Martin (Szusz). She also received an honorary doctorate from the university.

Koschitzky has held numerous leadership positions in the Canadian Jewish community.

Jewish Identity

RAMAT GAN — A group of Canadian youth has gone to Basel, Switzerland, as the Canadian contingent of the International Jewish Identity Competition.

A total of 70 students worldwide are taking part in the international finals. Six winners will receive a one-year scholarship for a future year of study at Bar-Ilan University.

The Canadian group includes David Herz of the Hebrew Academy in Montreal, Shira Shiderman of Ulpanat Orot High School in Toronto, Hyim Bessin of Or Chaim Yeshiva in Toronto and Michael Rom of Vancouver's Talmud Torah Academy.

Concert Cancelled

JERUSALEM — Irish pop star Sinead O'Connor last week cancelled a concert here after receiving death threats.

Saturday's concert was to have closed a four-day festival sponsored by Israeli and Palestinian women's peace groups.

The festival, called Sharing Jerusalem: Two Capitals for Two States, became a hot issue among some right-wing Israelis, who vow never to give any portion of the capital to the Palestinians.

WORLD

Israel Returns U.S. Aid

WASHINGTON — Israel has formally agreed to return $50 million in U.S. foreign aid so that the Clinton administration can reward Jordan for its support of the peace process.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright announced that Israel and Egypt would each contribute $50 million to a new Middle East Peace and Stability Fund.

Jordan will receive the full $100 million this year, adding to the $47 million it already received this year from the United States.

Mussolini Mourned

ROME — Italy's right wing — including black-shirted neo-fascists — recently turned out in Rome for the funeral of Vittorio Mussolini, age 80, the second child of Italy's fascist dictator Benito Mussolini.

In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

Friday June 23, 1972

EGYPTIAN THREATS NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY

Reports from London that Egypt's President Anwar Sadat is contemplating a surprise strike against Israel are not taken seriously in informed circles in Jerusalem.

Moshe Dayan's recent suggestion that Israel should think in terms of a 10 or 15-year occupation of Sinai is considered more realistic.

The most sober Israeli estimate is that Sadat is in absolutely no position to launch any kind of operation against Israel without risking a conflagration which he would be in no position to control.

TEACHERS AWAIT JUDGMENT ON ARBITRATION

An arbitration hearing under the direction of the department of labor proceeded into second-stage meetings in a dispute between a teacher of the United Talmud Torah of Montreal and the administration of the school last week.

The negotiations — the first ever requested by the Jewish Teacher's Federation — were arranged because the school administration reduced the number of weekly working hours of Hanah Rakovski, a first-year teacher, from 18½ hours to six hours a week.

This marks the final instalment of In The CJN, 25 Years Ago...

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The Canadian Jewish news

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,711 copies.
Average net paid circulation per issue 45,109 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997

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Toronto community unites for celebrations

Tributes to Israel's 50th anniversary planned

By SIMONE JOSEPH
Student Intern

TORONTO — To mark Israel's 50th anniversary, Toronto's Jewish community is planning a unique year-long celebration, starting with an opening ceremony in December 1997.

More Toronto Jewish groups than ever before will be joining together to celebrate Israel's 50th Yom Ha'atzmaut. Representatives from nearly 100 community organizations gathered last week at the Inn on the Park Hotel in North York to plan the celebration.

Earlier this year, Israel Consul General Jehudi Kinar had asked the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto to coordinate community celebrations. The meeting last week was the first step in the process.

At the meeting, part of Kinar's message was that smaller communities must be included.

Joseph Steiner, president of UJA Federation, announced that special funds from the federation's continuity initiative have been made available for the celebrations. The continuity action committee is looking for innovative proposals for programs or events that reflect the Diaspora/Israel connection in the context of the 50th anniversary.

Jehudi Kinar

The funds are "part of an ongoing series of grants to enhance Jewish education, culture or heritage," said Howard English, director of communication at UJA Federation.

Any Toronto Jewish organization can apply for a continuity grant, English said, but the total amount available has yet to be determined.

UJA Federation hopes to raise half a million dollars in sponsorship to finance Toronto's Israel at 50 celebration, he said.

Bryan Keshen, director of the coordinating body of Israel at 50 estimates that between 400 and 600 organizations will participate in the festivities.

A steering committee of approximately 30 members will approve certain policies, events and dates.

The anniversary celebrations will go beyond the traditional focus of arts and culture, Keshen said. "We're going to have events that profile Israel as a technological centre. We're going to profile Israeli businesses, that sort of [thing] that has never really been as much a part of the celebration," he said.

In Israel, the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations will open this year with the lighting of the first Chanukah candle at the residence of Israeli President Ezer Weizman. The festivities will continue until Chanukah '98.

One of the highlights will take place on April 30, 1998, erev Yom Ha'atzmaut, when approximately 50,000 people will gather at the Ramat Gan stadium to see a production highlighting the major accomplishments of the state.

Torontonians will have the opportunity to watch this production by satellite hook-up at the Toronto Convention Centre.

Local celebrations will include the Kibbutz Dance Company performing at Harbourfront in March and a march for Israel from City Hall to Ontario Place in May.

Representatives of organizations such as B'nai Brith Canada, the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, and ORT Canada told *The CJN* about their plans for the celebration.

B'nai Brith Canada, a member of the anniversary's steering committee, will be co-coordinating and sponsoring a mission to Israel, a Jerusalem Pavilion and lodge programs including Israeli entertainment and lectures.

The Canadian mission to Israel will coincide with the B'nai Brith International Convention in Israel from Aug. 23 to 27, 1998.

"We hope to celebrate. We hope to educate. We want to showcase Israel not only to the Jewish community but [to] the total Toronto community," said Frank Dimant, executive vice-president of B'nai Brith Canada.

ORT Canada will also be celebrating their 50th anniversary next year. They hope to bring together all ORT alumni living in the Toronto area to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary.

The Canadian Society For Yad Vashem will be joining UJA Federation to commemorate Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) in 1998.

Julia Koschitzky, chair of Israel at 50, said the anniversary celebration sends a message that without Israel, there cannot be Jewish continuity.

"Jewish life can't be sustained for very long without Israel at its core. What we have to do in this anniversary is to engage young people who take Israel for granted, who don't have a memory of what it's like to be homeless and helpless and weak," she said.

"There will be 400 different activities. The whole community will be buzzing with sounds and songs and themes of Israel," she said.

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Politicians failing in fight against cynicism

Jewish wisdom literature offers a rich library of writings by our sages exhorting us to seek and to actively promote the welfare of the community.

The pages of the Talmud record scores of axiomatic expressions and statements from among the discussions and the debates of the rabbis urging the people to "get involved," as it were. For example:

"Do not separate yourself from the community." *(Avot)*

"Activity on behalf of the community is as meritorious as studying Torah." *(Brachot)*

The point of the latter aphorism is *not* to promote communal activity as a substitute for study, but rather to forcefully make the point that communal activity is held in very high regard.

This should come as no surprise.

The essence of Mosaic law, infused at its very core with the notion that all humanity reflects the image of God, can be found in its overarching belief in the sanctity of human life.

The protection and the betterment of human life therefore lie close to the heart of what Judaism considers to be most significant on earth.

It is not too removed a leap of logic, therefore, to suggest that Jewish values encourage, or at least are highly supportive of, the pursuit of public office as a line of work. That assumes, of course, one goes into that line of work for the right reasons, namely, out of concern for the community and not out of concern for self.

Bearing in mind the importance of the work, it is deeply regrettable and even harmful to our society in the long run, that the public little respects the people who go into that line of work: our politicians.

But for the most part, they bring this contempt down on themselves.

During the past week, we saw a number of examples at the local, national and international level, poignantly illustrating why this is so.

In Toronto, the Legislative Assembly at Queen's Park came to a raucous and anger-laden standstill as a result of the boiled-over frustration felt by the Opposition and also by visitors in the public gallery in response to initiatives proposed by the Harris government that would severely curtail the nature of debate in the assembly.

The proposed changes came at a time when Opposition members still felt "cheated" by the government's unprecedented decision to keep the Assembly open on the day of the federal election thereby forcing members to be away from the chamber in order to vote in their home ridings. And when most of the Opposition members were voting in their home ridings, and thus absent from Queen's Park on June 2, the government passed its new rent control measures.

In Quebec City, Premier Lucien Bouchard told a press conference that the Parti Québécois will spend the coming months defining the kind of partnership a secessionist Quebec will negotiate with the rest of Canada.

He emphasizes and re-emphasizes the viability of partnership in order to lure the so-called "soft" federalists. But he knows fully well, that the possibility of "partnership" has already been rejected by the other premiers. It is a non-starter.

At the same time as he craftily cultivates the soft federalists, he is careful not to alienate the died-in-the-pure-wool separatists. He reassured them of his intention to hold yet another, the third, referendum.

In Ottawa, we saw the "tail-between-the-leg" spectacle of the leader of the Opposition, Preston Manning, reversing his previous well-publicized and well-televised statement spurning the official Opposition residence at Stornoway.

No one begrudges Manning any entitlement of living in the Official Opposition residence. It is a home worthy of the responsibility and of the dignity of the role of Opposition leader, a role which is so vital to the parliamentary system by which we are governed.

But what one does begrudge the newly elected leader is the deliberately overstated and overheated rhetoric which he flung at Canadians regarding the Stornoway residence in the first place. It was a smug, sanctimonious and supercilious sound-byte, which in the end, proved to be yet another campaign expedient without merit or substance.

In Jerusalem, we witnessed the resignation of the minister of Finance, Dan Meridor. Meridor is widely regarded as a man of high principle and integrity.

His resignation was ostensibly over a difference with the prime minister and the governor of the Bank of Israel over technical exchange rate mechanisms.

But the circumstances of the resignation were such that a majority of the public and even of the members of the governing coalition believe it was orchestrated by the prime minister as a way of settling an old political score.

A Gallup poll published in *Ma'ariv* last Friday showed that 63 percent of Israelis believed Meridor resigned over a political attempt to fire him.

As of this writing, there is significant doubt whether the prime minister's coalition will survive a no-confidence vote scheduled for Tuesday.

The list of former supporters and colleagues abandoning the prime minister mounts daily. Former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir has publicly condemned him.

Natan Sharansky's party has all but stepped out of the coalition. As he described it last week, they have "one foot out of the door."

Even David Levy, the foreign minister, this week spoke of a "big question mark" over the government's ability to take decisions in the diplomatic sphere.

In Israel, the sideshow of politics is a constant distraction, draining away the creativity, energy and focus that are so vital to deal with the many urgent issues of governing.

The chief obligation we place on our elected "governors" is to manage the burdens of government honestly and openly in accordance with the platform and the ideology they presented to the electorate.

Most reasonable people are prepared to concede a certain measure of flexibility to the government in implementing its platform, to allow for unforeseen developments without eliciting cries of "betrayal" or "shame."

But the next most important obligation we place upon our politicians is that they lead the fight against cynicism and against the resulting sense of defeatism and hopelessness that attach to it like green moss to damp bark.

This fight hinges not on ideology but rather on personal example and on integrity. In the long run, the outcome of this battle will have far-reaching implications for our society. The extent to which it is won will determine the extent to which succeeding generations will "get involved" and will agree that it is important not to separate from the community. *MBD*

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Greater Toronto Area

Second generation protests presence of alleged Nazi

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

BURLINGTON, Ont. — Carrying placards saying "one is too many" and "kick the Nazi out," about 60 children of Holocaust survivors demonstrated outside the quiet suburban home of a former member of a Lithuanian killing squad.

As a handful of neighbors looked on and passing vehicles slowed for a look, the demonstrators called on the Canadian government to begin proceedings to remove Juozas (Joseph) Kisielaitis from Canada.

"We the children of survivors are not going to rest until Nazi war criminals are brought to justice," said Hindy Stegman, one of the event's organizers.

"We gather outraged and puzzled why these [men] remain here without prosecution," said Moshe Ronen, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario region. "It's an affront to the nation that [they] are allowed to live their lives as if nothing happened."

The protest was organized by Generation to Generation, a committee that meets under the auspices of the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, in cooperation with Congress. It is the first in a series of protests that will be held outside the homes of alleged war criminals. A similar demonstration will be held in Toronto on July 23 outside the home of a suspected war criminal, Stegman said.

"I'm hoping it will bring to the attention of the Canadian government the fact that [Kisielaitis] is living here. They've had documentation on him and done nothing about it," she added.

According to background material distributed by the protesters, Kisielaitis served in the Lithuanian 12th Battalion during World War II. The unit was under the supervision of the SS and took part in the round up and murder of Jews, gypsies and Communists.

According to Efraim Zuroff, head of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Jerusalem office, the 12th Battalion was a "murder squad" in which "every effort was made to involve every member in the shooting."

The unit took part in massacres of Jews at the fourth and seventh forts in Kaunas in which thousands of Jews were killed. On Oct. 6, 1941, the battalion was sent to Byelorussia where it carried out pogroms that were so brutal they shocked even the German commander. The unit murdered about 50,000 Jews in Byelorussia.

Kisielaitis moved to Canada in 1948 and obtained citizenship. He moved to the United States in 1963 where he lived until the mid-1980s. At that point, the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) began gathering documentation as part of a deportation case against him. In sworn testimony as part of a 1982 government case against another battalion member, Kisielaitis admitted serving in the 12th Battalion. He has subsequently stated he was merely a tailor sewing uniforms. He denies killing anyone and his son-in-law has said Kisielaitis never took part in atrocities.

Kisielaitis left the United States in 1985 and returned to Canada. The OSI described him as fleeing the country while his son, Richard Kisiel, told the *Burlington Post* earlier this year he left because of death threats.

Outside Kisielaitis' comfortable suburban home, Ronen told the protesters "we are going to rattle the perpetrators of the Holocaust out of their complacency."

Andy Reti, one of the protesters, said "we cannot [forget those] who have perished. We can't allow the perpetrators to be rewarded just because they lived a long life."

Harold Right said "I'm here to try to move the government to move as fast as possible to get these Nazi war criminals out of Canada."

"As a child of a survivor, I owe to those who were killed to be sure that these Nazis don't live out their lives in Canada without paying some price," Stegman said.

But down the street, watching the proceedings from a lawn chair, Murray Robinson had another take on the proceedings. "They should leave him alone," he said. "War is war...I think the people who are doing the picketing are trying to stir things up. It's all self-serving for publicity."

* * *

In other developments, as Canada's Supreme Court prepared to hear a case involving three alleged war criminals who are facing deportation, Ronen expressed concern over the participation on the court of Justice John Sopinka. Sopinka represented the Ukrainian Canadian Committee in hearings before the Deschenes Commission in the mid-'80s and made statements suggesting no legal action should be taken against war crimes suspects.

Ronen said he hoped Sopinka and the court would "look at whether he's able to try this case...It's not uncommon for a judge that acted for a particular client to excuse himself if there is an apparent conflict of interest."

Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Congress, said there may be a perception that Sopinka is biased in the case but "we have faith he'll make the proper decision.

Demonstrators marched outside the home of Juozas (Joseph) Kisielaitis. [Paul Lungen photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

CJC task force to aid survivors with Swiss funds

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —In their quest for money in Swiss bank accounts and for reparations from Germany, Holocaust survivors are being treated as "nudges" (whiners) and "meshugeners" (crazy ones), a survivor delegate has charged.

In response, a task force was set up by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, to get information quickly to the survivors.

"Survivors have not been able to find out where to go; we have to terminate this fiasco," survivor Nathan Leipciger, national chair of Congress' Holocaust remembrance committee, told the Congress executive.

The situation is "frustrating," said region chair Moshe Ronen, noting that Toronto has the largest number of survivors in Canada.

"People of that age should not be treated like that," said survivor Robert Engel, referring to the runaround that survivors are getting.

Part of the problem, the Congress executive was told, is that the United Restitution Organization in Toronto, with only a small staff, is not getting information it needs from the international office of the Material Claims Conference.

"The local office [United Restitution] is doing the best it can and giving addresses where survivors can get information," said Danny Fine, a Congress official. "It has no official role in the Swiss matter."

He said Congress has no complaint about the United Restitution Organization in Toronto but is concerned that survivors here are not getting enough information from Europe.

The task force, headed by Keith Landy, national legal counsel, will begin work immediately.

"The Congress national office should take up cudgels on this," said Landy. "It is a serious situation. Funds are to become available and we should identify the organizations with survivors in their membership – and we must look after non-member survivors too."

Speaking of survivor claims to the German government, delegate David Rotenberg said East German property holders should not be restricted to agreements made by someone else on their behalf.

The action to set up a task force followed a comprehensive report on Swiss restitution and attempts by survivors to get compensation from Germany by Joseph Turkel, co-chair, world Jewry and international affairs committee.

Some payments from the first fund set up by Swiss bankers can be expected this fall, Turkel said.

A total of $757 million (US) has been set aside as the third phase of the agreement with the German government, Turkel said, and applications will be accepted until 1999. This money is primarily for people who lived in ex-Soviet republics and so far 25,000 people have received funds.

Former Conservative leader loses battle with cancer

By JEFF ROSEN
News Editor

TORONTO – Larry Grossman, the first Jewish leader of the Progressive Conservative party of Ontario, died of cancer Sunday. He was 53.

Grossman, a so-called "red Tory," first entered the political arena in 1975 when he was elected to the Ontario Legislature as MPP for St. Andrew-St. Patrick, the riding previously held by his father Allan. Just a year later, then-premier William Davis appointed Grossman parliamentary assistant to the attorney general. Grossman entered cabinet as a full minister in 1977 as minister of consumer and commercial relations.

In various cabinet portfolios, Grossman introduced key legislative changes. In his first posting, he raised the drinking age to 19 from 18 and redesigned Ontario's condominium legislation. In 1978, he was appointed minister of industry and tourism, where he again left his own mark. He took a leading role in establishing Ontario's technology centres and initiated the Yours to Discover campaign to boost the province's tourism industry.

In 1982, Grossman was appointed minister of health and introduced compulsory immunization for children and Ontario's first paramedic program.

The following year, Grossman was appointed treasurer of Ontario and minister of economics.

In 1985, Grossman threw his hat into the leadership ring after Davis stepped down, declaring that his religion would not be a factor when the party chose a new leader.

However, after the convention ballots were all counted, Grossman was 77 votes shy of a victory and Frank Miller was the new premier.

Grossman served briefly as education minister in the Miller government before the party lost power to David Peterson's Liberals in the 1985 election.

After Miller stepped down, Grossman took another stab at the party's leadership and defeated Tory rival Dennis Timbrell by 19 votes. He served as party leader for two years before his party was reduced to third party status in the 1987 vote and Grossman went down to personal defeat in his own riding.

Throughout his political life, Grossman strived to maintain his family life, taking his three children to Exhibition Stadium, where they would enjoy his other favorite passion – the Toronto Blue Jays – "like any other normal person.

"I always said that I didn't want to be one of those politicians who, when he leaves politics after losing an election, says, 'Well now I'll be able to get to know my wife and children.' If you have to say that, you shouldn't have got into it in the first place," he told *The CJN* in 1987.

Larry Grossman

After leaving politics, Grossman moved back into the private sector, heading the investment banking section of brokerage firm Richardson Greenshields. He became chief executive officer at Counsel Financial in 1988 and then joined the law firm of Macaulay, Chusid and Friedman.

'Sense of fulfilment'

Shortly after stepping out of the political limelight, Grossman waxed philosophical about governments and his own place in the process.

"I've learned that governments tend to overestimate the impact of those things they do and tend to underestimate the public," he said. "I have learned that the things you accomplish are often those that draw the least publicity or attention.

"I can look back and feel quite a sense of accomplishment and fulfilment. I would like to be remembered as a hardworking, compassionate minister. I loved the ministries I had and tried to use every minute I had."

Grossman is survived by his former wife Carole and children Melissa, Jamie and Robbie.

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Dry Bones

FIRST THERE WAS ARISTIDE, WHO WAS... GOING TO BRING DEMOCRACY TO HAITI.
THEN THEY TOLD US THAT KABILA WAS... GOING TO BRING DEMOCRACY TO ZAIRE.
NOW THEY SAY THAT THE NEW GUY IN TEHERAN IS... GOING TO BRING DEMOCRACY TO IRAN.
HOLLYWOOD INVENTED THE HAPPY ENDING
BUT IT TOOK TV NEWS TO COME UP WITH THE "HAPPY BEGINNING"

How far, how deep has hatred taken root

One need not believe in the religious legitimacy of an egalitarian minyan, nor subscribe to a more "liberal" Judaism in any of its evolving manifestations to have been outraged, saddened and ultimately humiliated by what happened at the Kotel two weeks ago on Shavuot.

Standing at the back of the wide, pedestrian plaza at the Western Wall, but actually far from the Wall itself, a group of Conservative Jews – men and women – gathered together to pray.

No sooner had the group arrived, when a large number of haredi youths began to mill ominously nearby, apparently attracted to the spot at the back of the plaza by the sight of women wearing tallitot. Very quickly their ranks swelled into hundreds and they turned into a mob. They surrounded their fellow Jews, taunted them, spit at them and threw stones at them.

One can only suppose that these agitated young men and boys intended to knock some Torah sense into their frightened co-religionists through the sound of stones smashing against the plaza floor or perhaps through the wincing sting of stones cutting skin. Under a relentless hail of projectiles and insults, the police urged the besieged men and women to leave the plaza. They did.

What happened next was reported in the *New York Times* thus: "The Conservatives tried to regroup outside the plaza but the mob followed them. As they retreated through the Jewish Quarter, *they were pelted with garbage and feces from the windows of a yeshivah.*" (Our emphasis)

Rabbi Andrew Sachs, the director of the Rabbinical Assembly in Israel and the leader of that woe-befallen group of men and women, said he deliberately chose a place far from the Wall to avoid any suggestion of provocation.

Despite his intentions though, it was clear both by the behavior of the mob and by statements of certain haredi spokespersons afterward, that haredi sensibilities had been offended. Indeed, they were incensed.

Even so, no perceived provocation justifies or excuses or condones such ugly, sickening and degrading violence. How far and how deep has hatred taken root that one Jew could do this to another?

The outcry in Israel among secular commentators has been piercing and foreboding. For example, veteran journalist Yosef Lapid, writing in the *Jerusalem Post*, was so affected by the incident as to describe his feelings in Kafkaesque terms, as someone no longer at home in his own country, as someone being interrogated, on trial by an accusing faceless religious establishment for the crime of having had a secular education: "At this point, I crack. But they don't hear me any more. They are already busy with another defendant. *I try to disentangle myself, but my hands are behind my back, tied with t'fillin straps.*" (Our emphasis)

What the Haredim did was an abject chillul hashem, a desecration of God's name.

Outrage has given way to sadness that one Jew – indeed one human being – should care so little about the dignity and well-being of another that no behavior is too base or too crude in the name of The Almighty.

But as Lapid's commentary proves, past the feeling of sadness are the scandal and the shame that, as a result of the actions of the thugs who claim to be the fervent guardians of its gates, something so breathtaking, so precious and so beautiful as Judaism should be held up to such searing public scorn.

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"Everywhere, where the Jews have settled...among the nations, Jewish misery prevails...not the ordinary misery which is probably the unalterable fate of mankind. It is a peculiar misery, and from which they would be free, were they not Jews."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

June 26, 1983 the Congregation Emanu-El of Victoria, B.C., consecrated in 1863, was dedicated as a site of national historic and architectural significance. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Not the first Mission Sépharade to Morocco

You reported on the exciting Mission Sépharade to Morocco and Israel (*CJN*, June 13). The article stated that this was the first UJA Mission to Morocco.

I wish to remind your readers that the first Mission to Morocco was in March 1967. A group of 12 people from Toronto, led by the late Rabbi Stuart Rosenberg visited Morocco, Iran and then Israel as a Leadership Mission of the Toronto United Jewish Appeal. I was among those fortunate enough to go. In Morocco, we were met by the representative of the American Joint Distrubution Committee, who introduced us to the diminishing Jewish community in Casablanca. We visited the Oeuvre de Secours aux Enfants, the ORT schools and La Maison Vieillard, went to Shabbat services and had the opportunity to meet and speak personally to many of the leaders of that community.

We then travelled to Marrakesh, where we again learned from community leaders of the need for understanding and support from Canadian Jewry. This interface between Jews was exciting and enlightening to all of us on the mission. The late Charles Kent and I returned the following year for a "follow-up" visit and directed our effort during the UJA campaign to telling the Toronto community of the needs of our Sephardi brethren.

The problems of immigration, absorption and settlement have not abated. We Canadian Jews must be as always sensitive to the needs of our fellow co-religionists.

Martin G. Wolfish
Toronto

'From the Right' obscures the real story

Michael Taube and his family have financed and published his right-wing newspaper *From The Right.* (CJN, Feb. 20).

Taube felt the need to enlighten the public's misconceptions about conservatism. It doesn't take too much brilliance to understand why 80 percent of Canadian Jews and 85 percent in the United States consistently reject right-wing parties. The essence of Judaism is about tzedakah and being a caring, and compassionate people and a light unto all nations. Liberalism, social justice and an equitable society have always been uncompromising values that have guided us throughout history. Thatcherism, Reaganomics, Mulroneyism all ran contrary to this basic assumption.

We do know what conservatism means and represents. Your free markets apply to those in a position who are able to take advantage of it — big business, corporate giants. Your free market system and free trade saw us experience a mass exodus of companies and job losses. It's not equal freedoms for everyone. For the wealthy, yes, and for those well established already. With your free markets we also see exploitation of workers due to cheaper wages. The Mike Harris Conservatives' cuts to healthcare, education and communities have gone to pay the cost of his tax scheme that only benefits the wealthy in Ontario. Bank presidents are getting a $200,000 tax gift from the Harris Conservatives. The right wing of Taube's Conservatives support and enable the top 100 CEOs in Canada to continue earning 90 times more than the average Canadians ($2.5 million vs. $30,000) and pay on average three percent personal tax.

Budget cuts of $1 billion plus to education will result in overcrowded classes, cuts to junior kindergarten, music, art, sports and special education programs, resources teachers, and even librarians. Tuition fees are up by as much as 30 percent for universities and colleges. The majority of graduating high school students will soon be unable to afford a higher education. The purpose of all this, of course, is to ensure that the wealthy maintain their status quo and sustain their lifestyle.

Jan Fine
Toronto

A different view of Public Curator

The article entitled "Conference focuses on Ethics and Alzheimer's" (*CJN*, Montreal edition, June 13), quotes lawyer Wilfred Kravitz as having remarked that "most of it [the bad press the public curator has received lately] is not merited. Many of its workers are decent and kind people."

There is ample information supporting the contrary view. We are the largest group representing users, relatives and caregivers dealing with the Public Curator with members across the entire province. The hundreds of files we have compiled are full of blunders and abuses on a heart-breaking scale. Kravitz has never visited our offices and there is nothing comparable anywhere else, other than with the Public Curator itself whose files are inaccessible. We wonder, then, on what evidence Kravitz makes such an uninformed comment.

According to all authorities — other than Kravitz — the recent bad press appears well deserved.

Ura Greenbaum
Executive Director
Association for Defence of People and Property under Public Curator
Montreal

Editor's Note: Our story was about the need for a legal mandate by caregivers of Alzheimer's patients. It dealt only incidentally with his remarks about the Public Curator.

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Separatist vote hit a new low

By JACK JEDWAB

On June 2, Quebecers participated in their fifth election in the past five years.

Many Canadians remember Quebecers' last such trip to the polls, when on the evening of Oct. 30, 1995, they anxiously watched the federalist forces go on to narrowly defeat those who advocated the country's break-up. Some 18 months later, observers regarded the 1997 federal election as the first real test of strength of the sovereigntist movement since that fateful October 1995 evening. Not surprisingly, therefore, the 1997 results were closely scrutinized as to their possible impact on the national unity debate.

Both in Quebec and in the rest of Canada, numerous analysts directed their attention to the share of the popular vote received by the separatist Bloc Québécois on the one hand, and the cumulative total received by the federal Liberal and Conservative parties in la belle province on the other.

Since the defeat of the Charlottetown Accord in 1992, several Quebec analysts interpret federal and provincial elections in referendum-like terms, where the popular vote tends to be seen as a benchmark for the state of national unity. As the numbers came in on June 2, the province's political spin doctors, federalist and sovereigntist alike, were ready to put the best interpretation on the election results as regards to their potential meaning for the future course of the national unity debate. In the end, it was the sovereigntists who were disappointed that the Bloc Québécois received approximately 38 percent of Quebec's popular vote as the balance went largely to the two major federalist parties.

At the start of 1997, the sovereigntists were optimistic about the prospects of the upcoming federal election, which they hoped would help them build momentum

> 'In the end it was the sovereignists who were disappointed'

en route to another Quebec referendum. And while they may not publicly admit it, the Bloc Québécois initially anticipated obtaining a percentage of Quebec's popular vote that was either equal to, or greater than, the 49.4 percent acquired by the Yes option in the October 1995 referendum.

Early in the 1997 federal election campaign, it quickly became apparent that the Bloc Québécois could not achieve that objective. So the Bloc was ready to settle on what might be described as a 40/40 scenario where it either surpassed the 40 percent mark in the popular vote and/or obtained more than 40 seats in the House of Commons. In Quebec, polling for most of the month of May showed that the Bloc Québécois, the Liberals and the Conservatives were in a very tight race as to their overall voter support.

In the final 10 days of the campaign, it largely became a two party race, with the polls generally putting the Bloc Québécois slightly ahead of the Liberals.

Many analysts stressed that the 38 percent of popular support acquired by the Bloc represented a significant comedown for the separatist movement.

It is as important as ever to look for constructive solutions to the unity issue

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien

Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard

Shortly after the results came in, federalist leaders were insisting that Quebecers' support for separation was on the wane and that an important number of 1995 Yes voters did not respond to the call of Bouchard, Parizeau, Duceppe and company. (The table below illustrates the decline in support from the 1993 through to the 1997 federal election). For their part, sovereigntist leaders asked Quebec voters to overlook the numbers and instead focus on the 44 seats acquired by the Bloc, which they described as an endorsement of Quebec independence. Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard went so far as to suggest that this was the last federal election in which Quebecers would participate. But despite the happy faces on Gilles Duceppe and company, these sovereigntists knew full well that they suffered an important blow in the 1997 election.

Indeed, the lower levels of popular support for the Bloc Québécois lent credibility to the idea that in the 1995 referendum a not-insignificant group of Quebecers failed to clearly understand that the issue at stake was the break-up of Canada. The 1997 results suggest that an important share of the 49.4 percent of Yes voters did not appear as committed to independence as the separatist leadership has since October 1995 repeatedly insisted that they were.

Who were the Quebec electors that veered away from the Bloc Québécois in this election? Likely to be found on the Yes side in the '95 Quebec referendum, they are presumed to be either soft sovereigntists or soft federalists. Many analysts believe that the federal Conservatives led by the popular Jean Charest had considerable support from this important voting group. Generally estimated at between 15 and 30 percent of the Quebec electorate, this group tends to split votes in favor of the sovereigntist political option. Recent experience has shown that in Quebec's federal and provincial elections, these soft voters tend to split votes in favor of sovereigntist political parties.

In the 1994 provincial election, some observers believed that Mario Dumont's Parti Action Démocratique (ADQ) captured a sufficient number of these "soft" electors to thereby give an edge in several ridings to the Parti Québécois. While this may have been the case in the 1993 federal and 1994 provincial contests, in the recent federal election the vote-splitting appears to have come back, to some extent, to haunt the Bloc Québécois by offering a slight advantage to the Liberals. At the same time, it is to be noted that voter participation was quite low in this election, which appeared to constitute yet a further advantage for the federalist parties. It will be interesting to watch the impact of both the voter turnout and the vote splitting in the next Quebec provincial election.

The 38 percent of the Bloc Québécois has been pegged by some federalists as a new low for the sovereignty movement. There is certainly some political psychology operating here, the effect of which may be very temporary. In effect, it would be imprudent for federalists to get too carried away over the magnitude of the 1997 victory. The results of future polls on sovereignty and support for the Parti Québécois, both of which are probably still in the mid-40 percent range, may risk taking some wind out of federalist sails.

Bouchard is unlikely to call a provincial election until the fall of 1998. He knows that the Quebec electorate is tired of continually being called to the urns. Also, the results of the next Quebec provincial election will be critical for the

> Vote splitting haunted the Bloc Québécois

future course of the national unity debate.

There is no underestimating the separatist movement which has in the past demonstrated a keen ability to come from behind in elections and referenda, just as it did in October 1995 when at the start of the campaign it severely trailed the federalist side. Therefore, despite the good federalist performance of 1997, it remains as important as ever to look for constructive solutions to the unity issue as there still is a real possibility of yet another referendum.

Jack Jedwab is Executive Director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region.

The Separatist Vote in Quebec (in percentage terms)

	Liberals	Conservatives	ADQ	Bloc/Parti Québécois
1993 Federal Election	33.2	13.6	∅	49.5
1994 Provincial Election	44.4	∅	6.5	44.7
1995 Referendum "No" vote (50.6)			(49.4) "Yes" vote	
1997 Federal Election	35.8	22.2	∅	38.0

Opinions

A lineup is a real event in Israel

The concept of standing in line doesn't have one particular connotation in Israel. Wherever there's a line, there's a different set of expectations.

By Viva Press in Jerusalem

Let me explain just what I mean.

The bus line is more of an illusion than something real. Since I take the bus at least twice a day, I am familiar with the waiting that accompanies this form of transportation. Sometimes while I wait for buses, the people around me stand side by side in a formation that in Canada would be viewed as an orderly queue. But here in Jerusalem, as soon as the bus pulls up to the stop, any semblance of a line that may have existed disappears.

Instead, the "line" of people dissolves into a crush where everyone is trying to push his and her way into the bus first. And don't think waiting for the huddle of passengers to thin out will help. Forget it. The bus driver, believing that you don't really want to get on his bus, perhaps you're waiting for another bus, will close the doors as soon as the last person, the person immediately ahead of you, has got onto the first step of the bus.

So, I push and I shove — and I get pushed and shoved — until I too manage to secure a foothold on the first step.

The bank line and the grocery store line are very similar. The best way to explain the bank line is to tell about my first trip to a bank this summer.

Thirty minutes had passed and I was finally within five clients of my goal in coming to the Bank Hapoalim on King George Street: I had come to change money. Just as client number one had been served and I was about to take a step closer to the tellers, a man came out of nowhere and stood in front of me.

He had been there all the time, he told me.

The person ahead of me confirmed this.

Just because I didn't see him, that did not mean he wasn't there. He had earlier reserved his place behind the guy in front of me, had told this guy to save his place and had then left. Of course, he returned just as his spot in line was close to the front.

Any protesting on my part would have been futile. This use of a "saved place" in a lineup is, I have learned, a common practice.

He was in line — or at least a place was saved for him. He was no *freir* (chump), why should he wait while someone else could easily save his place for him?

Of course he was in line, I just wasn't paying close enough attention.

However, I was paying attention when I went to the Hyper Kol grocery store on Hapalmach Street. It was the same story all over again. Someone appeared out of nowhere to claim his place ahead of me in the line.

There I was in the "express line" — one to eight items — when a man butted in front of me. Not wanting to get into an argument, I didn't say anything about his rudeness.

The man behind me did.

He was not ready to let someone just step in and jump the line. The two of them got into a screaming match about how Man A had been there and was coming back to his saved place, while Man B didn't believe Man A was there to save a place in the first place. There was only one way to settle the argument — they both turned to me.

Man B asked me if Man A was, in fact, in front of me. Truthfully, I admitted, I hadn't seen him.

Man A was furious — what did I mean, I hadn't seen him?

Man B then grabbed Man A by the arm and removed him from our grocery line.

But this ordeal wasn't over yet. When I left the store, Man A was waiting for me outside.

I pretended not to notice him and continued walking in the direction of my apartment as if nothing out of the ordinary had happened. He stepped in front of me and said he had one question to ask — what did I mean when I said I hadn't seen him?

In the market line, you really can go unnoticed. No one will "see" you, unless you make sure they do.

A line of sorts forms in front of the scales where your fruit or vegetables are weighed. But the person in front doesn't always get helped first. Rather, the person who swings their goods in the merchant's face or deposits them on the scale first gets helped first.

The customers who patiently wait for their turn — I have to admit, I tend to fall into this category — eventually do get served. But we have to wait much longer.

It's not unusual for me to encounter all of these so-called lineups in one day; I've taken the bus to the bank, stopped in at the supermarket and then gone to the market. And while these lines themselves may not conform to the accepted definition of a line being an orderly arrangement, they give a new meaning to the concept of waiting in line.

Then again, everything in Israel has its own distinctive meaning. That's what makes something as boring as waiting in a line that much more eventful.

Either/or rarely a solution

Not so long ago, shalom was not only the most often-used word in daily Hebrew parlance but also, in some respects, the most controversial. David Ben-Gurion is reported to have said that the word properly describes Israelis: they say shalom when they come and shalom when they leave, which is to say that they are not sure if they are coming or going. Besides being a clever quip, however, it says something about the nature of the word itself. It describes a condition as well as a hope.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

In the years of intifadah, the word assumed a different meaning. It came to signify concession, giving up what was rightfully yours and the type of accommodation that — so it was believed — would eventually lead to the end of the Jewish state.

Since those days, the unlikely has happened: Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres sat down with Yasser Arafat; they all received the Nobel Prize; a Palestinian Authority was set up with its headquarters in Jericho; Israel made peace with Jordan and sent representatives to all but a few Arab states; and peace became the trademark of Israeli policy.

But things are changing again. New developments have rent the fragile fabric of Arab-Israeli relationships and both sides of the conflict have once more returned to demonizing each other.

Perhaps, in the long run, the solution to this problem of two peoples fighting for the same piece of earth may prove intractable if approached only in political terms. Perhaps, if any kind of progress is to be made, it must come because there are also enough person-to-person relationships.

That is why I have been greatly impressed by the Canada-International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO). Established by Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital and the University of Toronto, it is the result of years of efforts by a small group of medics who believe that the physician's duty to heal knows no bounds and that its practice enables people to trust each other and find a common bond in the healing process. CISEPO recently inaugurated a lecture program across cultural borders. Sponsored by Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, the Israel Medical Association (Canadian chapter), Bathurst Jewish Centre and Palestine House in Canada, it is a public expression of what a small group of physicians has for some time practised in a quiet yet effective way.

Headed by Dr. Arnold Noyek it has found a ready response in Jordan among members of the Palestinian Authority and in Israel itself. Now 15 years old, its partnerships include physicians, exchange programs with Thailand, Brazil, Australia and others.

"Canada is seen as playing a role in facilitating and organizing," Noyek said. The group's present focus is to provide screening for hearing loss among high-risk-school children and to continue managing their progress. Being child-oriented, CISEPO has a wonderful chance of common acceptance, and its next area of concern will be the elderly.

Efforts of this kind may move politicians on both sides to view reality in a moderating light. Either/or has rarely been a solution for anything, but both/and often has.

Why scorn the idealism of youth?

One of my pet peeves is adults who condescendingly tell young people, "Oh, you're just idealistic. You'll know better when you grow older."

By Simone Joseph in Toronto

I agree that young people may be naive and inexperienced in certain ways, but why do so many adults scorn their idealism? Why do they insist on telling us we'll know better when we're older? Do they think that later on in life, we will lose our ruach (enthusiasm) and they are therefore merely preparing us for this eventual doom? Or do they refuse to take us seriously because they are jaded and cannot relate to our fresh enthusiasm and excitement?

I think many adults have a lot to learn from young, idealistic people who have fresh ideas and a new perspective on life. That's why it is so important for youth's optimism, fresh ideas and enthusiasm to have an outlet. Thankfully, over the past six weeks, I have had an outlet for my creativity, ideas, and enthusiasm — *The CJN*. But, from my own experiences as a student in the journalism program at Ryerson Polytechnic University, I know that many young people labor for hours on end improving their resumes, hoping someone will open a door for them, take them seriously and listen to their ideas.

I don't mean to imply that all adults are jaded and scorn young people's ideas. Often, youth are taken seriously and their idealism is not scorned. Instead, opportunities are extended to them.

Many opportunities are given to young people through internships and work experiences in Israel. Fellowships in Jewish leadership positions are often awarded by Jewish organizations. For example, Dena Libman, a York University graduate, was the first Canadian to receive the Hillel Arline and David L. Bittker Fellowship to work in Washington D. C. as a Jewish campus professional in the Hillel international office.

Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, an umbrella organization serving the campuses of York, U of T, Ryerson and Seneca in Toronto, has also taken young people seriously, as demonstrated by their leadership seminars and May's awards ceremony honoring outstanding volunteers.

The CJN's on-campus section and the addition of young columnists within its pages demonstrate that this paper values the passions and opinions of today's youth.

Other media, such as the *Toronto Star*, have also shown their interest in young people's opinions. The *Toronto Star* has a regular Under 20 column on the front page of the Life section. Also, the *Star* often publishes pieces from a national wire service called the Young People's Press, which operates out of Toronto and aims to publish the opinions and writing of young people.

The recent YTV awards honored youth in recognition of their achievements. Nava Mizrahi of Vancouver, the international president of B'nai Brith Girls, won an award for public service.

A friend of mine who is in international relations at the University of Toronto is currently working in the field she loves, human rights, at the United Nations in Ottawa. Another friend, a French major at the University of Western Ontario, recently returned from a study program in Quebec, made possible by a French language bursary. Their summers have been enriched by these challenging experiences, but only because they have been given the opportunity and because someone had faith in their ability.

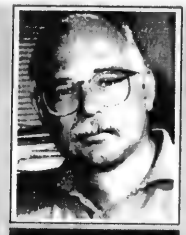
My internship at *The CJN* has made me realize what a difference an opportunity can make in a young person's career and personal growth. To have your idealism and ideas taken seriously is a great feeling. It's wonderful to be treated as an intelligent adult who has potential, is competent and is valued, rather than as an inexperienced adolescent. An open door can enrich, brighten and stimulate a young person.

So the next time someone young enters your workplace armed with a resume loaded with volunteer experience and a bright smile, or the next time your young employee suggests a radical new idea, remember this column. Take young people seriously and don't try to crush our idealism. We are the heroes, leaders, parents and teachers of tomorrow.

The Kirshner File

Basel prepares to mark Zionist centennial

Israel was conceived in Basel, Switzerland, a century ago. At the first Zionist Congress here in August 1897, Theodor Herzl



By Sheldon Kirshner

wrote in his diary: "If I were to sum up the Congress...it would be this: At Basel I founded the Jewish state. If I said this aloud today, I would be greeted with universal laughter. In five years perhaps, and certainly in 50 years, everyone will perceive it."

Almost precisely 50 years later, the United Nations passed a resolution partitioning Palestine, and Israel was born.

Starting this week, Basel – a charming city of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque buildings and twisting medieval streets – marks the centennial of the first Zionist Congress with a panoply of cultural events.

Kicking off things on June 27, the University of Basel plans an exhibition documenting the life and times of Herzl – from his childhood in Budapest to his first trip to Palestine – and the impact of the Zionist movement on history.

This is to be followed by exhibitions about Israel, an international academic symposium on Zionism and anti-Semitism, a one-man play about Herzl, concerts and Israel Weeks in restaurants and stores.

The centenary ceremony, the crowning touch, will take place on Aug. 31 at the Stadt Casino – where the first Zionist Congress unfolded – and will be attended by, among others, Swiss dignitaries, the chair of the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency, the speaker of the Knesset, several members of the Israeli parliament, the director-general of Israel's foreign ministry and Jewish community leaders from around the world.

Five thousand foreign visitors are expected in Basel for the anniversary, according to Dennis Rhein, head of the centennial organizing committee and vice-chair of Basel's tourist board.

The original estimate of 10,000 was scaled down in response to the still-swirling controversy over Switzerland's contentious wartime dealings with Nazi Germany and over the insensitive manner in which Swiss banks handled postwar claims to Jewish dormant accounts.

As a result of these embarrassing disputes, Israeli President Ezer Weizman cancelled his proposed trip to Basel and the European Jewish Congress changed its venue from Basel to Paris, said Rhein in an interview.

But these glitches have neither dampened Rhein's enthusiasm nor prompted other major Jewish organizations to cancel their participation.

Rhein, a Swiss Jew, began planning the big party in 1993 at the initiative of the canton of Basel. A $2 million budget has been allocated. Sponsors include Basel's tourist board, Swissair, several Swiss banks, two Israeli banks, the B'nai Brith lodge in Basel, the Manor department store chain and Francois Loeb, the sole Jewish member of the Swiss federal parliament.

A visitor who finds himself or herself in Basel, Switzerland's largest metropolis after Zurich, will be impressed by its beauty.

Lying along the banks of the Rhine River, which is spanned by quaint bridges bedecked with colorful Swiss cantonal flags, Basel is tailor-made for leisurely strolls.

In a one-hour walk, you'll pass the gentrified Heuberg district; the tree-lined Rheinwg, a pleasant riverside esplanade of elegant old homes and lively cafes; the Rathaus, the towering town hall adorned with murals; the vegetable and flower stalls on Marktplatz; and Freiestrasse, Basel's major shopping thoroughfare.

Points of Jewish interest are the Stadt Casino, where further Zionist congresses were held in 1898, 1899 and 1901, and the Hotel Des Troi Rois, where Herzl stayed during the 1897 convention.

The Stadt Casino, which adjoins a restaurant and an outdoor cafe, is now a music hall. An unobtrusive black marble plaque, engraved in German and Hebrew, commemorates the first Zionist Congress, which produced the Basel Program. It outlined a visionary plan for the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine, then an Ottoman dominion.

In Herzl's day, Zionism was widely considered a pie-in-the-sky philosophy, scorned by the majority of Jews. Herzl – an assimilated journalist – originally chose Munich, Germany, to spell out his Zionist dream. But in the face of opposition from anti-Zionist Jews, he opted for Basel. Basel's rabbi, Arthur Cohn, sympathized with the strange new ideology, and Basel had a kosher restaurant.

The beige-and-white Hotel Des Troi Rois is supposedly Switzerland's oldest hostelry (1026). The cost of a single room runs from $255 to $375 per night, but in fin de siecle Basel it was expensive as well. Herzl checked into room 126, a functional rectangular space whose balcony affords a panoramic view of the Rhine. There is a famous photograph of him leaning over the railing.

Oddly enough, the hotel does not trade on its association with Herzl. Its glossy brochure boasts of famous guests – Napoleon, Voltaire, Charles Dickens and an assortment of royalty – yet Herzl goes unmentioned.

When Herzl swept into Basel, its Jewish population was barely a thousand. Not much has changed in 100 years, Basel being home to no more than 2,000 Jews today.

The community traces its origins to the 13th century, when Basel was a German free city. During the Black Plague, the Jews were accused of poisoning the wells, and 600 were burned at the stake. After an earthquake devastated Basel, Jews from neighboring Alsace were invited to settle. But they, too, were eventually driven out.

For approximately 400 years, Basel was officially off-limits to all but a handful of Jews, notably Hebrew proofreaders, who were in demand because, from the late 16th century, Basel was a centre of Hebrew printing.

The present community, the third since the Middle Ages, was founded by Jews from Alsace and Eastern Europe, who consecrated their first synagogue in 1868, two years after Swiss Jewry was granted full civic rights. Restored a few years ago, the Moorish-style shul has been designated a national monument.

On the grounds are a school, a mikvah, a community centre, a library and Basel's one and only kosher restaurant, the Topas, which is under the supervision of Rabbi Yisroel Meyer Levinger, the brother of Moshe Levinger, the Hebron firebrand.

A short distance away is Switzerland's sole Jewish museum, a modest repository of religious objects and memorabilia, including a montage of the trailblazing 1897 Zionist Congress. Outside, in the courtyard, are red sandstone fragments of rabbinic gravestones inscribed in Hebrew.

Since some Jews in Basel trace their ancestry to southern Alsace and the Black Forest in Germany, a half-day trip to these places is instructive.

In Hegenheim, just across the Swiss border in France, a sculptor's studio has supplanted the remains of a synagogue. The Jewish cemetery across the road contains 10,000 tombstones. No Jews live in Hegenheim today.

In Sulzberg, 60 kilometres northwest of Basel, the shul has been converted into a memorial centre for a vanished Jewish community whose last member was deported in 1940. Half hidden by a dense forest, the Jewish cemetery is in remarkably good condition.

***

For more information on Basel and environs, call Switzerland Tourism in Toronto (416-695-3496). In partnership with Air Canada, Swissair has daily flights

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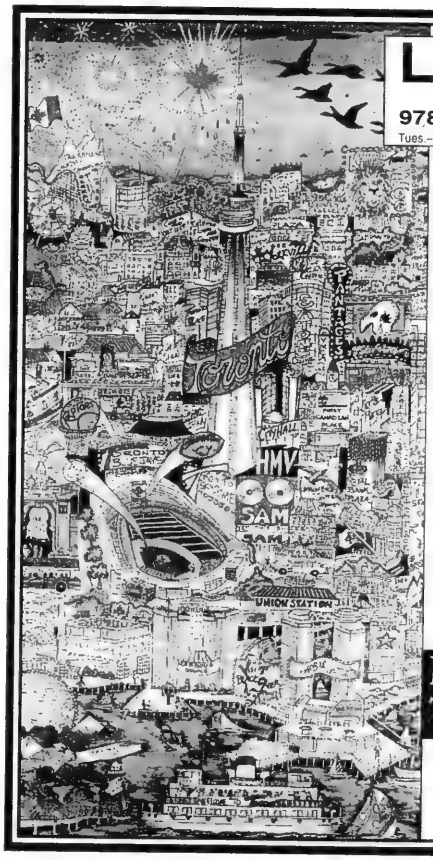

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(formerly B'nai Brith Women of Canada)
mourns the passing of our
beloved National Past-President
ANNE STROM ז"ל
Anne's exemplary commitment and dedication
will serve as an inspiration.
Our deepest sympathy is extended to the Strom Family.
Anna Lee Gould — National President
Penny Krowitz — National Executive Director

The Officers, Executive and staff
of
Canadian Jewish Congress, National,
and the Quebec, Ontario and Pacific Regions
extend deepest condolences to our National President
GOLDIE HERSHON
on the loss of her beloved mother
MALKA LIBMAN ז"ל
(NEE BORENSTEIN)
May the family be comforted
among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

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MORRIS KAUFMAN ז"ל
and expresses heartfelt condolences
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May the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

Jewish Life

By RABBI CHAIM STEINMETZ

Timothy McVeigh and the meaning of justice

The death sentence in the trial of Timothy McVeigh has stirred renewed debate about the morality of the death penalty.

Does McVeigh, whose callous crime killed 168 people and shattered the lives of countless others, deserve to die?

Comparative Law

The debate about this basic ethical question is ancient. In many ways, it is a debate about how to understand the Torah (or Hebrew Bible), the basis of Judaism and Christianity. What is the Torah's theory of justice?

One passage in the Torah that causes a lot of controversy is "an eye for an eye" (Exodus 21:23). The Torah, if understood literally, seems to be telling us that it is equitable to blind someone who has blinded his friend. To many, punishing someone by blinding them seems ugly, grotesque and inhumane.

This passage is singled out for criticism by Jesus in his Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:38-40). Jesus tells his disciples not to follow the law of "an eye for an eye," but rather to "turn the other cheek" to anyone who slaps them, and to give the shirt off their back to anyone they have a dispute with. These passages in Matthew have motivated some Christian theologians to compare the Christian Bible's attitude toward "love" with the Torah's attitude to "vengeance."

When teaching a class on this subject to a group of university students, I found to my chagrin, that this charge is still hurled at the Torah and Judaism.

In reality, if one reads the Talmud, it is extremely clear that the Jewish tradition does not mandate the practical implementation of "an eye for an eye." The Talmud (Baba Kamma 83a) produces a whole battery of textual and logical arguments to show it is not possible that "an eye for eye" is in any way literal. Someone who assaults his neighbor must pay him for the economic loss of an eye, as a payment for medical expenses and emotional pain. This verse is understood to mean "the payment of the value of an eye for an eye." This tradition is followed by many Jewish commentaries, including the commentary of Abraham Ibn Ezra, a prominent 12th-century Spanish rabbi.

The Talmud has a similar attitude to the application of the death penalty. Although the Torah prescribes the death penalty for some crimes, the Talmud (Makkot 7a) says that its application by the courts was extremely rare (according to some opinions, as little as once in 70 years!)

This idea was taken to its extreme by Rabbi Tarphon and Rabbi Akiva, two of the rabbis who authored the Talmud. They found it impossible to apply the death penalty. In capital cases, they would cross-examine witnesses until they found an inconsistency in their testimony and then throw the case out.

Other rabbis disagreed with Rabbi Tarphon and Rabbi Akiva. Rabbi Simon Ben Gamliel found their view too extreme, for there would be no deterrent against the commission of murder.

Clearly, the talmudic traditions have a kinder, gentler interpretation of Torah's punishments. An "eye for an eye" means money; the death penalty is rarely enforced. But if this is so, why does the Torah say "an eye for an eye"? Shouldn't the Torah be more clear and explain that it only means financial compensation?

It is here that we see the unique perspective of the Jewish tradition.

Ovadiah Sforno, a 16th-century Italian rabbi, explains that the Torah chooses to write "an eye for an eye" literally, because that is what the criminal deserves. Perhaps we should not enforce this judgment; it may be too grotesque and painful and may not truly fit the crime. However, it is still important that we be aware that true justice means that the criminal gets the punishment he deserves, that "an eye for an eye" is a fitting punishment for a violent criminal. This is why the Torah writes "an eye for an eye", and demands the death penalty.

The talmudic tradition, concerned about applying these laws, realizes that it is too extreme for a compassionate society to apply these penalties on a regular basis. For this reason, it says that "an eye for an eye" means financial compensation, and that the death penalty was carefully reserved for heinous crimes.

The Jewish tradition does not codify "vengeance." Rather, it tries to synthesize the demands of justice with the need for compassion. To talk soothingly about love, without having any standard of justice, is truly inhumane, and will cause anarchy.

The McVeigh trial may be one of those instances where we must follow the dictates of justice alone. It may be a crime in which the blood of the victims calls out too loudly and demands the ultimate punishment. But even if it is, we must remember that this is an exception. As the Tanach says, God demands us to "do justice and love kindness." (Michah 6:8)

Rabbi Steinmetz is spiritual leader of Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem in Montreal.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

What comes after graduation exercises?

We have reached the time of university graduations and commencement speeches. Beyond the ritual of cap and gown and old-grad sentimentality lurks a paramount question: Apart from the accumulation of facts and information, what perceptions and values have students received as they enter a complex and uncertain future?

• *Is there intellectual curiosity?* Truth often disturbs what makes us most comfortable. The tracking down of ideas involves greater risk than the pouring of facts into a receptacle called the brain. In the words of Lincoln Steffens, "It is dangerous to think — always." But the educated must take the risk.

Our age demands open-mindedness, unrelenting doubt, ceaseless probing of life's problems at every stage, with enough independence and flexibility to confront emerging and unprecedented dilemmas. There must be an awareness of the vastness of human ignorance and an appetite for learning that is satisfied only by lifelong analysis and inquiry.

• *Is there concern for the social ills of society?* Contemporary difficulties are explosive, increasingly numerous and perilously urgent. Some examples? Race prejudice, which sabotages the struggle for peace and undermines the security and moral health of the world; political chauvinism, which, in one country after another, prefers unrest and disunity to mature compromise; emotional frustrations that often lead to scapegoatism and group hostility; hatred for an "enemy" nation, so violent that some people are more eager to see that enemy expunged than to keep their own children alive. For the educated person there is nothing harder than the softness of indifference.

• *Is there an appreciation for moral and esthetic values?* Our grasp of knowledge extends beyond the technological. Scientists have deduced how the first primeval form of life may have started on our planet — and they now understand the chemical mechanism of heredity. We almost know the complete formula for destroying a person's inner resources and converting him or her into a biological machine, a brute without values, without prin-

[Cont'd. on page 13]

Roots & Remembrance

The Jewish cemetery: House of the living

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Have you ever wondered why one of the Hebrew names for a cemetery is beit ha-chaim (house of the living)?

Certainly there is some logic behind this semantic irony, just as there is a trove of stories in the tombstones behind the cemetery gates.

Most people venture into a cemetery only on the sad occasion of a funeral. For those who come in search of the grave of an ancestor or relative, the beit ha-chaim may live up to its mystifying Hebrew name by helping to bring memories back to life.

A cemetery office may provide the location and some of the information recorded on a tombstone, but it is important to visit the gravesite in order to learn as much as possible about the deceased. The words and symbols chiselled onto a tombstone, as well as its physical location, may reveal a great deal about the person it memorializes.

English inscription tells part of story

On most stones, the English inscription tells only part of the story. The Hebrew lettering provides the names of the deceased and his or her father via the customary patronym: Shlomo son of David, for example, or Dinah daughter of Jacob.

Birth and death dates are usually given in Hebrew according to the Jewish calendar. With a bit of practice, these can be read and translated quite easily into our familiar Gregorian notation. (For help with reading a Jewish tombstone, refer to *From Generation to Generation*, Arthur Kurzweil's excellent introductory guidebook to Jewish genealogy.)

Sometimes the town or province in the Old Country where the deceased was born is proudly recorded on the stone. More commonly, the cemetery section itself suggests a place of origin: for instance, the Apter section points to the Polish town of Apt or Opotow, the Minsker shul section refers to Minsk and the Hebrew Men of England section obviously indicates England.

Historically and even to the present day, Jewish burials usually bear an affiliation with a landsmanschaft organization, synagogue, mutual benefit society, burial society or other group through which more information about the deceased may be attained.

Pictographic symbols adorning headstones often have specific meanings. A star of David is a male symbol, candles or a menorah are female. A pitcher or jug signifies a member of the Levite tribe, the "blessed hands" a member of the kohen or priestly tribe. A row of books suggests a learned man, an ark and Torah scroll is for a rabbi, a violin for a musician, a quill pen for a writer.

A lamb or bed often poignantly adorns a child's tombstone, while a broken tree trunk or candle symbolizes a life abruptly cut short. Pictures of animals may refer to specific names: a dove for Jonah, a bear for Dov, a lion for Judah or Aryeh or Leo, an eagle for Adler, a rooster for Hahn.

Pick a sunny day for your cemetery visit, the better to read inscriptions eroded by time. Pouring water over a worn inscription may improve its legibility. Another method, which must always be used with caution so as not to damage the stone, is to trowel some shaving cream over the engraved characters to enhance their legibility. Make sure to wash the stone clean afterwards.

Make rubbing of tombstone

Yet another method is to make a rubbing of the tombstone delicately onto a sheet of newsprint. If the inscription is still hard to read, try reflecting light from a mirror onto the stone, or come back later when the sun is shining from a different angle. It is perfectly appropriate to take a photograph of a tombstone, but do not expect the result to be any easier to read than the stone itself.

When visiting a cemetery, dress with decorum and do not do anything that might disturb others. Do not go on Shabbat or a Jewish holiday.

Eating, drinking and smoking is forbidden within cemetery gates, and boisterous behavior is equally taboo.

If the idea of visiting a cemetery seems strange, keep in mind that each inscription was meant to be read and each tombstone meant to keep a memory alive. It is by remembering the dead, by seeing with our eyes and reflecting with our hearts, that we help transform a cemetery into a beit ha-chaim, a house of the living.

Educated must have inner strength

[Cont'd. from page 12]

ciples and without humanity.

Our colleges and universities must produce men and women with more than knowledge. They must become more than what D.H. Lawrence called "crammed wastepaper baskets." In this day of violence and widespread lawlessness, the educated must have the inner strength to stand steadfastly against evil.

Where do we get our persistence to overcome setbacks and disappointments? Whence comes the impulse to aid our fellow men instead of striding over them in the struggle for personal success? Where is the wellspring for the voluntary offering of service to the community, to our neighbor?

• *Is there proper humility?* An educated person is one whose mind is always watching itself. Shakespeare said: "Modest doubt is called the beacon of the wise." Voltaire suggested that the little he knew he owed to his ignorance. Why then transmit simplistic explanations for the complex problems of society or for the supreme riddles of the universe?

Changes in our age are so rapid that political and scientific revolutions occur within the span of a single lifetime. The youngest undergraduate has already witnessed greater political, industrial and social change than the pre-20th century would know in several generations.

• *Is there a critical method of evaluation?* We live in an age of information explosion. But we are also in the middle of a mis-information explosion. With the proliferation of mass communication, we are surrounded by hawkers, pitchmen and persuaders, hidden and overt. Bombarded daily by millions of words in print and the electronic media, we need some kind of critical apparatus to decide whom and what to believe, and to what degree.

Never has rationality been so badly needed as in this period when some tired intellectuals themselves are spearheading the drive towards anti-intellectualism.

One of humankind's most profitable resources for progress and for peace is in the universities of the free world. To realize their potential, they must mould men and women of intellect and spirit. What a tremendous challenge it is to instil the five ideas indicated above into their hearts and minds.

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Thurs. Morn.	Oct. 2
Thurs. Eve.	Oct. 2
Fri. Morn.	Oct. 3

YOM KIPPUR

Fri. Eve.	*Kol Nidre*	Oct. 10
Sat. Morn.	*Yiskor*	Oct. 11
Sat. Aft.	*Mincha*	Oct. 11

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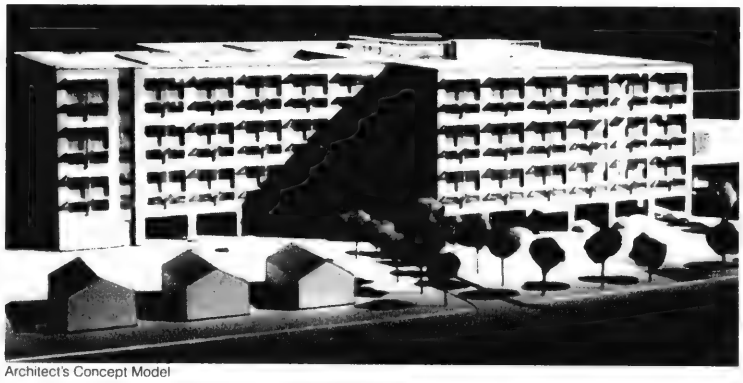

Architect's Concept Model

You know Baycrest. It's a vital part of our community, serving our elderly for more than 75 years. Today, Baycrest serves about 2,000 people every day. But take a look at the list below. There's probably more to Baycrest than you know.

Did you know... most Baycrest programs provide help to seniors who live at home, either with their families or on their own. At Baycrest, we are constantly monitoring the needs of the community and ensuring our programs meet those needs.

Did you know... Baycrest is actively involved in education and training. As an academic centre fully affiliated with the University of Toronto, many of our staff also teach young people how to care for seniors. Every year, hundreds of students come to Baycrest to receive experience and training.

Did you know... research at Baycrest is contributing to a better understanding of how to care for seniors. Our researchers regularly visit other countries to share their findings. Scientists from around the world also come to Baycrest to share their work and to participate in research initiated right here.

In order to continue providing the kind of service our seniors deserve, we're asking for your help. Please, give generously to the Baycrest Campaign.

Here are some of the dozens of programs Baycrest provides to assist our elderly now and in the future.

In-Home Services
Community Hearing Health Care Services
Community Assessment and Treatment Program
Community Recreation Program
Four Seasons Connections
Geriatric Psychiatry Community Service
Jewish Hospice Program
Kosher Meals on Wheels

Recreation
Joseph E. & Minnie Wagman Centre:
Creative Arts
Educational Programs
Fitness & Health Promotion
Greenhouse and Gardening
Social Activities

Residential Programs
Elm Ridge Group Living Residence
Jewish Home for the Aged, *The Abe and Elsie Posluns Building*
Baycrest Hospital, *The Ben and Hilda Katz Building*
Continuing Care Program
Baycrest Terrace

Cultural/Religious Programs
Art Program
Kanner Heritage Museum
Pastoral Care

Social Services
Adult Day Care
Caregiver Assistance Program
Frank and Vilma Martin Respite Program
Samuel Lunenfeld Special Day Care
Therapeutic Recreation
Social Work
Community Counselling Service
When Someone you Know Has a Memory Problem

Research
Rotman Research Institute
Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation Unit
Kunin-Lunenfeld Clinical Research Unit
Katz Centre for Gerontological Social Work

Health Care Services
Geriatric Medical Assessment Program

Specialized Out-Patient Programs
Adaptive Communication Service
Arthritis Education and Exercise Program
Competency Clinic
Community Assessment and Treatment Program
Geriatric Psychiatric Out-Patient Clinic
Psychiatric Day Hospital for Depression
Sleep Disorders Program

Clinics
Behavioural Neurology, Chiropody
Cystoscopy
Dentistry
Dermatology
Ear, Nose and Throat
Endoscopy
Foot & Wound
General Neurology
General Surgery
Ophthalmology
Optician
Orthopaedic
Physiatry
Respirology
Urology
Urogynaecology

Hospital Short-Term Stay
Behavioural Neurology In-Patient Program
Geriatric Assessment and Treatment Unit
In-patient Psychiatry Unit
Palliative Care Unit
Rehabilitation Unit

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THE *Baycrest Campaign*
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Help us be there...

Now is the time to show your support and commitment for Baycrest.
Now is when every dollar counts.

Now is when our plans to continue with the quality of care programs in the home, hospital and community are at risk.

If we are to sustain our programs and build a new Home for the Aged, we need your help.

Please take a look at the list of services we offer and see why Baycrest is so important to everyone in the community.

Make your gift now. Help us be there when you need us.

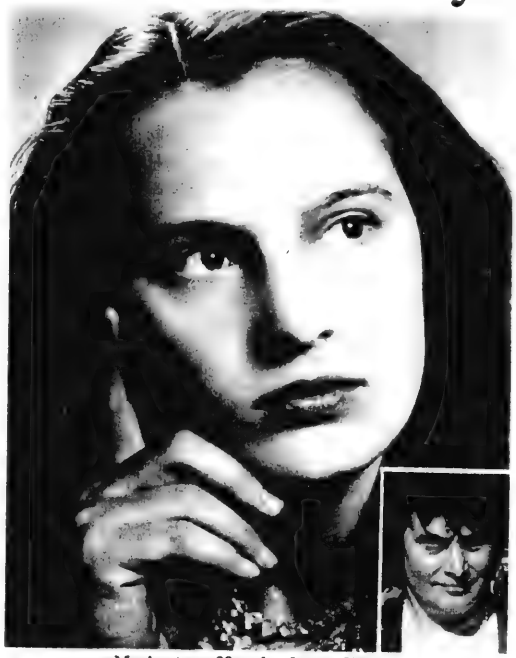
Florence Minz Geneen

Harold Lederman

Greater Toronto Area

Polish Jewish woman searches for natural family

By SIMONE JOSEPH
CJN Student Intern



Maria at age 20 and today, at 57 (inset).

TORONTO — At the age of 46, Maria Janicka discovered something that drove her to research her roots and to try to locate her natural family — she discovered that she is Jewish.

Janicka, currently in Toronto visiting family, is reaching out to Toronto's Jewish community because many Polish Jews immigrated to Toronto after World War II.

"I'm talking to everyone, in the belief that I will find a trace or something about my origin," she said, speaking through a translator.

Raised in Poland as a Roman Catholic, she was told 11 years ago that she did not belong to the family that had raised her.

Wladyslawa Hajduk, a close neighbor and friend of Janicka's mother, said she was present when Janicka was given away in 1943.

She said Janicka's true last name is Reiman and that Janicka's natural family stayed at a Nazi transit camp in Zwierzyniec.

Janicka remembers what she believes are memories of the camp.

"We couldn't sit, we couldn't lie down, we were standing one by one behind a fence," she said.

For 14 years, Janicka lived in the village of Sochy, approximately three kilometres from where the Zwierzyniec camp was located.

She believes that in 1943, when she was about 2½, her family left the camp for the train station. However, Janicka never reached the train station, because her natural mother met with Anastazja Swist, the woman who eventually adopted her.

"I was crying because I was accustomed to being with someone else. The person who took care of me tried to assure me someone would come soon," she said.

Janicka remembers escaping to a forest with Swist. She said she thinks Swist took her there because she was afraid of the Nazis.

"As I recall, I heard the name Reiman in the forest," she said.

Hajduk confirmed that there is a forest between the camp and the train station.

The Swist family waited for Janicka's natural family to claim her, but they never did, and in 1954, the Swists adopted Janicka.

"When I realized I was not from this family, I tried to understand that this lady [her adoptive mother] did a very good thing. I really appreciate the fear, and that she sacrificed her life at that time," Janicka said.

When Janicka speaks of her adoptive mother, her eyes well up with tears and she proudly admits that she had a special grave built for her mother when she died.

To Janicka, what was striking about her upbringing was that while her four siblings were baptized, she was not.

She also said she noticed a difference in appearance between herself and the rest of the family: Janicka is dark and her adoptive family is fair.

When Janicka's adoptive mother died in 1986, she divided the property among the family, but Janicka only received two small tablecloths.

She said many members of her adoptive family were partisans who fought against the Nazis. "It was a very patriotic family."

Janicka's adoptive father, Jozef Swist, was the head of a partisan group called AK (Armia Krajawa, National Army) whose goal was to fight Nazism and communism.

She said although she was raised as a Catholic, and they went to church on Sundays and celebrated Christmas and Easter, her adoptive father was not religious.

"He showed tolerance for us. He told us we had to believe only in the Ten Commandments," she said.

Janicka said her father wasn't the only member of the Swist family involved in a partisan group. One of her brothers planted a bomb under a Nazi train transporting sugar for the Germans and her sister delivered mail between partisan messengers.

At the age of 57, Janicka recently visited a synagogue, Adath Israel Congregation in North York, for the first time.

She said there are no synagogues in Gdansk, Poland, where she lives and she bought a book in Polish with instruction on how to behave in a synagogue and how to pray.

Janicka said she likes Judaism because "it's based on the Old Testament and it has not been changed. It's stable."

Because she cannot read Hebrew, Yiddish or English, she is looking for a book in Polish about Jewish customs and culture.

Janicka said she considers herself Jewish. "I feel a closer relationship to Judaism than Roman Catholicism," she said.

"I plan to tell my daughter about it [my background] and to convince her to change her religion as well," she said.

In 1989, Janicka started to research her origins. For almost three years, she spent much of her vacation time visiting museums of Holocaust history, including Majdanek in Lublin and Brzezinka near Auschwitz.

"I thought that I would find somebody of the same name [Reiman]. I wanted to find out my roots, my origin," she said, but she didn't find any clues to her origin.

In 1993, on the 50th anniversary of the Zwierzyniec camp, author Czeslaw Sluzewski handwrote an inscription to Janicka in his book, *Transitional Nazi Camp in Zwierzyniec*. The dedication read "To Ms. Maria Janicka — let this book help to reflect on the tragical years of occupation. Sochy, 01.06.1993."

Janicka said there are no Reimans in her neighborhood in Poland and so far, she has not found any members of her natural family.

If you have information on Janicka's natural family, please phone 621-2965 (if you speak English) or call Janicka at 695-2547 (if you speak Polish).

She will be returning to Poland on July 2. After that, phone the first number.

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What's New

By Miriam Hernan

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DEADLINE REMINDER

Monday, June 30, is deadline for July 10 issue and Monday, July 7, is deadline for July 17. As *The CJN* offices will be closed the week of July 14, there will be no issue on July 24. That means all items that would ordinarily appear July 24 must be included in the July 17 column. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, June 28

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan Shabbat services every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Room 204 (upstairs). This is a diverse group and welcomes singles of all ages, families of all varieties, and children.

Sunday, June 29

JEWISH JOURNEY

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood present **Jerry Zeidenberg** speaking on Zeev Jabotinsky: 100 Years of Zionism, Part 4, A Jewish Journey Through the 20th Century (includes showing of rare films), 8 p.m., Sisterhood Hall. Guests $2. Coordinators **Jerry and Sandra Genesove.**

Wednesday, July 2

BB ROMANIAN LODGE

Romanian speakers Lodge Dr. Filderman of B'nai Brith meets 6 p.m., 15 Hove St., B'nai Brith Building. 782-9432.

And What Else Is New

BROADWAY REVISITED

Israel Cancer Research Fund presents *The Songs of Broadway Revisited*, featuring comedian **Lou Eisen** and singers **Joni Miller** and **Manny Veinish** in a collection of solos and duets from Broadway's greatest musicals and songwriters, Wednesday, July 16, 8 p.m., Glenn Gould Studio, CBC Building, 250 Front St. W. Reception follows performance. $50. Reserve. 487-5246.

FOOTSTEPS OF MESSIAH

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto four-lecture series, In the Footsteps of the Messiah, with **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz**, Ohr Somayach's senior lecturer, Mondays, July 7, The End of History: When Will the Messiah Come?; July 14, Moshiach ben David and Moshiach ben Yosef: Will the Real Messiah Please Stand Up?; July 21, The Decline and Fall of the Human Race: The Pre-Messianic World; July 28, The Final Apocalypse: The Wars of Gog and Magog. All lectures 8:30 p.m. at Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W.

INSTITUTE OF JUDAISM

B'nai Brith Canada 41st annual Institute of Judaism, Human Rights in the Jewish Tradition, with scholar-in-residence **Prof. David Novak**, University of Toronto, Aug. 29-31, Maple Lake Resort and Convention Centre, Parry Sound. Reservations **Ruth Elias** 266-2050.

ORPHAN'S HOME REUNION

A combined reunion of the alumni of the two Jewish orphanages, the Montefiore and the Montreal Hebrew Orphans Home, takes place in Montreal Sept. 13 and 14. Dinner at Le Biftheque and Sunday brunch at Ruby Foos. This year marks the closing of Montefiore Home 61 years ago and Montreal home 55 years ago. The committee is seeking alumni from these two orphanages. **Myer Gordon**, 221-3161, or write him at 14 Alonzo Rd., North York, Ont., M2R 1T5.

KOFFLER GALLERY

The Koffler Gallery presents the only Canadian showing of Buttered Side Up, an exhibition of nine abstract painters from New York and Houston, running through Aug. 10.

In the Loggia Gallery, a new site-specific painting installation, Speed Limit, by Toronto artist **Nestor Kruger**, on view to Aug. 10.

PREPARING FOR SCHOOL

Jewish Vocational Service is offering students in grades 7-9 an opportunity to develop skills to improve school performance and become more effective, efficient learners. Students will learn listening and organizational skills as well as practical strategies for note-taking and test-writing. The four-session workshops of two hours

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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Assorted Varieties
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Levitt's Veal Salami
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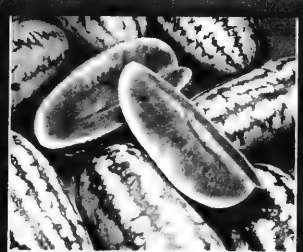

Watermelons
Product of U.S.A.,
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449 lb.

Maxwell House or Folgers Ground Coffee
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From the Deli
Ko-Sure, 1.67 /100 g
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Red or Black Plums
Product of U.S.A.,
No. 1 Grade, 21.5 kg
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168 lb.

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Assorted Varieties
250 mL btl.
.99

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From The Bakery
600 g
599

Hamburger or Hot Dog Buns
From the Bakery
pkg. of 8
.99

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, JUNE 22 UNTIL SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

each are offered daily Aug. 25-28, morning or afternoon. Cost $100. Pre-register 787-1151, ext. 205.

HEBREW FOR CHILDREN

Free Hebrew classes for children at two locations: Yorkhill Public School, Mondays and Wednesdays, 5-6:15 p.m., and Alexander Mackenzie High School, Thursdays, 5-7:30 p.m., start the week of Sept. 8. Sponsored by York Region Board of Education. Register. 905-883-9639.

AUDITIONS

In view of the 50th anniversary celebrations of the State of Israel, the Toronto Jewish Theatre is holding auditions for a number of upcoming productions, Sundays, July 6 and 13, at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Only non-Equity professionals and semi-professionals, actors, singers and dancers should apply for an appointment. Yiddish speaking desirable but not essential. 222-0234.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395. Rosh Chodesh Tammuz lecture, meditation, buffet dinner, Saturday, July 5, 10 p.m. Register. The Power of Kabbalah lecture, Wednesday, July 9, 8:30 p.m. Register.

BB LODGE REUNION

Leonard Mayzel Ontario Lodge B'nai Brith Canada celebrates its 50th anniversary with a gala reunion in April 1998. All past, present and future members are welcome. For information or to be placed on the mailing list, **Basil Cohen** 787-1480.

BEYOND THE CHUPAH

Jewish Family & Child Service group, Beyond the Chupah: Becoming a Couple, a six-week series for engaged couples to discuss Changing Roles, Expectations, Family Dynamics, Conflict in a Jewish Home, begins July 15. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

BAYCREST VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer receptionists are needed to escort visitors and clients to various areas around Baycrest Centre. If you enjoy working with the public in a very busy institution and enjoy a lot of walking, call Volunteer Services Department, 785-2500, ext. 2572.

Volunteers with good interpersonal communication and interviewing skills who can make a one year commitment are needed to contact families of those on the waiting list for Baycrest Home for the Aged and the Terrace/Wagman Centre. Training and supervision provided. **Mindy Goodman**, 785-2500, ext. 2250.

HEBREW SCHOOL

B'nai Shalom Hebrew School's kindergarten and grades 1-7 are held at Yorkhill Elementary School, 350 Hilda Ave., Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. Students attend once or twice weekly depending on grade level. School is affiliated with Board of Jewish Education. Curriculum includes Hebrew, holidays, prayers, Israel, Bible, history, music, arts and crafts and Israeli folkdancing, taught by qualified Hebrew teachers and staff. Remedial and enriched help is also provided.

Bar/bat mitzvah program, free of charge to students, includes individual tutoring and synagogue skills.

Carpool assistance available. Registration now open for 1997-98. **Joseph Klinger**, principal, 905-731-2979.

DAY NURSERY

B'nai Shalom Day Nursery, 275 Arnold Ave., offers full and part-time program for ages 18 months to five years. Curriculum includes a full-time junior kindergarten-age program covering basic reading, writing, math, music and Jewish Heritage focusing on Hebrew, holidays, customs and Friday Shabbat program. Hot kosher lunches and snacks provided. Registration for September 1997 now open. 905-731-2797 or 905-731-7527.

Ask about the Fun Summer Program — picnics, swimming, sports and more.

BAYSVILLE SYNAGOGUE

The 1997 summer season of B'nai Isaac Synagogue of Baysville on Lake of Bays opens June 27. Shabbat morning services at 9:45 a.m. For Friday night or Sundays, call for information. 636-2223 or 635-5012 or locally 705-767-3084.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood duplicate bridge Tuesdays at 7:45 p.m. at the temple. Jean Sengaus 781-9695.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Red China Blues by **Jan Wong** will be discussed at the meeting of the Feminist Discussion Group, North York chapter, Older Women's Network, Sunday, July 6, 2 p.m., North York Community Centre (basement), 505 Lawrence Ave. W. (corner Bathurst). **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414 or **Mildred Selznick** 488-2287.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service Groups: Looking Ahead for recently divorced/separated people, starts July 8; Parenting Teens, begins July 7; Bereavement Groups for men and women who have recently lost a spouse, begin July 4; The Challenge of Anger, begins July 4. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dance June 29, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; Catskills trip to Raleigh Hotel July 21-27; barbecue party Sunday, Aug. 10, 1 p.m. club house; *Jolson* at Royal Alexandra Theatre, Aug. 28; Casino Rama Wednesday Sept. 17, members $15, non-members $20, buffet lunch and transportation. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 26, bingo, other games. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Hungarian Seniors' Writing Group meets Wednesdays, July 2-Aug. 27, 2-4 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. Writers can bring their own work or favorite readings to share and discuss. Conversation is in Hungarian. 395-5440.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Kingston trip July 15; Boat Farm cruise, Grand River, entertainment, Aug. 5; Ottawa, seven kosher meals, Aug. 17-20; *Camelot* Stratford Sept. 17. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskill trip July 25-Aug. 3 to Raleigh Hotel $1,291 or to Pines Hotel, Glatt kosher kitchen $1,197, non-kosher $1,129, Canadian funds, double occupancy, medical cancellation. Also, day trips to Buffalo. **Helen** 635-6343.

LZA Seniors Club trip to Stratford for *Camelot* Sept. 3. Tickets at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Canada Day, celebration, Wednesday, July 2, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.. Greetings from local politicians, barbecue lunch ($3), Doo Doo the Clown, movie *Canada Our Beautiful Country*, entertainment by **Adam Timoon**, birthday cake. **Irina** or **Cara** 225-2147. Sign up at Information Desk for lunch.

Lifelong Learning Institute, coordinator **Bookie Kwart:** Vive La Différence, male and female relationships in later years, **Estelle Altman**, Mondays, July 7-Aug. 25, 1-2:30 p.m. Co-sponsor La'Briyut Wellness Centre.

Religion in the Modern Age, **Hugh Innis**, Ryerson University, Tuesdays, July 8-29, 10 a.m.

Issues of the Recent federal Election: Myths and Facts, **Sidney Soban** Mondays, July 14-25, 10 a.m.

Israeli Etrog Club meets Wednesdays 7 p.m. July 2 is Canada Day celebration. **Anna**.

Movie *Gigi* Sunday, June 29, 2:15 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Summer Fun Day Camp, each two-week session includes Swimming, Arts and Crafts, Music, Sports, Hobbies and more. Half-day Summer Fun for ages 3-5; Summer Fun for ages 4½-10; Summer Fun Plus for ages 9-12; Teen Camps. Camp starts July 2 and runs to Aug. 22. Enrolment is limited.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club closing program of the season, Tea on the Roof, Thursday, June 26, 2 p.m. **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

The Community Integration Program (CIP) seeks Canadian families to reach out to recently arrived Jewish families from the former Soviet Union. Join the Family-to-Family program and be an important link for a Russian family and help them discover their Jewish heritage. Call CIP, ext. 261 or **Luda Felik** 636-2316.

ABOUT PEOPLE

JEWISH BOOK AWARD

Toronto Yiddish poet **Simcha Simchovitch** did it again! His book of English poems *A Song Will Remain* (Lugus 1996) received the prize for Translation from Yiddish at the recent Jewish Book Awards evening. The $500 prize was sponsored jointly by the Harry and Florence Topper Charitable Foundation and Milton Shier. This is the fifth Jewish Book Award awarded to Simchovitch for his literary works in Yiddish and in English. His new collection of Yiddish poems entitled *Funken in Zhar* (Sparks in Embers) will be off the press in the coming months. Simchovitch, 76, is still engaged as part-time co-curator of the Beth Tzedec Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum and is active in the Yiddish Kultur Geselshaft and the Yiddish Seniors' Cultural Club at the Borochov Centre.

BGU TORONTO PRESIDENT

Michael Wynston was elected president of Ben-Gurion University, Toronto chapter, at its ninth annual general meeting, succeeding outgoing president **Paul Jacobs** . The meeting, held at the Vaughan Estate (on the grounds of Sunnybrook Science Centre) June 23, marked the culmination of the celebration of the chapter's 18th Chai Anniversary.

Wynston, an active member of the executive committee for the past three years has also served in leadership roles in the general community. He has been president of Primrose Club, chair of Ontario Maccabi, president of the Ontario Mortgage Brokers Association and president of Canada Lodge B'nai Brith.

Certificates of Recognition were presented to all past presidents and Toronto chapter honorees, acknowledging their contribution to the growth and development of Toronto chapter and their ongoing dedication to the advancement of Ben-Gurion University.

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יידיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

מענדעלע מוכר ספרים – צו זיין 80סטער יאָרצייט

פון ש. סימכאָוויטש

דעם 8טן רעצעמבער, 1997, וועט אכציק יאָר זיצט עס אין אונזק פון דער וועלט שלום־יעקב אברהמאָוויטש, באקאַנט אונטערן פּען־נאָמען מענדעלע מוכר ספרים. די דאָזיקע דאָטע וועט געוויס אָפּגע־צייכנט ווערן אין דער יידישער עפּנטלעכקייט אומעטום. וויל מענדעלע גהערט צו דעם סגאָל שרייבערס, וועמענס יוביל איז געווען א באשאַפטיגל פונעם גייסטיקן אוצר פון אונזער יידישן פאָלק.

מענדעלע'ס לעבנסוועג, ווי דער וועג פון סיידוּ יידישע שרייבערס, איז גיט געווען געשפּרייט מיט רוזן. זיינע־רזיק 14 יאָר אלט איז ער פאר־יתומט געוואָרן פון זיין פאָטער און איז געווען בעצוואונגען זיך צו לאָזן אין דער וועלט, אין די ישיבות פון סלונק און ווילנע, צו עסן „טעג" און נעכטיקן אויף בית־מדרש בענק. זיין מעמד איז נאָך מער בעפאַלן, וען ער האָט זיך געלאָזן מיט א תיקעמדיקן בעטלער (דער פּראָפאָסט פון פישקע דער קרומער) איבער שטעט און שטעטלעך פון ליטע, פאָדאָלע און וואָלין, לימדנדיק אָפּטמאָל בזיונות, הונגער און קעלט.

מיט די אייגענע כוחות האָט זיך מענדעלע אריינגעריסן פון זיין גע־פאָלענער מערכה. ער האָט זיך אָפּגעשטעלט אין קאָמענץ־פאָדאָלסק און דאָרט זיך גענומען צום לערנען וועלטלעכן וויסן, כדי צו קריגן א לערער־דיפלאָם אין א מלוכה־שולע. אָבער אויך דעמאָלט, אין קאָמענץ און דערנאָך אין זשיטאָמיר, האָט מענדעלע נעלעבט מערסטנס אין התקה און אין נויט, כאָטש ער איז שוין דעמאָלט באקאַנט געוואָרן ווי א מחבר פון העברעאישע מעמרים. כדי זיך אריינצוריסן פון דעם מצב, האָט מענדעלע אין 1881 אונטערמען די שטעלע פון פאָרזאָלטער פון א רעפאָרמיד־טער תלמוד־תורה אין אָדעס. די ניע שטעלע האָט אים פאַרגרעס מיט פרנסה, אָבער באָרויבט אים פון זיין פריער צייט און ענרגיע. דערצו נאָך האָט מענדעלע אינעווענדיק א צאָל פּערזענלעכע טראַגעדיעס: דעם טויט פון זיינע צוויי קינדער פון דער ערשטער פרוי, מיט וועלכער ער האָט זיך געזעט עטלעכע יאָר נאָך דער חתונה. מיט יאָרן שפּעטער, נאָכן אויס־שטעלן א ניע משפּחה, האָט מענדעלע שווער אינעווענדיק דעם טויט פון זיין באָבעטער סאָכטער ראָשעל און דאָס טויט זיך פון זיין איינציקן זון.

איז טאַקע צום באָוואונדערן, וויאַזוי מענדעלע האָט באָוויזן אין אָט די באָדינגונגן צו שאַפן גרויסע, אומשטערבלעכע ווערק סיי אין ייִדיש און סיי אין העברעאיש. וויאַ אַנדערע משכילים האָט ער אָנגעהויבן אין העברעאיש מיט מאמרים, ווי צו פאַרבעסערן דעם יידישן תינוק, אדער מיט פּאָפּולערע ארטיקלען וועגן נאטור־וויסנשאפט, נעשיכטע און ליטעראַ־טור. זיין איבערגאַנג צו יידיש, וואָס איז באמתאכט געוואָרן פון סיידוּ משכילים ווי א מיטל־ווערטיקער „וושאַרגאָן", האָט מענדעלע באַוויזן בזה הלשון: „דער גרויסער, אז שרייבנדיק יידיש ווערט איך זיך דערניידעריקן, האָט מיך זייער געפּלאָגט. אָבער דער חשק נאָך צו ברענגען האָט גובר געווען די מאַלשע בושה און איך האָב זיך אלייך געוואָגט: זאָל זיין, וואָס עס ווייל, איך וועל זיך אָנגענמען פאַר דעם פאַרשטויסענעם יידיש און וועל נאָך־לעך זיין מיין פאָלק". צוזאַמען מיט דעם יידיש־לעקסיקאָגראַף יהושע־מרדכי ליפשיץ, האָט מענדעלע געפּועלט ביי אלעקסאַנדער צעדערבוימען דעם אריסטאָבער פון „המליץ", ער זאָל אריסטאָבען (אין 1862) דעם יידישן „קול־מבשר", וויא א ביילאָגע צום „המליץ". דאָרטן האָט מענדעלע פאַר־עפנטלעכט, צום ערשטן מאָל אונטערן פסעודאָנים מענדעלע מוכר ספרים, די דערציילונג „ראָס קליינע מענטשעלע, אדער איין לעבנס־בא־שרייבונג פון יצחק אברהם תקיף".

דערנאָך זיינען געקומען מענדעלע'ס אנדערע גרויסע שאַפונגען: „דאָס ווינטש־פינגערל", „פישקע דער קרומער", „די טאַקסע", „די קלײַ־טשע", „דאָס ידעל", „מסעות בנימין השלישי" און זיין נישט־פאַרענדיקט אויסאַבאָראַפּש בוך „שלמה רב חיממס". אויף דער עלטער האָט מען־דעלע זיך געמען אליין איבערצוזעצן זיינע יידישע שריפטן אין העברעאיש, און אזוי אָרום געוואָרן דער קלאַסיקער פון דער ניער יידישער ליטעראַ־טור אין בידע לשונות. אין יידיש, ווי אין העברעאיש, האָט מענדעלע גע־שאפן א גייעם רעאַליסטישן סטיל און נוסח. זיין סטיל איז געווען בא־הירכט מיט א קריטיש־שארפער סאַטירע געוועבט מערסטנטיל קעגן די גבירים און בעלי־טאקסע, וואָס האָבן באַלעבאַטעווע אין יידישן לעבן.

נאָך ביי זיין לעבן איז מענדעלע געוואָרן אַנערקענט ווי דער „זיידע" פון דער יידישער ליטעראַטור. זיין 75סטער געבורטנטאָג איז פייערלעך אָפּגעצייכנט געוואָרן אין אָדעס און בעפאָוועט געוואָרן אין אלע יידישע צענטערן. ער איז געשטאָרבן אין אָדעס, אין 1917.

מענדעלע'ס שאפן רעכט אַן דעם אינטערעס פון אינטעלעקטואַלן פון ינגערן דור אין אַמעריקע און מדינת ישראל. ווי א באשטעטיקונג פון דעם קאָן דינען די פאַרנעמיקע מענדעלע־אנטאַלאָגיע, וואָס איז אַרויס מיט עטלעכע יאָר צוריק אין א גרויסן ענגלישן פאַרלאָג אין אמעריקע. דאָס דאָזיקע ריי־אילוסטרירטע בוך, צוזאַמען מיט א ריי לעצטנס דערשינענע איבערזעצונגען פון דער יידישער ליטעראַטור, קאָן דינען פאַר דער שטודירנדיקער יידישער יוגנט ווי אן אנרעג צו באַקענען זיך נענטער מיט די ניסטרייכע שאפונגען פון די ראשונים און אחרונים פון דער מאָדערנער יידישער ליטעראַטור.

Greater Toronto Area

Music teacher Rifka Morrow with children at Sweet Beginnings.

Sweet Beginnings offers alternative for disabled kids

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Sweet Beginnings is believed to be the only Jewish integrated preschool program in York Region, according to one of the founders of the school. It offers a program for disabled children who are integrated with non-disabled children.

Opened by Aish Hatorah at the Aish Hatorah Dan Family Community Centre on Clark Avenue West in Thornhill as one of its outreach projects, Sweet Beginnings, a licensed, non-profit school, is completing its first "overwhelmingly successful season," says Lillian Sirota.

From three morning programs with 26 children this year, next season will include both morning and afternoon classes with a capacity of 60 children.

"We promote Jewish unity through quality Jewish education for children and the entire family," says Sirota. "Our doors are open to all Jewish children and we recognize and cater to the individual learning styles, special needs and unique backgrounds of every child. Appreciating this diversity, we are committed to the integration of a small number of special needs children in our program."

The school was founded by Sirota, the coordinator; Gail Michalowicz, the director; and Aliza Wrightman, a physiotherapist. Sirota and Michalowicz worked at Zareinu, a Jewish school for children with special needs.

"We created the school because we felt that there wasn't a Jewish integrated centre for children." The school has a qualified staff of Early Childhood Education teachers with junior kindergarten degrees, a pediatric occupational therapist and a resource teacher.

Children with special needs, she says, may have physical or emotional developmental delays. She explained that the integrated program enables children to foster feelings of "sensitivity, responsibility and appreciation" for diversity in others.

"And Sweet Beginnings is a place where children can experience the beauty and relevance of Judaism in an exciting, dynamic and meaningful way," she said.

A program called Moms and Tots – ages 18 months to 30 months – runs two days a week. The pre-nursery program – 24 to 30 months – is three days a week, the nursery program for children 2½ to 3½ years is five days a week, and an afternoon senior nursery and junior kindergarten is held five days a week for children 3½ to 4½.

"Integration is wonderful for children with special needs because it helps them socially and emotionally and it helps them model the children with non special needs. And at a very young age, the non special needs children learn to accept children who are different."

Sirota believes in early childhood education because children from one to three have a large capacity to learn "and it is very important that it is not considered babysitting as some people think."

She adds that some of the non-disabled children may need some help in some areas of development, such as language, stuttering and social interaction, which are so important at this age. "We try to work with all the individual children at different levels of their development."

Jewish war veterans prepare to go overseas

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish war veterans will join their American confrères for a historic trip to Poland, Belarus and Lithuania starting next month.

Twenty-six members of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada (JWV) and six of their relatives from the United States — also veterans or former partisans — will travel to those countries to pay tribute to the victims of the Holocaust and to Jewish partisans and Resistance fighters who died battling the Nazis.

There's a very real possibility that the president of Poland, Alexander Kwasniewski, will join the trip's participants at an official memorial ceremony at Auschwitz.

According to tour leader and JWV director Lou VanDelman, Kwasniewski's office has expressed a keen interest in the president's attendance, but a NATO meeting in Madrid could keep him away.

However, VanDelman said, several high-ranking Polish, Canadian and American officials have confirmed they will attend the memorial service at Auschwitz, where a wreath-laying is planned. Canada's ambassador to Poland, Serge April, is slated to attend, as are the U.S. consul general in Krakow, Israel's military attache in Poland and several high-ranking Polish government representatives. A Polish military guard of honor will also take part.

From July 6 to 18, the March of the Liberators, as the trip has been dubbed, will take the war veterans and one-time partisans to the sites of Auschwitz/Birkenau and to Warsaw. In Lithuania, they'll visit Vilna. In Belarus, they will go to Breslow and to the capital, Minsk. Participants will be encouraged to visit the smaller towns and shtetls where they were born, VanDelman added.

JWV national commander Sam Pasternack will be on the mission. Most participants are from Toronto, but there will be two from Montreal, and some are bringing their children.

The trip, the first of its kind, was planned with help from the Foreign Affairs department and Liberal MP Jim Peterson. It came about because many war veterans feel time is running out.

"We felt now is the time to make a pilgrimage. It's one way to pass the torch to our children," VanDelman said. The trip will also serve to show Poles that "Jews fought in World War II, in every army, in every battle," he added.

★★★★
– the Toronto Star
"This documentary is one from the heart"
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"Affects you like a sweet, potent wine, leaving you enlightened and sated."
– The New Yorker
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Bucks launch Weizmann Chair

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A symposium titled Science For the 21st Century was held recently at the University of Toronto in honor of Roel Buck and his wife, Dorothy Gordon Buck, on the establishment of the Roel Buck-Weizmann Chair in Chemical Physics.

Paul Brumer, a professor in U of T's chemistry department, is the chair's first incumbent. Brumer received his PhD in chemical physics at Harvard University, did post-doctoral work at the Weizmann Institute of Science and was a lecturer in astronomy at the Harvard College Observatory before joining the U of T in 1975.

Buck, who served in the Canadian Armed Forces, where he was a member of the Canadian Engineering Corps, studied engineering at McGill University. He then began to develop and manufacture automotive products.

President of RCB Holdings and chair of Autosystems Manufacturing Inc., Buck has been a tireless worker for Canadian and Israeli charities and has been active on numerous boards, including the executive committee of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science.

A graduate of U of T, Gordon Buck is a commercial/investment real estate professional. She has been an active member of numerous community organizations and has served on the boards of the North-western General Hospital, The Guild of All Arts, the Central Hospital and the Hincks Centre.

Prof. Marsha Chandler, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science thanked the Bucks for their "generosity, vision and leadership" in establishing the chair in chemical physics, which will enable the U of T to establish international ties.

At a reception following the symposium, Buck, said of Blumer and Shapiro, "Together, these talented individuals and leading institutions will spark the new thinking that will bring untold benefits to two dynamic industrial nations heading into the new millennium.

MORRIS KAUFMAN:
A committed community presence

Morris Kaufman

Jewish Toronto has lost one of its most staunch supporters.

Morris Kaufman, who died last week at age 85, will be remembered for his endless generosity to numerous Jewish causes, his cordial manner and unique ability to influence others by his own example.

"There wasn't an aspect of the Jewish community that Morris was not involved in," recalls long-time friend and colleague Ben Schneider. "His sense of community was unparalleled."

Although Kaufman, who immigrated to Toronto as a young boy, was a successful businessman and owner of his own metal smelting company, Toronto Refiners, many of his days and evenings were spent campaigning for various charities and projects and meeting with his peers to discuss urgent community matters.

Kaufman, who helped drive the merger between the Goel Tzedec and the McCaul Street synagogues to create Beth Tzedec Congregation, eventually became the shul's President. Kaufman also served as Chairman of the United Jewish Welfare Fund, UJA Federation's predecessor, in 1966, and as founding Chair of UJA's Endowment Fund.

Schneider, who was Executive Director of UJA Federation during Kaufman's term as Chairman, remembers his colleague's straightforward demeanor, evident from his first major canvass of a wealthy Toronto businessman.

"Morris walked into this man's office with a box of delicatessen, talked for a short while and walked out with a cheque for $25,000."

Schneider also recalls Kaufman's relentless campaigning during the Six Day War. Arriving late to a fundraising meeting he had organized for the membership of a Toronto golf and country club, Kaufman was shocked to learn how little money the group of wealthy businessmen had raised. "He tore up the pledge cards," recounts Schneider, "and insisted the donors reach deeper into their pockets — and they did."

As President of Associated Hebrew Schools, Kaufman, almost single-handedly, raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the capital campaign to build additional schools during the late 60's and early 70's. At community gatherings he was often introduced as "Morris the Magician" because of his unrivalled success in raising funds.

"Morris spent hours upon hours meeting with contributors," notes close family friend Sam Shainhouse. "He was able to reach so many people with his idealism, and honest manner."

"Morris never walked away from a meeting empty handed," Schneider recalls, "he just had a way with people."

Morris Kaufman is survived by his wife Rose, son Michael and daughters Deenna and Lynn.

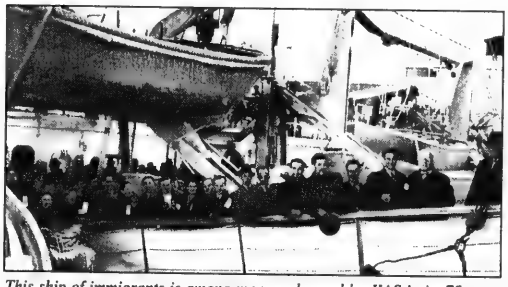
HISTORY AND MUSIC MARK JIAS ANNIVERSARY

Jewish Immigrant Aid Service will soon be celebrating 75 years of assistance in song. Early next fall, JIAS is holding a gala concert to mark nearly a century of helping Jewish immigrants create new homes in Canada.

The concert, co-sponsored by UJA Federation, will be held October 27 at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, and will feature Toronto singer Theresa Tova, Toronto Symphony Orchestra violinist Mark Skazinetsky, and master of ceremonies Ralph Benmergui. Many of the performers - some of them former JIAS clients - are immigrants.

Sheila Freeman, who co-chairs the 75th Anniversary Committee with Barbara Stupp, calls it "a wonderful way to celebrate the musical talent that immigrants bring to Toronto's Jewish community, and a way to showcase UJA Federation's continued support for JIAS." The concert will incorporate Yiddish songs, classical melodies, and contemporary music. Proceeds go to JIAS scholarships and bursaries.

JIAS is also producing a Heritage Book, an archival document featuring a cross-section of Toronto's Jewish business, organization, and family histories, which will be unveiled at the concert. The book will be as inclusive as possible, according to co-ordinator Hindy Nosek-Abelson. "We're not just printing stories of the rich and famous," she says. Those who wish to contribute a story involving personal, congregational, family, or business history should contact the JIAS office at (416) 630-6481. Although JIAS is asking story contributors to pay for space in the book, consideration will be given to those who can't afford full rates.



This ship of immigrants is among many welcomed by JIAS in its 75 year history.

Since 1922, JIAS has assisted 200,000 Jewish immigrants through training, jobs, shelter, clothing, and integration. Six of the fifteen current executive board members are former JIAS clients.

JIAS helps new immigrants learn English, and employs Russian social workers to ease the transition for those arriving from the former Soviet Union. "They feel very safe when they come to JIAS, because they know that they're being understood," says JIAS Toronto President Sandy Atlin.

"I always saw this work as the essence of Judaism and the highest form of tzedakah, helping brothers and sisters escape from what was a bad situation and giving them tools to make a new start," she adds.

DINNER TO HONOUR RABBI WITTY

Rabbi Irwin Witty will step down from a long and distinguished career as Executive Director of UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education at the end of the month. His more than 27 years of service has helped shape one of the most advanced Jewish education systems in North America.

A tribute dinner to honour Rabbi Witty is being held on Sunday, September 21, at the Inn on the Park.

Rabbi Irwin Witty

Members of the community are invited to attend.

Rabbi Witty, who also serves as Dean of Toronto's Jewish Teachers' Seminary (Midrasha L'Morim), has spent his entire adult life committed to Jewish education. "I've always loved Jewish learning," he explains. "It's the essence of who I am."

In 1969 he assumed his current position with the Board of Jewish Education and became a major force in the development of all aspects of Toronto's Jewish education system which serves over 16,000 students from nursery to grade twelve.

Among Rabbi Witty's more widely acclaimed accomplishments are the creation of the Orah School for Jewish Children from the Soviet Union, the She'arim Hebrew Day School for Children with Learning Disabilities and the highly successful Midrasha L'Morim teachers training program.

But perhaps Rabbi Witty's greatest contribution to community was his success in building bridges across religious affiliations, which cultivated a climate of cooperation within the Jewish education community. "We're all Jews working towards the same ultimate goals," says Witty.

For more information about the tribute dinner, please call the Board of Jewish Education at (416) 633-7770.

Community Matters

HOENLEIN OUTLINES DANGERS OF DISUNITY

One of American Jewry's most influential leaders believes Jews should invest more energy in battling external enemies than in fighting each other.

Malcolm Hoenlein, Executive Vice-Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, recently told close to a hundred UJA Federation volunteers, "the most important lesson of Jewish history is Jewish unity."

Hoenlein spoke strongly against placing too much emphasis on differences between Jewish people and too little on commonalities in the wake of religious conversion legislation before the Knesset. A bill formalizing the existing practice of recognizing only conversions performed by the Israel Chief Rabbinate has received first reading. Those who were converted outside Israel would not be affected. A tentative compromise has been reached, satisfying Conservative and Reform movement leaders who strongly oppose the legislation.

"When the world sees Israelis divided among themselves, they take advantage and run a Mack truck through us," Hoenlein warned. "We cannot allow ourselves to be diverted and pitted against one another."

Hoenlein, whose office coordinates the activities of 53 major Jewish agencies in the U.S., pointed to the dangers posed by rising international terrorism and Islamic fundamentalism.

Malcolm Hoenlein

"We are seeing today echoes from the 7th century when the sword of Islam spread across Europe," cautioned Hoenlein, adding that "Iran has the ability to hit targets in all of Europe and the Middle East and soon it will have the ability to hit North America."

"There are too many issues clouding what's important because we are too busy fighting each other. Your grandchildren are going to look back and judge you if you do not speak out against intolerance among our own people," said Hoenlein. "There is no cloak of ignorance that can hide our shame."

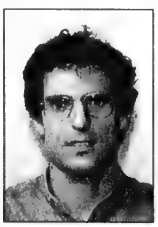
"The UJA Federation Campaign," he stressed, "is the most unifying factor in the Jewish community. Now, more than ever, people need to feel like they belong."

ALIYA CENTRE STRESSES JOBS

The Israel Aliya Centre in Toronto has been organizing innovative programs to help new olim find what they need most — a job.

While the Centre, supported by the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency, offers new immigrants to Israel a wide range of services and information on making aliya, Director Miri Gur says "helping people find employment is probably the most important assistance we can provide."

A recent job fair in Toronto, sponsored by the Jewish Agency and Israel's Ministry of Absorption, was very successful in attracting and recruiting olim who want to work in Israel's booming hi-tech sector. It was the first time recruiters visited Toronto to interview perspective employees.



Uri Postavsky

The fair, which was also held in New York and Los Angeles, brought representatives from Israel's leading firms, such as Intel and Digital.

Corporate interviewers talked to 60 people during the two-day fair, resulting in several job offers. Dr. Shimon Aamar, Director of Personnel for Intel was impressed with the "high quality of candidates to choose from."

Computer software engineer Uri Postavsky says finding the right job for both his wife and himself determined whether the two, along with their three children, would move to Israel. Uri, who received four employment offers from different hi-tech companies, accepted a position with Digital's Jerusalem office and is now in Israel searching for a place to live.

Uri's wife, Claire Coire, a pathologist, had a more difficult time, but finally landed a position at a hospital in Petach Tikvah.

Executives from Holiday Inn, one of Israel's largest hotel chains, were also in Toronto recently and recruited five olim. This week, 25 candidates for an English teachers retraining program will be interviewed in Toronto.

A Matter of Class

A Matter of Class is an occasional column profiling Jewish supplementary schools affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation.

United Congregational Schools is providing Jewish education that's close to home no matter which side of Steeles Avenue students live on.

Established in 1974 following the amalgamation of the Beth Emeth and Beth David synagogue afternoon schools, UCS currently runs one of its two weekly supplementary classes from Beth David in North York and the other from Westminster Public School in Thornhill.

"Since many of our students and their families began moving north, we thought it would be more convenient to hold the mid-week class close to where they live," explains UCS Principal Gella Weiss. Alternatively, students who live in North York attend the Thursday class at Beth David on Yeomans Road. The split, which is almost equal among the 150 students from Junior Kindergarten to grade 7, also reduces class size to a manageable 12-15 students, which Weiss says benefits the kids and makes it easier on the teachers.

Over the years, UCS has held classes in northeast public schools to service the Bayview-Leslie area Jewish population.

Once a month, on Sundays, in addition to regular music lessons and library visits for younger pupils, all the students meet at Beth David for school-wide programming. Last year, students celebrated Yom Ha'atzmaut by re-enacting the 1947 U.N. vote declaring the State of Israel. "It created a lot of excitement because this exercise made the historic event very real for all the children," Weiss notes.

UCS choir director Luba Shalev and soloist Jennifer Beck rehearsing for the Zimriya music competition.

Sunday programming for the older students also includes tours of old Jewish Toronto, Hebrew calligraphy lessons and a regular curriculum which includes prayer study, Jewish history, language and Bible study.

"These kinds of programs really bring a sense of community to the classroom," explains Weiss. "Students see themselves as part of something much larger."

Supplementary Schools affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education include:
Adath Israel Religious School, Beaches Hebrew Institute, Beit Rayim, Bet Sefer Solel, Beth Habonim Religious School, Beth Sholom Congregational School, Beth Tikvah Congregational School, Beth Tzedec Congregational School, B'nai Shalom Hebrew School, Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, Darchei Noam Hebrew School, Downtown Jewish Community School, Har Tikvah Congregational School, Hillel Children's Workshop, Holy Blossom Religious School, Jewish Russian Centre Hebrew School, Kadima School, Ohalei Yosef Yitzchak, Orah School, Oraynu, Petach Tikvah Talmud Torah, Shaar Shalom School, Temple Emanu-El School, Temple Har Zion School, Temple Kol Ami School, Temple Sinai School, Tikvat Haim, United Congregational Schools, Village Shul, West Toronto Jewish School.

STEINER TAKES OVER

Joey Steiner (right) is succeeding Sandra Brown as President of UJA Federation. Steiner's official installation took place at UJA Federation's annual meeting earlier this month.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

On Campus

Conservative movement expands university presence

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Many Conservative Jewish youth have spent their school years as active participants in United Synagogue Youth (USY), but until recently there was a dearth of Conservative programs for university-age students.

"We had been content to say, 'Have a wonderful experience [at university]. We'll be waiting for you when you get back'," Richard Moline explained in a phone interview from his Chicago office.

The director of the department of College Outreach/Koach of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Moline was in Toronto recently to meet with lay Conservative leaders and local campus workers including Adam Silver, Canada's first and only Koach fieldworker.

Although Silver has held the Toronto position only a year, Koach has helped with programs at Montreal's McGill University and Halifax's Dalhousie University prior to that, Moline said.

"We are now talking about expanding farther within the Ontario community," he said. "I would like to see us become involved in other parts of the country as well."

Richard Moline

Moline has been affiliated with Koach for the past half-dozen years, since it became active on U.S. campuses.

In the United States, close to 70 campuses have had Koach programs, and Moline estimates up to 200 campuses are connected via e-mail. The department has only four staff people continent-wide (the other two are in Boston and Los Angeles).

This year Toronto's Robyn Fryer, a recent York University graduate in Jewish Studies, will become a Koach fellow in southern Florida, funded in part by a one-year Hillel grant. (see accompanying article)

Koach's goal is to keep students connected to Judaism and the Conservative movement, said Moline, stressing that Koach and Hillel work closely together. "We're not in any type of competitive situation. Toronto [where Silver is based at the Jewish Campus Services (JCS) office] is a very good example. Adam is as much a part of the JCS staff as ours. We work in partnership, really. We are providing the Conservative piece to the Hillel program."

Moline doesn't think denominalization is "a dirty word," he said. "I think diversity can strengthen people."

Moline is pleased with the way Koach is shaping up in Toronto. Programs this year included Shabbat dinners and educational events.

"In Toronto we have a synagogue base [with] ready facilities for programming, and supportive lay and professional leaders," said Moline. "I'm very pleased. I think next year you'll see increased activity and an increased presence on campus."

At his recent meeting with Toronto Conservative leaders, the suggestion was made that each synagogue have a college outreach committee, he reported.

Among local Conservative synagogues pursuing the connection is Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, which has established a separate Koach membership category for 18- to 25-year-olds

"Hopefully the investment we're making now will pay off a few years down the road," Moline said. "We've had a couple of marriages come out of this already."

York grad heads south as Koach representative

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Robyn Fryer

TORONTO — Robyn Fryer wants a career as a Jewish community professional and has been accepted into the Jewish Communal Service program at Gratz College in Pennsylvania.

But the 23-year-old graduate of York University has deferred her acceptance to take a one-year position that will give her hands-on experience in her chosen field.

In August, Fryer will become the Florida staff person for Koach, the campus outreach arm of the Conservative movement, with which she was involved as a student here. Her position is partly funded by a Hillel International Jewish Student Corps grant.

In Florida, much of her time will be spent travelling among campuses. She expects to develop programs and services in Miami, her base, as well as in cities like Gainesville and Tampa. She will be Koach's first fieldworker in the area.

Armed with enthusiasm, a new Honors BA in Religious Studies (with a Jewish Studies stream) and a strong background in Jewish community involvement, Fryer says she is ready for her newest challenge.

A graduate of Associated Hebrew Day Schools and Vaughan Secondary School who spent her second undergraduate year at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Fryer, a member of Beth Tikvah Congregation, has worked as a United Synagogue Youth adviser at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, volunteered at Holy Blossom's Out of the Cold program for homeless people and won this year's UJA on Campus Award for her volunteer efforts.

Until a recent trip to meet with Hillel staffers based at the University of Miami, Fryer had never been to Florida and didn't know anybody there.

In her new position, she plans to reach out to students through Hillels, synagogues and schools, serving as a resource for the organizations to strengthen student affiliation.

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Time of your life

SECTION B

The Canadian Jewish news

Time of Your Life

Ambulatory care centre proposed for Branson

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

The fate of Branson Hospital is still up in the air but officials are hopeful that at least an ambulatory care centre and all its outpatient, medical clinic and day surgery services will remain open at the site.

A proposal for affiliation of Branson and Humber River Regional Hospital (formerly York Finch) to operate such a facility is now before the Hospital Services Restructuring Commission that ordered Branson closed by the year 2000 along with 10 other Metro hospitals.

"We met with commission officials and they thanked us for our joint presentation," said Brian Fenton, Branson's senior vice-president. "We expect to get a decision within the next month."

(Humber River Hospital is the result of merging York Finch, Humber and Northwestern Hospitals, with Northwestern to be closed.)

Meanwhile, for Branson, which serves more seniors on a per capita basis than any other Metro hospital, it's business as usual. And that business is a vital concern for the large, elderly Jewish population in the Branson area.

If the commission approves the affiliation as a broad concept, then some transportation plan for patients between Branson and Humber River, at Highway 400 and Finch, may be worked out, Fenton said.

Public transportation between the Branson area and the Humber River Hospital site is a serious problem for family and patients. North York General Hospital to the east has already offered to set up such a service.

The affiliation proposal follows the commission's recommendation that 60 percent of Branson's emergency and medical cases go to Humber River, and 30 percent to North York Central, and also that half its surgical patients go to Humber River and half to North York General.

The commission has allotted funding to Humber River, North York General and York Central in Richmond Hill to handle Branson's patients.

The ambulatory care centre would include an 18-hour walk-in clinic, a whole host of outpatient and diagnostic services, day surgery, cosmetic surgery and short term surgery beds for up to 36 hours care.

In addition, in its own proposal to the commission, Branson is asking that it be allowed to keep 160 beds for respite, transitional and long-term care.

The need for medical services for the 32,000 seniors in the Branson area is so urgent that the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, and UJA Federation of Greater Toronto have appealed to the commission to keep Branson open as as an ambulatory care centre, a proposal supported as well by North York General Hospital.

Their appeals said Branson had developed special services and a sensitivity in treating Jewish patients, including a religious chapel. Family and friends can honor the Sabbath by walking to the hospital to see patients.

They also questioned the commission's decision to shut Branson while keeping open Queensway General as an ambulatory care centre even though it does not have as heavy a seniors' case load.

North York Mayor Mel Lastman has been sharply critical of the decision to shut Branson, stating that there will be no savings because of the cost of adding new facilities at other hospitals to care for Branson patients.

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Time of Your Life

Elderhostel allows seniors to expand horizons

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

Elderhostel, a non-profit educational organization for people over 55 years of age, offers inexpensive, short-term academic programs hosted by educational institutions throughout North America and in more than 60 countries worldwide.

Participants live on college and university campuses, in conference centres and other cultural and recreational facilities.

Last year, almost a quarter of a million people enrolled.

"Elderhostel offers you a way .o keep on expanding your horizons with people who are interested in the same things you are," says Claire Lesage, a program assistant at Elderhostel.

"You can travel, learn and make friends at Elderhostel. Plain and simple is the essence of hostelling."

The courses are not for credit and you don't need any specific prior educational background. There are no exams or grades. Most programs are five or six nights.

Veteran hostellers will tell you that the people part of Elderhostel is what is so special. It is not a group tour, but a student-in-residence program with time for fun and socializing.

Charges for a six-night program are about $475, while a five-night program is $390. This includes tuition, accommodation and meals. You are responsible for your own transportation to and from the programs.

International Elderhostel residential programs are usually two to three weeks long and most include round-trip international airfare as well as travel costs within the host country.

The spectrum of programs is awesome – almost anything you can think of – intergenerational adventures, programs for artists and crafts people, hiking, computer, photography. Name it and it's probably available.

A search on the Web [http://www.elderhostel.org] turned up some 38 Jewish studies program listings in the United States, at Baltimore Hebrew University, Florida Academy of Jewish Studies, Kislack Adult Centre of the New Jersey YM-YWHA, California University of Judaism, California Brandeis-Bardin Institute and others in Arizona, Wisconsin, Mississippi, Mexico, Maine, Maryland, and the list goes on.

Elderhostel group at Killarney

Elderhostel Canada recently circulated its Fall 1997 catalogue which has numerous programs in every province.

For more information or to obtain the Elderhostel catalogue, which is also available at your local library, you can contact: Elderhostel Canada National Office, 308 Wellington St., Kingston Ont., K7K 7A7; telephone 613-530-2222; fax 613-530-2096; or e-mail [ecmail@elderhostel.org].

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Time of Your Life

Nonagenarian exudes youthful joie de vivre

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

Lunch with Max Sharp is an extraordinary experience. At 95, the self-made gentle man has much to teach about business, relationships and his philosophy of life.

From our first greeting to our final good-bye, Sharp exudes his joie de vivre – his youthful perspective on handling day to day problems.

His warm and genial smile and refreshing optimism make time spent with him memorable.

At lunch with his three daughters, Edie Creed, Neddy Levy and Bea Eisen (his son Isadore Sharp was unable to join us), he reads the menu at Oakdale Golf & Country Club without glasses. He says that he also does all of his paper work, as well as the needlepoint he loves, where he "still makes perfect stitches," without glasses.

He believes that his youthful outlook comes from his lifestyle. He does not eat meat, he says.

"Before anything else, at 8 a.m. each morning I begin my day on my treadmill for at least half an hour."

"And he still does push-ups," Creed adds.

Four or five times a week, he lunches and spends the afternoon at Oakdale, where he is greeted by many members and where he spends time kibitzing with friends. On Wednesday, he goes to the office to open his mail and to look after business matters. And almost every Saturday, you will find Sharp at services at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

Max Sharp at Oakdale Golf Club with daughters, from left, Neddy Levy, Edie Creed and Bea Eisen. [Cynthia Gasner photo]

Sharp's philosophy is that you have to keep busy. And if you have a problem, try to deal with it. "If you can't solve the problem, make peace with it."

His wonderful relationship with family, Levy says, has developed because he never tells his children what to do. "But if we ask him for advice," she adds, "he will always help."

When he isn't out and about, you can find Sharp at his needlepoint. "I don't know how many I've made but it is at least 200." Some of his pieces are large and depict Israeli scenes.

He presents them to his family – 19 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren – and to his friends.

In 1989, he and his son Isadore were Negev Dinner honorees in recognition of communal leadership and dedicated service to Israel. When he was 90, Sharp received North American recognition when he got a hole-in-one at Oakdale.

Born in Poland, Sharp moved to Israel, then Palestine, in 1920. He worked as a farmer and after one year, realized that this was not for him. He began learning a trade, specializing in plastering and tile work.

In 1925, he immigrated to Canada to join his brother Louis and went to work as a plasterer for $10 a week. He met and married Lena (Lil) Godfrey. When his boss refused to give him a raise, he left and went into business for himself.

He built houses, his wife decorated them and the Sharps moved in until the house was sold.

"We moved many, many times," Eisen says.

Issy joined the business and later they were joined by son-in-law Eddie Creed and friend Murray Koffler. They opened the first Four Seasons Hotel at Carlton and Jarvis in 1961 and the rest is history – Four Seasons became the world's largest operator of hotels and resorts.

Sharp says he had great satisfaction in building a hotel/condominium in Natanya.

But his greatest joy clearly comes from his family. A Passover seder was held in Sharp's apartment with 65 family members attending – a few are away at school. The children helped with the preparations and the highlight was Nanny Lil's southern fried chicken. Eisen says the family prepared 75 pounds of chicken wings and breasts.

Sharp's eyes sparkle as he describes his family. And lunching with him and his three daughters, it is evident that he is very proud of that family.

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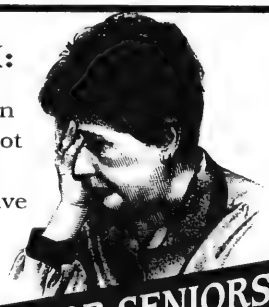

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Time of Your Life

GRANDPALS PROGRAM

Intergenerational program in Hamilton helps students acquire literacy skills

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
Hamilton Correspondent

Every Monday afternoon for the last five months, groups of children from junior kindergarten through Grade 5 have walked to Shalom Village, a residence for seniors, and spent an hour doing a pre-planned activity with either a nursing home or an apartment resident.

The students from the George R. Allan Elementary School were participating in the GRANDPALS literacy program. Activities included reading to a resident, reciting poetry, sharing personal experiences, singing or doing crafts together.

The program is the brainchild of kindergarten teacher and part-time librarian Bev Lasky, who wanted to create a meaningful environment where her students could more readily acquire literacy skills.

She approached the school's principal and Shalom Village's executive director, Pat Morden, both of whom were enthusiastic. They also discovered that they had a number of complementary goals.

The school was looking for ways to give their students a platform for literacy and to increase their social skills through outreach to the community. Shalom Village wanted to increase contact between residents and community members and to give their residents an opportunity to form relationships with children.

As the program developed, teachers and parents became involved, creating a true community partnership.

The culmination of the five-month program recently took place at the seniors' residence in a ceremony honoring participating residents and children. Students worked with Lasky on the format, planning the program and writing their own speeches.

During the celebration, Morden announced that a photograph of George R. Allan student Mathew Kang and resident Jack Shapiro had been submitted to a contest sponsored by the nationally published *Journal of Long-Term Care*. She had recently been informed that the photo had received first prize and would be featured in the fall issue.

One student began the ceremony with some personal reminiscences of initial hesitancies. "The first time, we were nervous and scared."

Other students spoke about their evolving discoveries.

"We learned a lot from each other. And every time we said goodbye," one student said, "we always got a little surprise.

"Regardless of how old or young we are, we can always learn from each other."

Then, it was time for the seniors to show their appreciation. A trio of seniors sang a medley of Yiddish songs for their guests. After that, one of them thanked the children.

In 1922 Joan made the basketball team. She's still having a ball today.

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Time of Your Life

Families remain key care-givers for the aged

By PHYLLIS FIEN MSW
Special to the CJN

The family serves as the primary support system for the aged, who may need help with the dependencies that come with aging, increasing frailty, illness and/or impairment. Spouses, adult children of aging parents and siblings play an important role in providing care.

Analysis

Research shows that family members are highly responsible individuals who provide substantial physical, emotional, social and economic support to elderly relatives and that family caregiving to these relatives has become a normal experience for many.

The caregiving situation begins with the aged person's need for assistance. It cannot be defined by any one specific set of tasks. It is multi-faceted and varies widely, depending on needs and the nature and intensity of family responsibility.

Eldercare may range from occasional errands to around-the-clock personal and health care for the bedridden. It may continue even after institutional placement.

• **Demographic impact:** Demographic trends show that the number of aged is expected to increase substantially in the next few decades. There has already been an increase in the average lifespan in the past century and by 2025, more than 20 percent of Canada's population will be 65 or over.

This trend is the result of increasing longevity owing to better health care, decreasing death and infant mortality rates and higher standards of living. This growth, especially as the baby boomers age, will continue to have implications for the aged, the families who care for them and the need for sufficient and effective services and programs for supporting family care. Clinical researchers have concluded that eldercare can be both physically and emotionally stressful.

The caregiver's experience and degree of stress varies with the nature and degree of disability, the characteristics of the caregiver, external and internal resources and supports available, and other variables. So in order to meet the needs of the aged, it will become necessary to help the caregivers to facilitate, enhance, support and validate their experience.

This will become increasingly necessary given government policies favoring deinstitutionalization and keeping the aged at home, particularly in view of the National Advisory Council on Aging's 1986 estimate that 70 to 80 percent of home healthcare comes from a spouse or adult children.

•**Who cares?** Research shows the elderly choose supports from their family. If a spouse or child is not available, they will turn to siblings, grandchildren, cousins, friends and neighbors before using community resources.

Spouses usually provide the most extensive, comprehensive caring for the most disabled elderly, suggesting they tolerate greater levels of disability than other caregivers. Females predominate as primary caregivers. Because women tend to outlive men, the usual caregiver for an older man is his elderly wife; for an older woman, it is her adult daughter, who is often facing competing responsibilities from family and employment.

Caregiving tasks: The nature and number of caregiving tasks performed and time committed also varies; involvement may increase to meet needs as they arise. Emotional support, the most universal caregiving task, is considered by caregivers as the most important, regardless of time spent on tasks like housework, laundry, meal preparation, transportation, home maintenance, bathing, feeding or other physical tasks.

The caregiving experience: How eldercaring is experienced by and impacts on family caregivers is complex and influenced by many variables. Spouses appear to be the highest risk group for caregiver stress and burden. Adult children are vulnerable as a generation in the middle with competing demands on time and energy, often giving up opportunities for socialization, leisure and vacations.

Caregivers of physically and emotionally frail elders may feel guilt, resentment, low morale, physical and

[Cont'd. on page B 11]

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Time of Your Life

Club members becoming computer literate

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

The world of electronic communication has been opened up to an enthusiastic group of seniors who are taking lessons at Baycrest's Wagman Centre Computer Club, a program of the centre's Wellness Group.

Four recently installed computers in the centre library are used by the members, most of whom have never used a computer before.

The computers were donated to Baycrest by the David and Vivian Campbell Family Foundation. Their son Henry Campbell, president of Toronto-based Perceptix Inc., is volunteering his time to teach at the computer club.

At a recent class, Jim MacMillan, president of the Wellness Group told *The CJN* he had never used a computer, "but I think it is important for seniors to keep abreast of new technology as much as possible."

He said everybody in his family, three daughters, eight granddaughters and one grandson, are all computer literate.

"I will be able to communicate with them more often now," he said, as he prepared an e-mail.

"I am enjoying it very much. Henry Campbell has been exceptional. You have to be a special person to take the time and have the patience to teach us. It is an excellent service he and his family have rendered to us."

Dr. Paul Bailey, a retired anesthesiologist, says he had never been on a computer before, "but if I get interested enough, I will get a computer at home."

He explained that he is interested in accessing the Web. "It is of interest to me and partly educational. I will be able to hook up to art galleries and museums and see what is at any gallery in the world.

"Even the Queen has a Web page," he said jokingly, "so I can even see what royalty has."

Standing (from left) Vera Houzer, Jim MacMillan, Anne Remmel, and Henry Campbell. Seated are Dr. Paul Bailey and Monica Koffler.

Vera Houzer said she has felt illiterate "when other people speak to me about computers; it is a complete blank."

Now she is learning the terminology and said she will be writing to three friends with e-mail addresses.

"I see how young people send messages worldwide and it would be nice if I want to write to someone or I want to get information, at least I will have the knowledge."

Bernice Krieger became interested in the computer when her 4-year-old grandson in Vancouver taught her how to use the mouse to play Lion King games.

Krieger, who volunteers in the arts and crafts department is delighted that she will now be able to communicate with her children in Vancouver and Barrie.

"In the world today," she said, "I feel that every person should have some knowledge of computers."

As we spoke, Krieger was composing an e-mail message to her daughter-in-law in Vancouver, beginning, "This is my first e-mail letter to you..." She continued with a newsy rundown of the week's events.

Anne Remmel, Baycrest's education director, said she thinks the computer program 's a wonderful opportunity to make this technology useful to the centre's members and clients.

"The members are so excited about being able to send messages electronically and they are getting comfortable with computers."

It is evident that Henry Campbell is enjoying his new teaching challenge.

"I think that the members are keen and can really appreciate the communication tool they have here, whether they are writing to a person across the street, a grandchild in Halifax or a son in Israel."

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Time of Your Life

LIFE Institute provides mental stimulation

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Jack Brown is one of about 500 seniors who actively participates in a self-directed education program at Ryerson Polytechnic University.

Founded in 1990 with 30 like-minded individuals, LIFE Institute (Learning is Forever) has attracted a growing number of retirees, age 55 and over.

"We have an autonomous group of seniors who wish to fulfil their needs for friendship, interaction and mind stimulation," says Brown, 71, who served as president of the institute (1995-96) and is presently head of long range planning.

"The members are people who are devoted to the pursuit of lifelong learning."

The courses, which are offered throughout the year, cover a range of topics – creative writing, dreams, performing arts, wellness, literature, biography and even a series titled Old Age Isn't for Sissies.

Guest lecturers from the university provide up-to-date developments and theories about the community, politics and historical issues.

As well as lecture series, the group holds conferences, museum visits with lectures, theatre parties, nature walks, travel information and special events.

The annual membership fee entitles participants to take courses led by skillful volunteer moderators and to participate in the other activities that are constantly being expanded.

Jack Brown

Brown, who operated a retail mens and ladies wear store in Brantford, sold his business in 1989. He moved to Toronto where his three daughters and nine grandchildren live. His son and three children live in California.

"I had no idea of what I was going to do after I retired," he said.

"When the LIFE Institute was in formation by superannuated teachers of North York, my friend Fran Gruber, who was the founding president, suggested I come to the inaugural meeting. I felt that this was an opportunity for me to become involved with something challenging – education."

Brown explained that everyone at LIFE learns from everyone else. The members suggest the topics. "The courses have broadened my knowledge in fields I wouldn't have normally sought. It has stimulated my curiosity along paths I had not travelled." He adds that it has also given him an opportunity to meet many interesting people.

[Cont'd. on page B 9]

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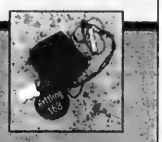

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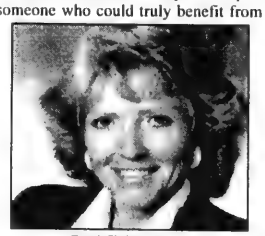
Dispelling the Myths of Reverse Mortgages

The public is exposed to a tremendous amount of misinformation about the reverse mortgage according to Carol Christopherson, spokesperson of the Canadian Home Income Plan™ (CHIP™), "Obviously that's frustrating for us as the creators of the program, but more important it is unfair on consumers," says Christopherson. "if someone who could truly benefit from the reverse mortgage doesn't do it because they have been given wrong information, they may end up compromising their retirement lifestyle quite unnecessarily."



Carol Christopherson
Spokesperson
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"What's important for a people to realize is that this is not a program of last resort or one that only fits for a low income group," says Christopherson. "We have many quite wealthy people who use the program for financial and estate planning. This enables people to pass on a portion of their children's inheritance to them at an earlier date when they are probably more in need."

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For details of CHIP's upcoming seminars or an information package, they can be reached at (416) 925-2447 or 1-800-563-2447 or by writing to #1108-30 St. Clair Ave. W., Toronto, ON M4V 3A1.

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Time of Your Life

Leonard Rubenstein

LIFE Institute program provides friendship and stimulation

[Cont'd. from page B 8]

Recently, IBM donated four state-of-the-art computers to Ryerson for the exclusive use of LIFE members. The computers come with laser and color printers, photo scanners, sound and a variety of software programs, including access to the Internet – e-mail and Web sites.

"We believe that a very large number of our members would like to have computer skills, and even suggest that all our members should have computer skills in order to keep up with the direction that our society seems to be heading and in order to keep up with our children and grandchildren."

The instructional courses will include word processing, Quicken, Lotus, graphics and Internet access.

"We're looking to form a round table club that might meet once a month to brag about different Web sites or talk about new technology."

He says LIFE could have it's own Internet Web sites on which all activities, curriculum and other information could be listed.

Geoff Arnold, president of the institute notes that the membership is diverse and includes people of various races and cultures. He says that this year, 25 courses were offered and along with the computer programs, more courses will be added this fall.

NORTH YORK SENIOR OF THE YEAR

Leonard Rubenstein, 81, (above) was named North York Senior of the Year by the city. He received the Mayor's Award of Excellence from Mayor Mel Lastman and members of council on June 25 at City Hall.

Rubenstein delivers a series of inspirational and motivational lectures called "Take Charge of Your Life" at various schools, colleges, temples, churches, senior centres and fraternal organizations.

He also conducts Friday evening services at Extendacare.

Rubenstein served with the British Army in World War II and was a prisoner of war in Germany for three years.

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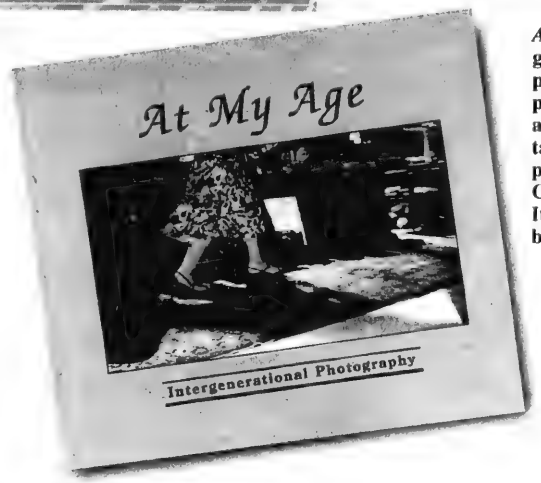

***At My Age*, an Intergenerational Photography project by seniors and preschoolers. The book is a collection of photos taken during a 12-week program at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care. It was edited and designed by Wendy Rosen.**

Photo project creates unique bond

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

A recently published book, *At My Age*, is an intergenerational photography project of the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

"Bringing seniors and children together enriches the lives of both groups," says Moshe Greengarten, Baycrest's vice-president of public and community affairs.

Teams comprised of a senior (one man was 91 years old), preschoolers 3½ to 5½ years old from the on-site Esther Exton Child Care Centre, and a volunteer who assisted with age or health-related problems, worked together. The quotations accompanying the photographs are by the children.

In a 12-week program, the teams met to discuss various aspects of photography. They were assigned a topic based on the week's lesson and then went out to take the pictures. The next week's session began with a critique of the previous week's assignment.

Young and old

Those involved in the project discovered there is a natural chemistry between young and old. Several of the seniors said they felt the program gave them a "reason to get up in the morning."

The children also reacted with enthusiasm and as the weeks progressed, they and the seniors bonded. It wasn't unusual to see a child relinquish a favorite toy to the senior partner so that the youngster could push a wheelchair or assist the senior.

Bob Carnie of the Silver Shack photo lab suggested the project to Baycrest and professional photographers Rhonda Charlat and Orah Buck volunteered their expertise. Mara Swartz, a therapeutic recreationalist, coordinated the project.

"Our plans for the new Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged includes a children's play room on each residential floor. This will encourage children to visit and will provide an environment for interaction between the generations," says Greengarten who wants to encourage more such programs.

At My Age is available at Baycrest, synagogue gift shops, Judaica stores and the Art Gallery of Ontario.

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Time of Your Life

Families remain key care-givers for the aged

[Cont'd. from page B 6]

emotional exhaustion. Fatigue, marital and family conflict and embarrassment are found to be frequent consequences of caring for a person who is suffering, and as the elder's level of functional or mental impairment increases, so too does amount of assistance provided and degree of stress experienced.

Family caregivers may feel a sense of grief about losses experienced – of a spouse or parent they once knew or of a personal relationship – as a result of Alzheimer's disease bringing diminished mental, physical and social functioning. Continued care of such a person without relief or hope of possible changes can lead to feelings of helplessness and emotional exhaustion.

The thought of placing a family member in an institution may evoke guilt and anxiety relating to impending separation and death. Caregivers of those with illnesses such as cancer may suffer from the stress of uncertainty, never sure of the course of the illness, with every remission bringing hope and every exacerbation adding to the fear of death.

Caregiving may also have positive results. It may result in an improved relationship with and understanding of the aging relative, relief that the older relative is properly cared for, satisfaction and self respect knowing that one is successfully fulfilling a responsibility and coping with a personal challenge. Perhaps most importantly, caregivers become role models for their own children.

Enhancing family caregiving capacity: Strengthening and enhancing caregiving of families for the elderly can be achieved through a variety of interventions, programs and services. Some of these include:

1. Programs for the frail elderly to reduce caregiver burden, such as daycare or respite. These provide specific services to the aged emphasizing socialization and activities appropriate to the functional status and care plan, and a safe place so the caregiver can temporarily be relieved.

2. Information programs, discussion and counselling aiming to inform caregivers/ increase knowledge about available community and government services and programs and how to access and use them, thus lessening the burden and increasing capacity to function effectively.

3. Visiting home, nursing health aid, physiotherapist, occupational therapist for medical rehabilitation and monitoring; visiting a homemaker.

4. Individual and family counselling and support to enhance caregiver and family coping, and dealing with a wide constellation of issues, concerns and situations, relating to:

-aging, declining health, specific illnesses, increasing frailty and cognitive impairment.

-losses, related grief, stress, sadness, guilt, frustration, anger, anxiety, helplessness and burden.

-impact of changes in the biological, psychological and social functioning of the aged individual on the caregiver, other family members and the family system, as well as the need for the family and aged member to understand the meaning of the changed condition and its implications including adaptation to a new reality.

5. Self help groups and programs for spouses/ adult children of aging parents can provide information about the family member's condition and provide a supportive environment.

Phyllis Fien is a social worker (with training in family therapy) in private practice in Toronto doing clinical work with families and individuals and some consultative work with organizations. She has a special interest in the aged and family caregiving. She is a member of the Committee on Aging of the Ontario Association of Social Workers and serves on the association's board of directors.

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New Alternative in Health Care

A new health care provider has opened its doors to the multicultural communities of the Greater Toronto Area. Meridian Health Care is an innovative professional services and consulting company that meets all of its clients' health care needs and lightens the load for their personal or institutional caregivers.

A critical aspect of Meridian's health care delivery is having hand-picked staff who are sensitive to the clients' cultural backgrounds.

"We work very hard to match caregivers to the culture, customs and language of each client," said Dr. Mickey Ostro, MD, FRCP, Meridian's Medical Director. "This is a real advantage for the clients, because these can otherwise be serious barriers to good communication and delivery of quality health care."

There is an urgent and growing need for such culturally sensitive services, as the Canadian population expands and ages. Meridian works with each client and his or her family and physician. This process may include assigning each client a Personal Health Care Manager who provides regular updates on the client's health status to his personal physician.

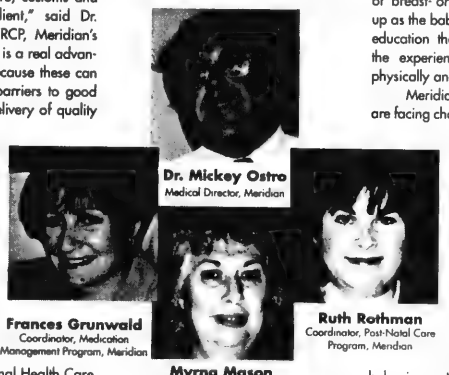
"We do more than meet the physical needs of the client, we take care of the emotional, social, psychological and cultural considerations as well," said Myrna Mason, BScN, RN, Meridian's Director of Programs and Client Services. "People in Toronto need to have options for meeting all of their health care needs. And Meridian provides many of those options."

A Meridian Personal Health Care Manager is available to each client and performs a comprehensive, in-home assessment of his or her health care needs. Every aspect of the client's health care delivery is carefully supervised, resulting in an efficient and effective service that is beneficial to the client and provides cost-savings to the health care system.

These multiple benefits accrue from all of Meridian's services, including its Medication Management Program. In Canada, elderly people are often hospitalized because of improper use of medications. People over 75 take an average of seven medications a day, as well as other over-the-counter products. Frances Grunwald, a clinical pharmacist and director of the Medication Management Program, stresses the importance of coordinated, compassionate care and communication.

"Meridian's approach to health care is unique; we aim to deliver this program in the home, where the needs of the client can be assessed in the context of their living environments," she said.

The goal is to ensure there are no drug duplications or adverse interactions as a result of the clients' visiting different physicians and having prescriptions filled at different pharmacies. The clients receive education, and strategies to ensure that they take their pills at the right times and that there is proper communication between themselves and their physicians and pharmacists.



Another condition that is very costly to Canadians is urinary incontinence. It affects six percent of the population, or about 1.6 million people, and is estimated to cost society $1 billion a year. It is most common in the elderly. The personal and embarrassing nature of this problem prevents all but one in 12 of those affected from seeking necessary medical help. The rest are left with large financial, social and psychological burdens.

Meridian has developed a Continence Rehabilitation Program to ease these burdens. A specialized nurse certified in the management of bladder and bowel incontinence assesses the client and assists him or her in obtaining the best possible care. "The Continence Rehabilitation Program is cost-effective and has a high rate of success in allowing clients to return to their normal lifestyles," said Penny Parker, BA, RN, CURN, the program coordinator. The program is already being implemented in a Metro institution for the elderly.

New mothers and their babies also require special care, particularly with the quick-discharge policy many hospitals and birthing centres now have in place. In response, Meridian has developed a Post-Natal Care Program, which is coordinated by Ruth Rothman, BScN, RN, CPIC. The Post-Natal Care Program begins within 24 hours of the discharge of the mother and new baby and includes an assessment of them by a nurse, monitoring of the effectiveness of breast- or bottle-feeding and follow-up as the baby grows. The support and education the mother receives makes the experience easier for her, both physically and emotionally.

Meridian also helps families who are facing challenges at the other end of the lifecycle: nurses who specialize in geriatrics are available to clients and their families. They and other Meridian health care professionals offer respite for caregivers, chronic pain management, and other services such as nutritional counselling and strategies to deal with cognitive impairment or aggressive behaviour. Meridian also delivers active and compassionate therapies to clients with terminal illnesses and their families. The Palliative Care staff provide comfort and assistance in a manner that is sensitive to the clients' physical and psychological needs, as well as to their social and religious values.

Meridian's services are delivered by a team of highly qualified professionals who are all in good standing with their respective professional bodies. These include psychologists, pharmacists, registered nurses, registered nursing assistants, occupational therapists, recreational therapists, physiotherapists, speech and language pathologists, dietitians, podiatrists and chiropodists. This Health Care Team is headed by Dr. Ostro and a Medical Advisory Board that continuously monitor and upgrade Meridian's policies and procedures. The principals of Meridian have a wide range of experience in community- and home-based care throughout Canada and the United States.

"Our aim is to provide Canadians with the best and most innovative personal health services today and into the 21st century," said Dr. Ostro. "And we have the experience and the staff to accomplish that."

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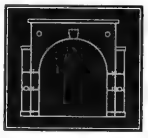

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From coast to coast

Montreal *CJN* wins award

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The Montreal edition of *The CJN* won a certificate of excellence as Best Overall Specialty Newspaper by the Quebec Community Newspapers Association (QCNA) at its annual awards night this month in Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Judge Ashok Chandwani, an assistant managing editor at the *Gazette*, deemed *The CJN*, a "readable, well laid-out newspaper with wide-ranging coverage of local and international Jewish issues."

Louise Wolman, *The CJN's* manager for retail advertising sales, expressed pride in the award.

"It's always nice to be recognized by your peers," she said.

Wolman took note of the fact that *The CJN* had never previously been eligible for a QCNA award for the simple reason that the "specialty" category never existed before this year.

The vast majority of QCNA newspapers are geography-based, but this year the QCNA created the "specialty" category for Quebec publications that target specific "demographic" groups.

The other entries in the specialty category included *Montreal Community Contact*, a publication of Quebec's black and Caribbean communities; the *Senior Times*; and the *Quebec Farmers' Advocate*.

The QCNA also hands out its most prestigious writing and newspaper awards to publications that appear to win year after year.

This year, the top three prizes went to the *Stanstead Journal*, the *Chronicle* and the *Westmount Examiner*.

Deputy PM 'Gray Herb' Chretien's new gatekeeper

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

OTTAWA — There was a very prominent yarmulke at the recent swearing-in of Jean Chrétien's new-look cabinet.

It rested on the recently re-follicled head of Herb Gray, the veteran Windsor MP who was named to the prestigious position of deputy prime minister.

It is the highest elected position in the federal government ever attained by a Jew in Canadian history.

But Jewish political firsts are nothing new to Gray, now the longest serving member of Parliament, first elected in 1962 and returned in every subsequent national vote.

"I was the first Jewish cabinet minister when I was initially appointed to the cabinet in 1969 by Pierre Elliot Trudeau," said the 66-year-old Gray, dubbed "Gray Herb" around here for his uncanny ability to stand for hours in front of the television cameras and say little, if anything.

"Before that, when I was parliamentary secretary to the minister of finance, as far as I'm aware, it was the first time somebody Jewish was a parliamentary secretary.

"It's a great challenge and an honor as well. It's an honor to be in cabinet in any position. After all, only about 30 people out of 30 million have the opportunity. But to be deputy prime minister and to develop the role is really something exciting."

The exact scope of Gray's new role as second-in-command to the prime minister has yet to be defined.

He replaces Sheila Copps, whose duties as DPM, as the job was called in the bureaucratic ranks, were pretty much limited to filling in for Chrétien in cabinet and the House of Commons during his absences and at funerals in far-away lands.

But unlike Copps, who was also heritage minister, Gray will be the first full-time deputy prime minister with no other ministerial responsibilities.

(He was solicitor general and House leader during the first Chrétien government.)

It is expected he will serve as a gatekeeper to Chrétien ("You wanna see him, you gotta see me first."), a sounding board, a senior adviser and overall conciliator.

"I'll be assisting the prime minister in the overall work of coordination and management of the government. I'll be helping coordinate what the government does in terms of administration, policy development and legislation."

Gray has recently fought a battle with cancer – he lost his hair due to chemotherapy and once joked he was trying to copy the Bruce Willis look — but insists he's up to the new job.

"The doctors say I'm okay. I have to be checked every couple of months, but since early last fall, they've given me good reports. If I didn't feel up to it, I wouldn't be doing it.

"I've just come through a very active election campaign in which I was not only going door to door, but was at the factory gates at 6 in the morning. I'm really energized and looking forward to the challenge."

When he took his oath of office at Rideau Hall, he was sworn in using the same Bible his mother-in-law bought at Rodal's and schlepped to Ottawa by bus years ago, when he discovered parliamentary staff only had a Christian Bible.

"I'm in government as a Canadian. I'm there to work on behalf of my constituents, but also on behalf of all Canadians. I am very conscious and proud of my Jewish heritage and take an interest in issues of concern to the Jewish community. The Jewish biblical teachings with regards to social justice have always been very important to me.

"But I'm there as a Canadian cabinet minister, elected by a largely non-Jewish population of Windsor West. I'm there to work for all Canadians. I'm certainly accessible to Jewish community organizations who want to talk to me or want me to come to their events. Certainly I want to make sure their points of view aren't overlooked."

Despite Gray's elevation, the Jewish presence in the cabinet has actually slipped a notch from when the Liberals first came into office in 1993.

Veteran Montreal MP Sheila Finestone was secretary of state for multiculturalism and the status of women during the first mandate but was dumped during a mid-term shuffle.

Finestone was re-elected June 2, easily defeating English rights crusader and all-around political gadfly Howard Galganov, but was not reappointed to cabinet.

When the House of Commons returns to work in September, there will be three new Jewish faces, all Liberal:

• Elinor Caplan — The former Ontario health minister was one of three candidates hand-picked by Chrétien without going through the normal nomination process. She had been seen as a virtual shoo-in for a cabinet post but apparently got edged out by an excess of Ontario ministers.

• Raymonde Folco — A former member of the Immigration and Refugee Board, the Paris-born Folco was chair of the Conseil des Communautés Culturelles et de l'Immigration, a Quebec government advisory body. She was an officer-at-large of the Quebec region of Canadian Jewish Congress.

• Jacques Saada — Born in Tunisia, Saada was a consultant to the federal government on international development and has been a teacher, school administrator and ran a translation company. He is a former president of the the federal Liberals' Quebec wing.

At one point in the last Parliament, there were five Jewish MPs, but David Berger left to become Canada's ambassador to Israel and Barry Campbell, a promising rookie who was parliamentary secretary to Finance Minister Paul Martin, did not seek re-election.

Stephen Bindman is legal affairs correspondent for the Southam Newspapers in Ottawa.

Overhaul urged for refugee law

ROBERTA STALEY
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — A court decision allowing Jewish refugees to enter Canada highlights the need for an immigration overhaul, says a Vancouver academic.

"In the current legislative milieu, refugee claimants get short shrift," said Dr. Don DeVoretz, co-director of the Centre for Excellence on Immigration and Integration at Simon Fraser University. "They should be under a ministry that understands what is going on in their country."

He was responding to a decision last month by the Federal Court of Canada that Jews cannot be denied the right to seek refugee status in this country solely because they are eligible for citizenship in Israel under the Law of Return.

The court ruling overturned a decision last year by Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board that denied refugee status to a Ukrainian Jew, Lioudmila Katkova. Officials rejected Katkova on the grounds she could automatically be granted citizenship in Israel under the Law of Return.

Justice William McKeown ruled that the law only applies to those who express a desire to settle in the Jewish state. He said the IRB panel had ignored evidence that Katkova did not want to go to Israel. Her husband is not Jewish, she has family here and she feared terrorist attacks.

Immigration board general counsel Philip Palmer said from Ottawa that McKeown's decision will be considered precedent-setting.

DeVoretz said the Katkova case indicates the immigration board does not look properly into individual refugee cases.

"The best thing to do is base the refugee appeal upon the safety and welfare of the individual," he said.

DeVoretz also said Canada should stop putting limits on the number of refugees allowed into the country each year.

"We have quotas here on the number that we take. How do we know what the world circumstance is going to be like?"

Refugee claimants become part of the total number of new citizens granted admissions every year. And criteria which apply to immigrants are also applied to refugees. For example, refugees tend to be accepted in greater numbers if they speak English and are able to integrate into Canada easily, DeVoretz said. "The refugee selection criteria leave people in very perilous situations."

Canada allows between 200,000 and 250,000 new Canadians into the country annually. Between 20,000 and 30,000 of those are refugees.

DeVoretz said Canada should be flexible enough to take in larger numbers of refugees during times of crisis. "What happens if something goes wrong in Hong Kong?" he asked, referring to the country's imminent takeover by China.

The Liberal government is looking into alternatives to current immigration legislation. Ottawa has appointed three people, including Susan Davis, a former national director of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, and Vancouver's Roslyn Kunin of the Laurier Institution, to make recommendations by the end of this year. The group is also looking at the possibility of splitting the administration of refugees and immigration.

"We haven't made any final decisions yet," said Kunin, whose non-profit think tank looks at the economic and social implications of cultural diversity.

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From coast to coast

Vancouver federation faces criticism from regions

By BAILA LAZARUS
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — If Jonathan Berkowitz had his way, volunteers, especially in the senior age group, would be pouring off the rafters at the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver. But that's not the case, and it has put the federation in a bind.

"[An] interesting challenge in the Vancouver community is that our organizations have a younger leadership than most other communities. [In] how many other places would the federation president be 41?" he asked, referring to his own situation.

"In other communities I would be chairing a division of campaign, I wouldn't be the president of the whole organization."

Between 300 and 600 people volunteer for the federation in areas such as canvassing, organizing events or participating on various committees. Most are in their early 20s to late 30s, he said.

Though Federation is glad to have many younger volunteers who will grow with the organization, Berkowitz added, those people may not be ready or appropriate to take on leadership roles.

"When you're looking for a campaign chair, the link between generations would be easier and their image within the community would probably be better if it was a senior community member," he said.

One reason for the difference in Vancouver's volunteer demographics, Berkowitz suggested, might be the type of migration into the community. "We have a very different makeup than other communities," said Berkowitz. "There isn't that sense of rootedness and [desire] to put [something] back into the community you grew up in."

'It's a one way street'

Many people in outlying areas such as Burnaby, Coquitlam, New Westminster, White Rock, Richmond and the North Shore, however, feel that disenchantment with the federation has led to a reduction in participation, both in terms of donating money as well as volunteerism.

"Federation has been inclusive in their rhetoric about the regionality of our community but in terms of programming and funding, they've really been almost absent," said Mark Winston, president of the Burquest Jewish Community Association, which serves about 2,000 Jews in the Burnaby, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and New Westminster areas.

Winston said that although the Burquest community has facilities to accommodate an audience for a speaker or event, activities sponsored by Vancouver's Jewish organizations have never found their way into his community. "They've never had a speaker, no meetings, no programs, absolutely nothing in our area."

Though Winston and others from the Burquest area used to make the trip into Vancouver for meetings and events, "it's a one way street," he said. "There's so little that comes back to our area, we don't feel included in the benefits."

He estimated that 60 percent of the Lower Mainland Jewish community lives outside of Vancouver proper but said a much smaller percentage of federation funding makes its way to the outlying communities.

"Funding the Jewish community centre does not meet out needs," said Winston. "Funding the federation itself does not meet our needs.

"The Walk for Israel [has] never been held outside of Vancouver," Winston pointed out. "Why? You can come up with all sorts of reasons but there's really been a change in this region. People that run the federation are committed to maintaining those core institutions. They have resisted the reality that the institutions no longer serve the majority of Jews in our region."

Miriam Bergson, president of Har-El synagogue in West Vancouver and Shelley Ail, president of Beth Tikvah synagogue in Richmond, agreed there has been a distancing between outlying communities and Vancouver proper.

"In all the years I've been here," said Bergson, a North Shore resident for 15 years, "I have never seen any effort by the community in the city to include the North Shore."

"We don't want to exclude ourselves from the general community but geographically it happens to us," said added. Residents on the North Shore have almost completed the construction of a new synagogue due to open in September.

"We're building a very nice community here," said Bergson.

Residents in Richmond have also taken it upon themselves to build their community with limited participation by Federation.

"They've talked for years about putting satellite offices in the different communities," said Ail. "I think that would make a difference as well. Community-sponsored events should [also] be held in areas other than Vancouver."

Ail added that frustration exists with the federation over how they've been allocating funding from their campaign.

"If you look at how much money is used to fund the campaign plus their staff [and] the overhead of running the federation it's outrageous," Ail said. "No wonder there's no dollars to put back into the community.

"The bottom line is we can get together and talk about the needs of all of these communities forever, but until the federation deals with its own money issues, I don't think anything is going to change," said Ail.

"I guess we're at the point where we've just accepted it and we just have to go on. In spite of the difficulties, the community has grown and prospered and we've learned to do for ourselves, she said."

Drew Staffenberg, executive director of the federation, acknowledged the frustration. "Federation is an imperfect organization, just like any others," he said. "It's new. It's struggling to meet the many demands that it has.

"It's not a matter of malicious intent," Staffenberg said. "It's a matter of resources, time and effort. The reality is, there aren't a lot of people from the Oak Street corridor or the west side of Vancouver who are going to go out to a meeting in Burnaby. Is it right? Wrong? It just is."

Staffenberg said he hopes people won't begin pointing fingers but will take it upon themselves to develop their communities and have patience. "We'd love to be more out there, absolutely. But we also want to help people help themselves"

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Nelson community a 'loose affiliation'

By DAVID LITVAK
Special to The CJN

NELSON, B.C. — Nestled in the Selkirk Mountains overlooking Kootenay Lake is the town of Nelson, population, 9,500.

The 70 to 100 Jews who live in the area are represented by the Kootenay Jewish Cultural Association (KJCA), formed in the 1970s when Jews began settling in Nelson and the valleys surrounding the town.

Max Davis, a former Chicago resident and a former representative of the KJCA, characterizes the community as a "loose affiliation of Jews."

He said that when he moved to Nelson from the Slocan Valley, just 50 miles north of Nelson several years ago, there was "a smattering of Jewish people around."

Davis met with Jean Gerber, the Canadian Jewish Congress representative who was then responsible for small Jewish communities in British Columbia, to ask for help in promoting cultural Jewish activities.

With the help of Congress, the KJCA brought in the Shalom dancers and Jewish singers such as Batsheva, and sponsored performances of plays by Yiddish writers, as well as organizing various holiday parties. One of the KJCA's most successful events was a costume carnival.

In recent years, however, formally organized activities in the community have been few and far between. There have been no community Passover seders in Nelson since 1986, and events have been limited to a Sukkot gathering in 1994 and a few recent bar mitzvot.

The KJCA recently met to discuss forming an authority to perform Jewish marriages; and the Canadian Jewish Congress sponsored an anti-racism program in nearby Creston and invited members of the Nelson Jewish community to attend.

According to Davis, for those in the community who are more spiritually inclined, "the Spokane community has opened its doors to Jews from our region."

He also estimates that the intermarriage rate is 80 to 90 percent, with the father in most cases being of Jewish descent.

"I have yet to meet any Jews who were born and raised here. Most of the Jews who live here came from big cities and they came here because of the laid-back lifestyle," says Lily Rosenberg, a former native of Toronto and the current representative of the KJCA.

She says she moved away from an organized community "to recreate myself. I felt that I could give something back." She has organized small group gatherings and Passover seders, but nothing formalized. She adds that since a lot of people have families where only one parent is Jewish, "they appreciate any connection to Judaism that they can get."

Nelson Becker, the editor of the *Nelson Express*, is another local Jew who has contributed to Jewish life in the area. In his capacity as a concert promoter, he has brought Jewish groups such as Toronto's Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band to the town's restored Capitol Theatre, which originally opened in 1927.

While Rosenberg and Davis agree that there isn't a lot of anti-Semitism in the area, Davis' son, Mark, says he feels that "lots of people in the Kootenays downplay their Jewish identity."

Davis adds that while there are Jews in the area who have an awareness of their roots and want to connect, there are others "who don't want to have anything to do with us."

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From coast to coast

NEW HIGH SCHOOL GETS HOLOCAUST COLLECTION

From left, Michael Herman, chair, Holocaust Remembrance Committee, presents Stephen Bloom, head of the history department at Westmount Collegiate Institute in Vaughan, and Grade 10 students Natalie Shats and David Major with one of the books donated to the school by the Holocaust Memorial and Education Centre. The collection, 40 books of both fiction and non-fiction, will be used in the school's new Holocaust studies program, which will begin in September. Bloom said it is especially appropriate that the collection came to Westmount, as the school has a large number of Jewish students, many of them grandchildren of survivors. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Volunteers honored in Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The imminent opening of the Asper Jewish Community Campus was very much in the air as the Winnipeg Jewish community honored its own at the third annual Koved Evening on Monday, June 9.

Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) president Larry Hurtig set the tone with his state of the community address. After stressing the importance of volunteerism, he said that the move to the new campus will strengthen the relationship between the WJCC and its major beneficiaries, who will be at the same location.

He also named a number of other programs, including continuity projects, an employment initiative, the persons with disabilities steering committee and the Israel Experience Centre, which combine to make Winnipeg an even more welcoming community.

He reported that five more Argentinian families are expected to settle in Winnipeg by the end of the year, joining the nine families already here. As well, there has recently been an increase in immigration to Winnipeg among Jews from the former Soviet Union.

Hurtig also noted with pride that Winnipeg will be hosting the Canadian Jewish Congress plenary next May (the first time the plenary has been held outside of Toronto or Montreal), as well as the annual meeting of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services on June 22.

He praised Sheldon Berney, president of the board of the new campus, and Marjorie Blankstein and senior community council staff for their efforts in making campus a reality.

"Now that the challenge of campus has been realized," he said, "our new challenge is to plan for the future and find ways to ensure that our young people feel connected to the community and follow in our footsteps. Winnipeg is looked on as a model of volunteerism."

The next speaker, David Sultan, Israel's new ambassador to Canada, making his first visit to Winnipeg, also praised the community. He spoke of Israel's impressive economic growth, the peace negotiations, the relationship between Israel and the rest of the Jewish world and Israel's role in helping to foster Jewish continuity in the Diaspora.

This year, there were nine recipients of the Shem Tov Awards in recognition of volunteers who devote themselves to the betterment of the community through service to their organizations. The honorees were Abe Arnold (Jewish Historical Society); Gertie Begleiter (Board of Jewish Education); Dr. Earl Hershfield (WJCC); Leona Lakser (Jewish Child & Family Service); Laurie Mainster (Asper Jewish Community Campus); Ron Polinsky (CJA); Gordon Pullan Q.C. (Jewish Museum of Western Canada, which is part of the new campus); Phyllis Spigelman (Gwen Secter Creative Living Centre); and Barry Steinfeld (YMHA Jewish Community Centre).

Special presentations were made to the National Council of Jewish Women in recognition of the international organization's 100th anniversary and to CJA campaign co-chairs Sam Guralnick, Barbara Kives and Karyn Lazareck.

As reported earlier in *The CJN*, the Max Nathanson Young Leadership Award went to Faith Kaplan, the Harry Silverberg Leadership Development Award to Jonathon Kroft, the Max Shore Memorial Award to Nora Kaufman and the Sol Kanee Distinguished Community Service Medal to Gordon Pullan Q.C.

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Conversion compromise interim agreement signed

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — As of Sunday night, the Reform movement was still trying to convince one of its converts, who had petitioned the High Court of Justice to have the conversion recognized, to withdraw the petition, so that the agreement signed Sunday between the coalition and the Reform and Conservative movements could be implemented without any problems.

Three other Reform converts also had insisted on pressing forward with their petitions, but they agreed to delay them after a personal appeal from coalition chair MK Michael Eitan, who signed the agreement, along with Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Committee, and Rabbi Reuven Hammer, head of the Conservative movement's rabbinical court for conversions in Israel.

The signing took place in the office of Bobby Brown, the prime minister's adviser on Diaspora affairs. In addition, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu signed a letter to the members of the Conservative and Reform movements who had come to meet with him in an effort to stop the passage of the controversial conversion bill, which stipulates that the Chief Rabbinate must validate all conversions to Judaism performed in Israel.

The agreement calls for a seven-person committee, including a representative each from the Conservative and Reform movements, to arrive at a formulation for registering conversions. According to a number of sources, including transport minister Yitzhak Levy, the committee is to be headed by former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman.

"I think if there is anyone who can pull the process together, it is probably Ya'acov Ne'eman," Regev said Sunday.

Regev, who added that his movement has great expectations for the success of the committee's deliberations, said he thought it was likely that the High Court would agree to delay its hearings on the issue of conversions in light of the preponderance of petitioners who are asking the court to do so.

Petitions from the State and the Reform and Conservative movements to postpone the case were presented to the High Court Sunday night. It was asked to render a decision on the postponement within 48 hours.

Eitan also agreed that in addition to the seven-person committee, there be a three-person committee appointed to focus on the conversion of adopted children.

Na'amat, which demanded this as a condition for withdrawing its own petition to the High Court on the issue, is to have a representative on that committee, who will also be observer to the other committee.

Thief thwarts terror attack on Israeli beach

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A thief who took an unattended bag from a crowded Tel Aviv beach ended up a hero after he discovered a bomb inside and called police to defuse it.

Motti Ashkenazi, 30, a drug addict who has a criminal record, spotted the bag near a group of children playing at a Tel Aviv beach last Friday.

He took the bag and walked to the stairwell of a nearby apartment building to check its contents.

After he found a cookie container with suspicious wires coming out of it, he called police, who defused the explosives.

Police called the incident an attempted terrorist attack and said Ashkenazi's actions averted a serious disaster. The explosives weighed several pounds and were packed with nails, according to police.

Police were considering whether to give Ashkenazi a certificate of merit, but noted that only the week before he had been charged with a number of criminal offenses, including attempted car theft.

Suspicion aroused

Ashkenazi maintained that he did not steal the bag. When he first spotted the bag, he said, it aroused his suspicion. He said he asked people around him whose bag it was and then took it away from the area to check the contents.

Ashkenazi added that in light of his deeds, he hoped police would make a gesture by clearing his record and helping him complete a rehabilitation program.

Out of concern for a new wave of terrorist attacks in Tel Aviv, roadblocks were placed at entrances to the city to spot-check cars.

Clinton may veto Jerusalem bill

By HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton might veto a foreign aid authorization bill containing provisions on Jerusalem, because they run counter to administration policy, a senior U.S. official said on Friday.

In a formal document sent to the House of Representatives last week, the White House based its objection on its claim that the executive branch alone may set U.S. foreign policy and that Congress is infringing on that responsibility, the official said.

The communication was made after the House passed its bill two weeks ago, but before last week's overwhelming support in the Senate for a similar bill.

The House and Senate bills are similar and include three problematic areas for the administration: The State Department would have to list "Jerusalem, Israel" on the passport of a U.S. citizen born in the city; the Jerusalem consulate would be brought under the aegis of the U.S. embassy; and U.S. documents would list Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

The bills also budget $100 million to move the embassy.

"We have serious concerns with these restrictions on the president's conduct of foreign relations. These three points we think are unconstitutional," the official said.

Warren Christopher, who was then secretary of state, made an identical argument nearly two years ago as Capitol Hill considered a bill to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem by May 1999.

The bill ultimately passed, although the administration received concessions allowing it to postpone the embassy's move if it determined such a delay to be in the country's national interest. As evidence of his displeasure, Clinton did not sign the bill, but it became law automatically after 30 days.

The administration's objections to the current bill centre not only on the Jerusalem requirements, but on such unrelated issues as family planning programs and U.S. arrears to the UN, the official stated.

The administration is waiting to see what version emerges from the House-Senate merging of the two bills before deciding what steps to take, the official said.

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Builder planning Jewish seniors home in Moscow

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

MOSCOW — Alexander Platonov stands on the sidewalk adjacent to an open, wind-blown field on the outskirts of Moscow. Like many other undeveloped areas of Russia, it is overgrown with brush and covered in rusted out old junk. It doesn't look like much but in his mind's eye, it's a gleaming new home for Moscow's aged Jewish population, a sort of Baycrest Centre east, serving 1,000 people.

So far, it's still just a dream but Platonov, a builder by occupation, is pushing the project among the decision-makers in the Moscow government and with the leadership of the Jewish community in Russia. He's already had a preliminary architect's plan drawn up. He is in the midst of negotiations with the municipal government for final approval of the plan and hopes to begin construction next year, with completion in 2000.

First of a four-part series

Platonov, 55, calls the project the Moscow Jewish Community House (MJCH) and he's promoting it in conjunction with Moscow's main Jewish organization, the Federation of Jewish Organizations, known as the Vaad.

He envisions it as a seniors' residence combined with a medical centre — something completely lacking in the Russian experience. In Moscow, seniors' homes are little more than hotel-style facilities in which elderly Russians, Jews and non-Jews alike, try to make do on meagre pensions and suffer from poor health, isolation and loneliness.

Alexander Platonov

Platonov, who visited the Baycrest Centre during a recent trip to Toronto, believes that duplicating the geriatric centre would be impossible in Russia. Not even the old Soviet party apparatchiks had such a facility at their disposal, he said. But the MJCH will have a synagogue, a cultural centre, a social hall and provide medical care. Most importantly, he said, is trying to emulate the Baycrest staff's caring and accommodating attitude to residents.

In today's Russia, which has vaulted headlong into a rough and tumble version of capitalism, seniors are the country's most disadvantaged group. Most of them, used to the cradle to grave welfare system under communism, are being left behind in the grab for new wealth. With many people in Russia becoming very rich, prices have skyrocketed, putting those on fixed pensions in dire economic straits. Seniors are forced to subsist on meagre pensions of between 250,000 rubles to 1 million rubles a month ($43 for a single person, $175 for two).

As a result, many seniors are living with their families in shared, cramped quarters.

The idea for a seniors' residence has been tossed around for years but little was done about it until Platonov came along and saw it as a way of leaving a lasting legacy to the Jewish community.

Originally named Perelman, Platonov changed his name to avoid anti-Semitic prejudice and to advance his career. Though a communist as a youth, Platonov changed as he grew older. His interest in Jewish culture increased while at the same time "I started noticing the old Jewish people and how hard their lives were.

"I began looking for some contacts in the Jewish community about seven years ago," he said through an interpreter. Three years ago, he met Irina Scherban, executive direction of the Vaad.

Scherban helped direct his energies towards the Jewish community but for Platonov, "things like cultural programs are not for me. I realized I'd have to do a serious project and do something important in my life so people will remember me."

Having worked as a builder in Nizhne Vartovsk in the Tyumen region of Siberia, he had the experience to take on difficult projects. "I started thinking about my place in the Jewish community and I decided to build something, knowing how the Jewish people in Russia live, especially the older ones."

Irina Scherban

Vaad president Michael Chlenov, dean of the Maimonides Academy, enthusiastically backs the project. "I think it's very important," he said. The Vaad has appointed Scherban to serve as its executive director. Rabbi Adolph Shayevich, chief rabbi of Russia has also given the project his support.

Well connected to the Moscow government officials, Platonov received the consent of Mayor Glushkov to proceed. The mayor, Yuri Louzhkov to proceed. The mayor kind person. For him, there's no difference what nationality you are. Unfortunately," he continued, "at the lower level, the attitude towards Jews is very bad."

Despite the roadblocks placed in his way by junior bureaucrats, Platonov has made some headway and was expecting full authorization from the city government to begin the project. That approval was crucial as the land he's chosen is prime real estate, fully serviced, on a transit line and in a good neighborhood.

Platonov expects the capital cost of the project to be approximately $50 million US. He's received pledges for some support from some of the country's nouveau riche and once he has the land locked up, he plans to approach others for contributions. In addition, he hopes to raise funds from expatriate Russians in North America and elsewhere. Platonov expects to raise 25 percent of the costs inside Russia, 75 percent from abroad.

He pitches it to former Russians as a way to help the elderly back at home, many of whom are family members.

Platonov said the MJCH will have a controlling council and all monetary transactions will be transparent. "Everyone will know where the money goes."

He believes that once the project is completed, the governments of Russia and Moscow will underwrite some of the its operating costs. After all, by constructing the home, the Jewish community is easing the burden on those governments, he said.

A second project Platonov is touting is the renovation of an abandoned kindergarten building in the Beskudnikova neighborhood of Moscow. When completed, that building will be home to 312 seniors and will include a hospital offering medical care for ambulatory patients. That project is being geared to service neighborhood residents.

The community would take over the premises and turn it into a seniors' home. When renovated and expanded, it will house 312 people in a facility that includes a hospital that will provide partial medical care for ambulatory patients. Like the larger project, it too has the support of the Vaad and of a prominent rabbi, Zinovy Kogan. That project, which is independent of the first, will cost an estimated $15 to $20 million US to complete.

CJN Staff Reporter Paul Lungen was recently in Moscow at the invitation and courtesy of Alexander Platonov, Canadian businessman Nathan Jacobson and as a guest of the Vaad.

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Jewish community waits for change in Hong Kong

[Cont'd. from page 1]

For most people, life is good. The standard of living is high and many are able to afford certain luxuries, such as maids and nannies, that would be unaffordable back home. They have good jobs, professional opportunities and a variety of quality schools to choose from, including Jewish day schools.

Though there is a small percentage of permanent Jewish residents in Hong Kong, the community is mostly transient, with most staying between two and 10 years. The greater influx has occurred in the last five years, mostly of young people.

Like other Westerners, Jews come to Hong Kong primarily for economic reasons. Some are professionals unable to find positions in their fields elsewhere. Some are executives sent by large multinational and financial institutions. Others are there to take on government positions. Jewish professionals with jobs specific to East Asia often choose Hong Kong as their home base because of its English-speaking, western style of living and its established Jewish community.

Given the current situation, the pressing question is how the historic transfer of power in Hong Kong will affect the fate of the Jewish community. Some are uneasy about the changes; however, many did not express grave concerns about the future of the Jewish community there or about their personal situations. Overwhelmingly, they feel that Jews will not be singled out for persecution of any sort, as there is historically and currently no anti-Semitism in Hong Kong or mainland China.

Numerous people commented on the similar values and the positive, mutual respect that has historically existed between the Jewish and the Chinese people. Many feel safer living as Jews in Hong Kong than in most other places in the world.

To further the Jewish community's sense of security, according to Dennis Leventhal, an American-born China business development specialist who has lived and worked in the Greater China region for over 25 years, "China has made a public and constitutional commitment to the preservation of religious freedom in Hong Kong.

"Jewish community leaders have maintained a low-keyed but effective communication with the Chinese government to ensure they know who and what we are... Jewish community members are positive contributors to Hong Kong's economic and cultural well being...[and] many are intimately involved with [mainland] China's economic self-transformation."

The question of how the change in political status of Hong Kong will affect individuals personally and professionally varies greatly, depending on one's nationality, employment and political affiliation. The policy of "localization" in the government, primarily aimed at replacing British civil servants with native Chinese, has resulted in a decline in the number of Jewish British citizens in the past two to three years.

Some feel there may be a further decrease in the number of British citizens in the Jewish community, as the British will now be treated like all other nationals requiring work permits and visas in order to work and live in Hong Kong.

There is further concern that the policy of "localization" might spill over into other areas of employment, such as in the universities. Jerome Hoberman, an American musical conductor employed at a local university, says he is concerned with possible loss of employment at the end of his current contract, but this, he adds, "has nothing to do with Judaism."

The increasing demand to speak Mandarin and Cantonese in the future will affect those teaching, as well as those doing business, in Hong Kong. In order to prepare the next generation, children in the Jewish day schools are now being taught Mandarin as part of their curriculum.

Leventhal anticipates no change for himself, as he is a sinologist (China specialist) fluent in both spoken and written Chinese, and is comfortable working and living within Chinese culture.

A British-born Appeal Court judge says he does not feel a threat to his job security either, as he is confident that China will maintain the present legal system for the next 50 years.

Others express concern over possible loss of academic freedom, freedom of speech, censorship of the press, human rights and the potential weakening of present laws. Most people, however, are not really concerned about the recent constitutional changes taking place, as they feel that "true" democracy has never existed in Hong Kong.

Given all the considerations, will people in the Jewish community stay or leave after June 30? Most Jews intend to stay in Hong Kong as long as jobs and opportunities exist.

Though many seem optimistic and hope for the best, there is an underlying sense of uncertainty. In any event, there is at present no mass exodus, according to Judy Diestel, a British dentist who has been living in Hong Kong for 30 years.

With their thriving Jewish population, the largest in Hong Kong's history, a newly rebuilt Jewish community centre and their positive history and association with the Chinese, the Jewish community is optimistic and building for the future. People feel the Jewish community in Hong Kong will continue to flourish as long as business is good and Hong Kong remains prosperous.

Elaine Lukofsky Goldberg is a freelance journalist.

Clashes in Hebron

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Israel handed over control of some 80 percent of Hebron to the Palestinians in January.

The Palestinian cabinet issued a terse statement last week, charging that Israeli settlement activity had provoked the unrest.

"The arming of Jewish setters and the protection offered to them by Israeli soldiers while they continuously attack Palestinian landowners will not leave our masses any choice but to confront these aggressions using all available means," said the statement.

Mordechai also visited the Jewish settlement of Morag in the Gaza Strip, where settlers and Palestinians had angry confrontations earlier this month over land ownership and boundaries. The defence minister pledged to try to resolve the problem.

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MERIDOR LEAVES

Finance Minister Dan Meridor resigned from the government last week because of major policy differences with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Prof. Jacob Frenkel, governor of the Bank of Israel. Ariel Sharon was rumored to be soon headed into the finance portfolio. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

U.S. policy confusing

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Israel's controversial decision to build a Jewish neighborhood in Har Choma has thrust the United States, its chief ally, into uncomfortable contortions.

Since February, when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu unveiled plans to go ahead with construction there, Washington has been forced into the position of having to justify its seemingly inconsistent and confusing policy with respect to Jerusalem.

After Israel announced its intention to construct Har Choma, U.S. State Department spokesperson Nicholas Burns expressed "disappointment," claiming that the move would engender neither trust nor confidence.

Taking up this theme, President Bill Clinton told Palestine Authority chairman Yasser Arafat at a White House meeting that he would try to dissuade Israel from proceeding with Har Choma in advance of final status talks, which are supposed to resolve a litany of contentious issues, including that of Jerusalem.

Yet, at the United Nations, the United States — co-sponsor of the Oslo peace process — vetoed three Security Council resolutions and voted against one General Assembly resolution calling on Israel to halt the Har Choma housing project.

In the wake of the third veto, Bill Richardson, the American representative at the United Nations, defended U.S. policy.

The United States, he declared, is definitely opposed to Har Choma at this point in time. But United Nations interference in Middle East peace efforts inflames passions and hardens positions on both sides, he added.

Two weeks ago, the vexing issue surfaced once again. The U.S. House of Representatives passed a non-binding resolution recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's undivided capital. It also voted to appropriate $100 million to transfer the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Opposed by the Clinton administration, and decried by the Arabs as a "declaration of war" against the peace process and Palestinian interests, the resolutions resembled binding legislation, approved by both houses of Congress in October 1995, to transfer the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem by 1999, subject to the president's consent.

Bill Clinton, regarded as the most pro-Israel president in history, lobbied against the 1995 measure on the grounds that Jerusalem's status should be jointly determined by Israel and the Palestinians at final status talks (which have yet to begin).

But when he was campaigning for the presidency in 1992, Clinton voiced support for the principle that Jerusalem is Israel's "undivided, eternal" capital and that the U.S. embassy should be located there.

Ronald Reagan, one of his predecessors, expressed similar sentiments. Yet in 1984, when Congress introduced a bill sanctioning the move of the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem, the Reagan administration strongly opposed it.

George Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state, argued that it would provoke a wave of anti-American violence in the Islamic world. His warning had the desired effect. The proposed legislation withered on the vine.

Despite its strategic alliance with Israel, the United States neither recognizes Jerusalem as Israel's capital nor even its sovereignty over the western sector of the city. Indeed, in no other country but Israel is the American embassy situated outside the administrative capital.

Until the Six Day War, Washington supported the internationalization of Jerusalem. Since 1967, the United States has hewed to the view that Jerusalem should remain physically unified but that its permanent status should be determined solely by negotiations.

Washington believes that unilateral actions in Jerusalem are counter-productive. There are at least two examples to support this thesis. Thirteen of 15 embassies relocated to Tel Aviv in 1980 when the Knesset proclaimed Jerusalem as Israel's undivided capital. And as a direct result of Har Choma, the Palestinians have indefinitely frozen bilateral talks with Israel.

The Week in Israel

June 16

• Five Turkish navy vessels docked in Israel. The move was seen as the latest sign of Ankara's growing military ties with the Jewish state.

June 17

• Israeli water experts attended talks in the Omani capital of Muscat to discuss water problems in the region. Water experts from Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, the United States, Europe and Japan also attended.

• Israeli planes attacked suspected Hezbollah targets in the Bekaa valley in Lebanon. It was the 39th raid by Israel this year against terror targets in Lebanon.

June 18

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed "cautious optimism" that a compromise on the conversion issue would be reached within the next few weeks. Reform and Conservative leaders have agreed to postpone all legal proceedings on the matter.

• Yisrael b'Aliyah continued its coalition rebellion, supporting several bills in the Knesset against the government. Party leader Natan Sharansky said that his party already has "one foot out of the door of the government."

June 19

• The founder of Boys Town Jerusalem, Rabbi Alexander Linchner, died at the age of 89. Boys Town Jerusalem, which has Jewish learning and vocational training as its two pillars, has more than 1,000 students ranging from junior high school to the junior college level.

June 20

• Israeli media reported that Iran has decided, in coordination with Hezbollah, to attack Israeli, Turkish and U.S. targets in the Middle East and abroad. Diplomatic sources cited a meeting on June 2 in Beirut between Hezbollah and the emissaries of the recently elected president of Iran, Mohammed Khatami where these decisions were allegedly made.

• Israel's Conservative movement condemned a marriage between two women performed Wednesday by a Reform rabbi, saying that it had crossed the "red line" in terms of Halachah.

With files from the JTA

Travel, Arts & Business

Reporter's Russian odyssey makes a fascinating read

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

TORONTO — In 1990, fresh out of graduate school, Torontonian Jennifer Gould had what most journalism school graduates only dream about – a good job at a respected newspaper.

Yet just over a year later, Gould, then 24, forsook all that. She decided to pack her bags and travel by herself to the uncertainty of Moscow with no guarantees of anything, just a few freelance contacts she had made before she left. She didn't even speak Russian.

"I had a wonderful job in Philadelphia," she said in an interview to promote *Vodka, Tears and Lenin's Angel*, a book documenting her four years in the former Soviet Union (FSU). "But at that time the Soviet Union was collapsing. It was a historic time and I wanted to write about that. It was one of the most important events of our century. I had to go there and see this."

Gould realized that by the time she paid her dues the normal way and finally got the job she coveted – a foreign correspondent – she would be old and grey. "I didn't want to wait. I wanted to go when I was still young. It's part of what would make it so special."

Moscow, and the rest of the FSU, was just reeling from the end of communism. Unbridled capitalism was rife. So was lawlessness, anti-Semitism, organized crime, poverty and homelessness. Hardly something most single young women (and for that matter, men) want to throw themselves into.

"A lot of people told me not to go, but I did it," she said. "The rewards are incredible. You have to be a certain type of person to do this."

One of the rewards was being one of the few Western journalists to get a free interview with nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovsky, a "crazed, neo-fascist madman," she writes in her book, who "hurled flowerpots and spat at Jewish protesters in France...and threatened to nuke his neighbors." At the time, Zhirinovsky was asking up to $15,000 for an interview, but through persistence Gould managed to interview him for free in seven sessions, the results of which were published in *Playboy*.

The scene for the interviews was a boat ride down the Volga on a grass-roots campaign for the presidential election. Ever resourceful and persuasive, Gould got permission to climb aboard and stayed on the boat for eight days amongst bodyguards, xenophobes, stringy boys and potbellied men with armbands.

"Zhirinovsky already reminds me of Mr. Kurtz, Conrad's ivory trader corrupted by greed, environment, circumstances, long descended into madness," she writes. "My Volga has transformed into the Congo and I, too, am going downstream into a post-Cold War Heart of Darkness."

"It was creepy and weird," she told me recently. "But I never felt intimidated. Russia [bad as it was] was not a tin-pot dictatorship where foreign journalists just disappear. Nothing like that was going to happen. I never felt I was in any physical danger.

"I think Zhirinovsky's a chameleon," she said. "I don't think he's so anti-Semitic. To me, he is the best friend of Jews and Israel and at the same time he tells Russian peasants that the problems are the fault of the Jews and foreigners. He would change for his audience."

In the 1993 parliamentary elections, Russians by now disillusioned with the "Wild-West" lawlessness that was paralyzing their nation, Zhirinovsky's campaign of flowers for women, no more food lines and cheap vodka for men, won his Liberal Democratic Party 23 percent of the ballots cast. His popularity now seems to be dwindling and he was hardly a force in the 1996 elections.

Gould believes the irony is that Zhirinovsky was working for Yeltsin in 1993, not against him.

"He was partly set up by the KGB to give the illusion of a multi-party system," she said. By appearing so far on the right, "he allowed Yeltsin to move to the right and still look like a democrat even though he launched a civil war [Chechnya] that killed 100,000 people."

Now with Yelstin solidly backed by the United States, the threat of a dangerous fascist leader is no longer needed. "Zhirinovsky's use has ended," she said.

Vodka, Tears and Lenin's Angel is a fascinating read. Her chronicles are filled with a unique perspective, rarely found in newspaper accounts, as she tells of apartment-hunting and "getting Sov'd" (monthly rent increases even after you signed a contract); a joy ride with a hyper 19-year-old millionaire; the joys of Soviet-era hotels (orange bed covers and fried chicken); interviews with "swallows" (women trained by the KGB on the art of seducing western spies); following the trail of a murdered American diplomat; her trip to war-torn Chechnya; and unfortunate accounts of the dispossessed – children living on the streets and whole families living in railway stations.

In one chapter, she relates a personal incident when she was mugged by three thugs in a taxi cab. To this day, she's not sure if it was a purely financially-motivated crime or if the gangsters were trying to scare her off a story.

The event shook her to the point she was sure she would leave Russia and return home the next day. However after she calmed down and she was safe, she changed her mind.

"I felt that once it was over, no one's going to force me to leave," she said. "I'm not leaving until I'm ready to leave. I wasn't going to let them get the better of me. It's one of the dangers of living there – you have to take risks."

Despite all the crime, corruption and anarchy, Gould believes that the average Muscovite is nothing like that. "People I kept coming across were so wonderful. They gave when they have nothing to give, even to strangers. They really put up with a lot."

She says the trouble lies with all the ruling elite. "Human life seems to be of such little value for the people at the top. Money has created a new class of people who have no values. They do whatever it takes. Some people are so wonderful, some are corrupt beyond belief."

During her stay in the FSU, Gould spent some time visiting Jewish communities particularly in Odessa, Georgia and in Bukhara, where she was surprised to see a large picture of the Lubavitcher Rebbe in one of the homes. Despite the mass emigration of Jews and assimilation, Gould is optimistic about the future of Judaism in the FSU.

"My parents' generation in Ukraine are cultural Jews," she said. "[Though atheist], they married other Jews but their children are really interested in knowing their history. With the new synagogues and schools, there is a rebuilding of Jewish culture."

However, as far as the future of Russia itself, Gould is far from optimistic and compares present-day Russia with the Weimar Republic.

"There is a growing divide between the rich and poor. Western politicians realized too late there is no history of democracy in Russia. I believe things will get a lot worse before they get better."

Perhaps worse still, towards the end of her Russian journey in 1996, Gould witnessed a disturbing rebirth of communism.

"In 1991, they were tearing down statues she says. "In 1996, Yeltsin had red flags flying in the Red Square on May Day. In the 1996 elections, the Communists had 40 percent of the vote. When you consider that all post-Communist elections had elements of fraud, I have a feeling it was more than that."

Whereas in the early '90s the Communist rallies were filled with old people, Gould observed a lot more young people during the 1996 Communist rallies.

Gould is now back in North America, writing for *The Village Voice* in New York. She is looking forward to going to Moscow for the city's 850th anniversary celebration this fall and although she would like to work overseas again, she might choose a different country next time.

Vodka, Tears and Lenin's Angel (Alfred A. Knopf Canada) is currently on the bestseller list of the *Toronto Star* and other publications. The book is a candid snapshot of the everyday people that make present-day Russia what it is. Gould's conversational style and flowing prose makes this one of the most enjoyable first-person accounts I've read in a long time.

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The magic of Al Jolson can still fill a theatre

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

Brian Conley as Al Jolson.

TORONTO — Eighty years after he became a Broadway sensation, the name Al Jolson can still fill a theatre and the music he immortalized can still tug at the proverbial heartstrings of contemporary audiences.

Impresarios Ed and David Mirvish proved this beyond a doubt last week when the lavish musical *Jolson* opened at their Royal Alex Theatre in Toronto, giving highly appreciative theatregoers the illusion of seeing the real Al Jolson at his best in front of an adoring public.

Reprising the award-winning role he originated on the London stage, British actor Brian Conley looks and sounds like the genuine article. He's also able to kindle that magical spark between performer and audience that Jolson was famous for.

The show's two acts, set in the New York of the 1920s and 1940s, move quickly from one milestone to another in Jollie's celebrated career: his first breakthrough one-man show, his role in the first cinematic talking picture, his stint as an army performer, his work on the soundtrack for the movie The Jolson Story, his dazzling farewell performance at Radio City Music Hall.

The music may be orchestrally lush and romantic but writers Francis Essex and Rob Bettinson do not romanticize when it comes to Jollie's character. He is realistically depicted as a uniquely gifted performer with an ego the size of the Empire State Building, indeed all of Manhattan.

Not only does he trample indifferently upon the careers and feelings of aspiring performers and songwriters around him, he alienates even his wife Ruby Keeler (the wonderful Sally Ann Triplett) and his agent Louis Epstein (the equally wonderful John Bennett). As the latter generously remarks, Al Jolson was not the easiest man to get along with.

The character becomes sympathetic, even understandable, when we learn that his mother died when he was a boy, having whispered a dying wish to him that he make something of himself.

The grand finale features trademark tunes like *Swanee*, *Baby Face*, *Sonny Boy* and *Give My Regards to Broadway*, each one a showstopper. But the audience is so primed for *My Mammy* that when Jolson finally delivers it on one knee – "It's my Mammy I'm talkin' about, no one else's!" – people are dabbing tears from their eyes.

The Royal Alex production is no less fine than the production I saw last year in London, where the show originated. The only difference seems to be that the musical won the 1996 Olivier Award for Best Musical in the interval.

Jolson: The Musical is playing at the Royal Alex until Aug. 2. For tickets ($25 to $89) call TicketKing at 416-872-1212 or 800-461-3333. END.

Israel to maintain ban on Gulf imports

BY DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The ban on imports from the Gulf states will remain in force, Israel's Industry and Trade Ministry Foreign Trade Administration director said recently, in response to Federation of Chambers of Commerce president Dan Gillerman's plea that it be lifted.

Zohar Peri said restricted imports are already permissible from Qatar and Oman.

Israel's Trade Representation Office head in Qatar Sami Ravel said it is important where relations already exist that Israel do its utmost to strengthen them.

Trade volume with Arab and Muslim countries in general is far higher than data from the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) suggests, according to federation Islamic Countries Section director Mandy Barak.

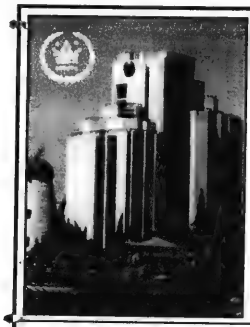
The CBS cited the following totals for trade in the first quarter this year (in US dollars):

Exports to Egypt – $11 million (-16 percent on the same period last year), imports – $6.7million (+4 percent); Jordan – $3.5million (+400 percent), $2.7 million (+500 percent); Morocco – $1.4 million $320,000; Tunisia $280,000, $500 (thought to be in textiles); Mauritania $100,000, $0; United Arab Emirates $4,400, $0; and Oman $48,000, $0.

"Trade with Morocco, for example, is many thousands of percent larger than these official figures," said Barak.

However, Barak maintains trade with Israel's Arab neighbors will never be particularly sizable. He cited a variety of reasons including:
•The huge difference between the economies and markets is extremely difficult to bridge. The exception to this pattern is in the Gulf states, where there is a slightly higher per capita GDP and therefore Israeli exports become affordable, particularly in exchange for petroleum.
•The type of imports needed in Arab countries are largely not compatible with what Israel has to offer.

Admitting that trade is carried out with most Arab states – including Lebanon, Syria and Iraq, usually via a third country or offshore company – Barak urged Israelis not to enter these countries "with Israeli flags aloft," but rather take a gentle, quiet approach.



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Canadian panelists disagree at arts conference

By SIMON HAUPT
Special to The CJN

BOSTON — Jewish writers must return to their religious and spiritual roots to produce uniquely Jewish art, said Ottawa poet Seymour Mayne.

Novelist Mordecai Richler insisted, on the other hand, that Jews should not ghettoize themselves by writing only about Jewish matters

Both were panelists at a recent conference on Canadian Jewish arts.

"Without knowing the Jewish tradition, going back to Tanach, Talmud, contemporary Holocaust thinkers and philosophers, Jews will not have a sense of what their vision of the world has been as they've evolved over 3,000 years," said Mayne. "There's a richness out there and if you turn away from it, you lose a lot of what it has to offer."

The poet, a professor of English at the University of Ottawa and the author or editor of more than 40 books of poetry, was part of a panel on Canadian Jewish Arts and Identity. Along with Mayne and Richler, the panel featured film professor John Katz, Winnipeg-born Israeli composer Aharon Harlay, film producer Elliot Halpern (*Deadly Currents*) and Quebec writer Regine Robin (*The Québécoise*).

Mordecai Richler

Richler disagreed with Mayne, arguing that a writer's only responsibility is to tell the truth.

"Writers are not to be confused with the Anti-Defamation League ...We write of the world as we see it," said Richler.

"If John Updike were sitting here, you wouldn't ask him about being a Protestant writer. You write out your own experience and your own obsessions."

The weekend began with a keynote speech by Richler, who regaled the audience with tales of his youth spent aspiring to a state of worldly sophistication while growing up in Montreal. He sketched a history of Montreal's Anglo-Jewish community, which flourished despite long-standing anti-Semitism in Quebec, but has since diminished in size and importance because of the separatist threat.

"My cherished Montreal is now a dying city," he concluded.

The weekend wasn't all politics, however. The day after his speech, Richler gave the first North American reading from his forthcoming novel, *Barney's Version*. With his mordant wit, Richler read a chapter that poked fun at his usual targets of self-important businessmen and left-wing do-gooders. The novel will be published in Canada this October.

Following Richler's reading, Mayne offered a history of Jewish Canadian poetry, telling the audience that Jews have been a part of Canadian culture from the very beginning. As proof, he spoke of the 1864 publication of *Selections from Canadian Poets*, which contained works by the English-born Isadore Asher.

"That one Jew, among the 30 to 40 Anglo-Celtic writers in the book, represented the only minority contributing at that time to the formation of Canadian literature," said Mayne.

Mayne also read from the work of many significant Jewish Canadian poets, including A.M. Klein, Leonard Cohen, Carol Rose, Shel Krakofsky, and Vancouver writer Miriam Waddington.

Quebec novelist Regine Robin, read from her Holocaust-themed book of short stories, *L'immense fatigue des pierres.*

The conference concluded with screenings of the acclaimed documentary, *Deadly Currents*, and the 1974 comedy, *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz.*

Sponsored by Northeastern University's Jewish Studies Program, the conference held May 31 to June 2 was the second in a series of annual Northeastern symposia designed to study Jewish life in the Diaspora. Last year's inaugural conference featured the art and culture of Latin American Jews. Future programs will study Jewish arts in South Africa, the former Soviet Union, Brazil and Australia.

"Nobody else is doing this kind of thing," said Prof. James Ross, one of the conference organizers. "There are a lot of Jewish studies programs, but not many are interested in the Diaspora beyond the United States. Americans don't have much awareness of Canadian life and Jewry.

"If you look at Toronto and the range of arts in that community, in terms of a Jewish community outside New York, you wouldn't find anything with that kind of depth or breadth. And Winnipeg has some of the best klezmer bands in the world."

Iraq explores trade possibility with Israel

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

A large Iraqi firm has reportedly approached Israel with the knowledge of the Baghdad authorities to explore trade possibilities with Israel.

Contacts were made through the Israel-Arab Friendship Association in order to pave the way for the imports of large quantities of Israeli food products, medicines and car parts in exchange for Iraqi fuel, Israel Radio reported last month.

Israeli officials were examining whether such a deal would be possible under the terms of the United Nations regulations that allow Baghdad to sell limited amounts of oil in exchange for necessary food and medical supplies, according to Israel Radio.

Israeli over the top in theatre of oppressed

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Erica Knoller, an 81-year-old Israeli who married the Dutch psychiatrist who hid her in his closet, is the sole performer in a play about her life, *Erica's Paradise*.

The play was part of the Ripple Theatre festival about oppression and obviously, Knoller believes she was oppressed by her three husbands, including the psychiatrist who has left her.

She now lives in Haifa, where she says her home is a haven for New Age enthusiasts.

One of the unusual features of *Erica's Paradise*, presented twice at the Poor Alex, is her story of being hidden in the psychiatrist's Amsterdam closet with her then husband and another young couple.

The events that followed are not to be found in the pages of a family newspaper.

Knoller writes and acts well, but her performance is over the top and she got so carried away, that even after the final curtain she kept on talking, delaying start of the next play.

But it cannot be denied that she has made a significant contribution to theatre of the oppressed, though not everyone will agree with her actions and rationale.

Another production in the festival, a play by Jewish Theatre Projects, employed the audience participation techniques of Augusta Boal, founder of theatre of the oppressed.

One skit involved a Christmas office party where a Jewish staffer endured stereotypical remarks. Several members of the audience went on stage to take the Jewish actor's part. One turned the tables on his tormentors. Another showed how the incident could be used to educate the non-Jews who kept referring to Chanukah as the Jewish Christmas.

In this skit, the original actors, Mark Albert, Shifra Zisman and Kevin Zelig, under the direction of artistic director Jodi Miller, were highly effective.

Another skit dealt with misleading advice being given by her friends to a fiance who wants to put off marriage in favor of a career, while another concerned a busy doctor who has no time to spend with his son, but tries to fob him off with a $100 bill.

The last, and perhaps the most telling, concerned an overweight daughter consistently criticized by her mother in favor a prettier sister.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

FRINGE THEATRE FEST UNFOLDS JULY 3 TO 13

Ivor Dembina's solo stand-up act has taken him from Edinburgh to Melbourne and from Paris to Toronto.

Known as the leading live Jewish comedian in Britain, Dembina's solo show, Stand-Up Jewish Comedy, sold out for two consecutive years at the Edinburgh festival. Now the show is being presented as part of the Fringe Theatre Fest. Six performances between July 3 and 13 at The Glen Morris Studio, 4 Glen Morris St., Toronto. 416-533-7710. $8. Call theatre for times and reservations.

Other Fringe shows of note include *Growl Sweetly* by **Evan Brooker**, *The Homunculus Project* by **Alex Posen and Ensemble**, *I Took Your Name* by **Michael Nathanson**, *Maiden Mother Crone* by **Dorothy Lichtblau**, *Stage Directions* by **Israel Horovitz** and *Star* by **Samantha Swan**.

The Fringe Festival offers more than 500 performances at six downtown theatres within walking distance of one another. Ticket prices are $10 or less. Performances run between July 3 and 13. Fringe Hotline, 416-534-5919.

Ivor Dembina

Wilder, Preminger, Leisen, Reed and **Curtiz**.

For calendar phone 416-363-7222 or e-mail [tfs@interlog.com].

• Four senior citizens recall the experience of immigrating to Canada in the 1920s in *Moving Experiences*, a half-hour documentary airing July 1, 7:30 p.m. on Vision TV. One of the contributors is 87-year-old **Frances Levinsky**, who emigrated with her family from Poland to the town of Wiarton, Ont., in 1920. Levinsky now lives in the Baycrest Terrace.

• *Einstein: Light to the Power of 2* is an hour-long TV drama, part of a series on inventors, that tells the story of a black student in a racist white school who meets **Albert Einstein** and enlists his help with mathematics. Family Channel, July 6, 8 p.m. Repeats July 12, 2:10 p.m.; July 24, 8 p.m.; July 28, 1 p.m.

Music, Drama, Dance

• The Toronto Jewish Folk Choir is performing in Ottawa at Festival Canada, a month-long festival of Canadian music sponsored by the National Arts Centre. The choir performs a full programme of traditional Jewish music and modern music on Jewish themes on July 9 at 8 p.m., Tabaret Hall, University of Ottawa.

• Half-price tickets for many Toronto theatrical productions on the day of performance are available from T.O. Tix, 208 Yonge St. 416-536-6468, ext. 1, or 800-541-0499. A service of the Toronto Theatre Alliance.

• Recently **Vi Wolfe** and her great-granddaughter **Chelsea Rubin** danced together in the same show as part of Showcase '97 at the Leah Posluns Theatre. The duo were honored with a special presentation.

• North York Symphony has announced its new season of 11 concerts, beginning Sept. 27 with A Night In Old Vienna. George Weston Recital Hall, Ford Centre. 416- 324-9333.

• The Livent production of *Show Boat*, featuring **Cloris Leachman**, returns to the Ford Centre for six weeks beginning Nov. 22. 416-872-2222.

The Jewish World

• Iron And Star, an exhibition of Jewish Brescia in Renaissance Italy, is on view in the main lobby of the Bathurst Jewish Centre thru July 13. Organized by the Koffler Centre of the Arts. 416-636-1880, ext. 268.

• *A Jewish Radio Magazine* with **Phil Kravetsky** airs Monday to Friday on CJMR, 1320 AM, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

At the Koffler

Buttered Side Up, an exhibition of nine abstract painters from New York and Houston, is being shown at the Koffler Gallery, 4588 Bathurst St., to Aug. 10. The Koffler's Loggia Gallery is featuring Speed Limit, a new site-specific painting installation by Toronto artist **Nestor Kruger**.

Books aid in exploring Europe's nooks and crannies

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

It's that time of the year again: Canadians are flocking to Europe. If you're joining the crowd, try reading the following guidebooks.

Now into its third edition, *Western Europe on a Shoestring* (Raincoast Books, $34.95) is crammed with practical information. It's a book independent travellers on a tight budget should immerse themselves in.

From stylish Barcelona to funky Torremolinos, Spain, as generations of tourists have discovered, is a remarkably beguiling country. *Spain* (Raincoast Books, $28.50) explores the nooks and crannies of this popular destination with panache.

Neighboring Portugal, with its sunny beaches, seaside resorts, wineries and teeming markets, is also a magnet for travellers. *Portugal* (Raincoast Books, $25.50) fills in the details in concise and timely fashion.

France always beckons, whether you're an habitue of cafes, a stroller of elegant streets, an aficionado of museums or a buyer of haute couture. *France* (Raincoast Books, $28.50), which was originally published several years ago, has been updated for your convenience.

Paris, as anyone can attest, is one of the wonders of France. *Paris* (Raincoast Books, $18.50), a pocket-size guide to the City of Lights, sizes it up with aplomb.

If you like to walk, Britain is the place for you, since it's blessed with a web of immaculately maintained coastal, forest and mountain paths. *Walking in Britain* (Raincoast Books, $25.50) is an eminently useful guide on routes, long and short, from the Lake District to the Cotswolds.

On average, a newly-married couple spends $5,000 on a honeymoon. *The Good Honeymoon Guide* (Raincoast Books, $21.95) helps couples make the best of their trip in Europe (or anywhere else in the world). Author Lucy Hone profiles 500 romantic hotels and resorts for a range of budgets. As the ad goes, don't leave home without it.

A knowledge of languages is always useful when you're travelling in Europe. *Western Europe Phrasebook* (Raincoast Books, $9.95) and *Scandinavian Europe Phrasebook* (Raincoast Books, $9.95) fill in the gaps quite nicely.

Israeli airlines to ban smoking

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel's Transport Ministry has decided to ban smoking on Israeli airline flights of less than five hours.

The ban will affect most flights from Israel to Europe.

Similar sanctions are already in effect of flights of less than two hours.

The three Israeli airlines – El Al, Arkia and Sun D'or – have 90 days to respond to the proposal, before it goes into effect for a year-long trial period.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Ultra-upscale couples hotel offers elegance, fun

BY BRAM EISENTHAL
Special to the CJN

NASSAU — Vacationers love to be pampered and are often willing to pay a little extra for that special place where everything is taken care of and the only energy expended is deciding what to wear or what to eat.

One such place is Sandals, the world's only all-inclusive resort for couples.

Starting with one hotel in Montego Bay, Sandals now has 10 hotels in the Caribbean including Jamaica, St. Lucia, Antigua and the Bahamas. The expanding empire also includes two new resorts for singles, couples and families called Beaches.

The flagship of the chain, Sandals Royal Bahamian in Nassau, is the latest addition to the empire. The 196-room (soon to be expanded to 400-room) hotel was a private beach club and more recently the Balmoral Beach Hotel, before it was converted to Sandals last summer. Sandals Royal Bahamian general manager Stephen Ziadie stressed the unique nature of his resort.

"Our product is ultra-upscale in an elegant and fun setting. We don't offer a mass-market club atmosphere and we want to maintain a quality clientele, so, yes, we are more expensive. But the Bahamas are an expensive, exotic destination that more and more travellers are returning to every year."

Here, all-inclusive means all meals, snacks, wine and liquor, transfers to and from the airport, as well as rides to nearby attractions such as the neighboring casino, green fees at nearby Cable Beach Golf Club, SCUBA and snorkeling gear rental and nightly entertainment including musical bands, singers and comedians.

A state-of-the-art workout facility overlooks the Caribbean and a modest assortment of mills, bikes, muscle machines and free weights help keep you in top shape.

A freshwater pool allows for participation in water polo, or merely floating on a raft all day. There are also a waterfall, several outdoor jacuzzis, a misting pool and a swim-up bar with stools.

As well, Sandals' has its own private island, five minutes away by boat. There is little to do on Balmoral Island but experience an idyllic existence.

Here you will find a pool with another swim-up bar, a cafe and another expanse of beach, all reserved for guests.

Water sports and activities have become popular with tourists in recent years. Even first-timers can take part in many activities.

For a special sort of pleasure and the ultimate in personal pampering, however, the spa is the way to go. Prices here are not included in Sandals' all-inclusive deal.

Hydrotherapy, their signature treatment, is quite rare at many other spas, due to the price of the state-of-the-art Hydrotherm unit. Swedish massage is also popular; an average of 20 to 30 are administered daily by the eight masseurs and masseuses on staff. All are certified, but only one can be considered a legend: Charles Hubert Bowleg.

Bowleg is 71 and you know he has the key to the fountain of youth. He received his training in the United States 47 years ago and he has been a leading masseur in the Bahamas ever since.

The best time for a massage, he says, is at night before bed, as sleep comes easily after his manipulations.

"Massage aids circulation, relaxes the body and gets the kinks out of tight muscles," Bowleg says. "It is great for stress. I recommend two per week minimum instead of medication." Bowleg has massaged many celebrities over the years, including Sidney Poitier, Merv Griffin, Ronald Reagan Brian Mulroney.

For those contemplating tying the knot, Sandals' Weddingmoon program takes care of every detail of your event. The only legal requirement, is that you spend at least 24 hours in the Bahamas prior to "the big day."

Whether newlywed or wedded veteran, however, this is the ultimate spot to rediscover what being a couple is all about.

Poolside relaxation at Sandals.

Kayaking and other such activities are included in the price.

Jerusalem firm launches Internet multimedia experience over Internet

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A local company launched a "Virtual Community of Tomorrow," offering CD-ROM quality multimedia experiences over the Internet in the user-friendly format of a "theme park" with pavilions.

Community Network Systems, part of the Net Results holding company in the capital's Talpiot industrial zone, offers the multimedia Funk & Wagnalls Encyclopedia – which includes a games arcade, cooking classes, chat groups, medical advice from Johns Hopkins University, movies, concert halls, shopping, the Reuter news center, museum visits and more on VCOT.

The services are now all in English and aimed at Internet users worldwide, but the intention is to start a Hebrew-language service suited to Israelis within a year, using the services of Virtual Jerusalem, of which Net Results owns a part.

The service (via www.VCOT.com) is free during its initial launch and then, starting this fall, will cost $29.95 a year for its basic package (cooking classes, for example, will cost an additional fee).

El Al to be sold on stock exchange?

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

A committee set up to examine privatizing Israel's national carrier, El Al, has recommended that 100 percent of the airline's capital be sold on the Tel Aviv stock exchange in 1998.

The committee recommended that all the stocks be sold at once in stocks and warrants. It rejected the prospect of trying to sell the airline to a strategic investor, out of concern the airline's heavy losses would prevent it from fetching a good price.

One of the obstacles to privatization, a ban on flying of Shabbat, was dealt with in the committee's report, which said the airline should be allowed to fly on Shabbat, as long as it does not increase the overall air traffic on this day.

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Living wills help families face medical dilemmas

Trying to relieve loved ones' burden of making painful decisions

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The goal of making what is known as a living will is "to help people face death in the context of their families," asserts Dr. Peter Singer, director of the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics.

Singer was speaking at a recent symposium on Controversies in Medical Ethics: Jewish and Secular Perspectives, sponsored by the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, through the Fay Florence Grobin Memorial Fund.

Singer quoted the findings of a doctoral research project, which aimed to discover why attempts to get people to prepare living wills had failed, no matter how hard social workers, nurses and doctors had tried to encourage it.

The study showed that the attempts failed "because the focus was on the health-care provider, rather than recognizing that these kinds of decisions really take place in the living room, in informal discussions between family members."

As well, he said, professionals had assumed that people wanted to prepare these documents to ensure that their wishes were carried out, to prepare for their incapacity, and to set out the doctor/patient relationship.

In fact, he said, the study showed that while patients did indeed want to maintain some control, one of their main concerns was to relieve the burden on their loved ones of making painful decisions and maintaining a prolonged death watch.

"They viewed the process of making a living will as a way of preparing for death, and the final document often didn't involve doctors, nurses or lawyers at all.

He suggested that health care and legal staff "should get out of the way, and support the families in their discussions and planning, rather than issuing directives."

Issues dealt with in living wills, or advance directives as they are often called, may include such matters as tube feeding, use of a respirator, cardio-pulmonary rescuscitation, surgery, transfusion, use of antibiotics, dialysis, and even providing food and liquid when a person becomes incapable of making such decisions himself.

The living will should also appoint someone to make those decisions for the patient if he becomes incompetent. That person may be an attorney, a spouse or partner, a child, a parent, a brother or sister, any other relative, or the provincial guardian. Provincial law directs that a hierarchy be observed — a spouse has the strongest right to make those decisions over a child, but a child has rights before a brother or sister.

It is assumed, Singer said, that these decisions will be made, not only in the best interests of the patient, but in accord with values he held when he was well.

Dr. Michael Gordon, vice president, medical services, at Baycrest, and a professor of medicine at the University of Toronto, and the program chair, added that a distinction often must be drawn between what a patient wants and what the family wants.

"You have to understand their wants in the context of their life," he said. "For instance, a Holocaust survivor, might value survival at any cost.

As well, he said, it is not unusual to go through the whole process of creating an advanced directive, and then be told by the patient "ask my daughter, even if her opinion is different from mine."

Singer also announced that as of July 1, Baycrest will be fully connected to the Joint Bioethics Centre.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I am trying to get more fibre in my diet, but am getting tired of bran cereals. Where else can I find fibre?
A. There are a lot of other fabulous sources of fibre. Try baked beans, figs, prunes, almonds, peanuts, corn, popped corn, peas, spinach, dried apricots, raisins, raspberries, whole wheat bread and legumes or lentils. These should help to add some variety to your diet along with a healthy helping of fibre.
Q. Can you settle an argument please. Are certain lettuces more full of vitamins than others?
A. Yes! Use the lettuces that are darker green to get more vitamins per mouthful. Romaine lettuce has four times as much Vitamin C and beta carotene as iceberg lettuce, as well as twice the folic acid. Also try dark greens like, spinach, arugula and watercress.
Q. My baby is only 2½ months old but has a very hearty appetite. Is it too soon to introduce infant cereals?
A. Infant cereals should not be started until about four months of age. At that time, babies are physically more able to handle the cereal in terms of their swallowing capabilities, ability to manoeuvre the cereal in their mouth and ability to sit and hold their heads. Also until that time, babies' digestive systems are really not mature enough to handle cereal and will not be able to digest it properly; they will therefore not benefit nutritionally. Wait until four months or until your child's doctor advises you to start.
Q. I have a 6-week-old baby. At what age do I need to switch to an infant formula with iron?
A. By four months, you should switch your baby to an infant formula with iron.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

VOLUNTEERS HONORED

Mayor Mel Lastman congratulates volunteers at Baycrest Centre at a recent appreciation dinner. Joann Calma (left), president of the Baycrest Teen Council, accepted a cheque for $2,000 from the Toronto Raptors Basketball Club to support Baycrest's Volunteen Summer Program, along with a signed Raptor's ball. Jackie Lipman (right) received the first William Kagan Youth Award, established by the Kagan family, which acknowledges outstanding achievement by young Baycrest volunteers.

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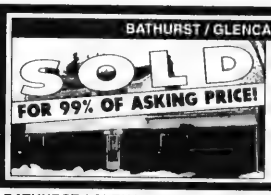

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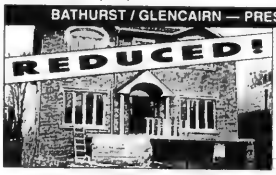

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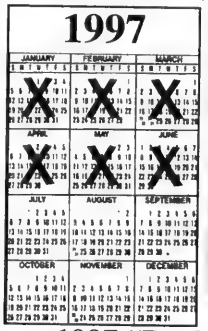

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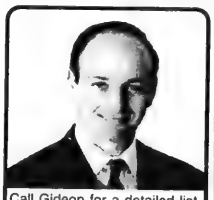

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112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

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115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

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258 HEALTHCARE

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Re: Mayfair West Ad. To person who called out of curiousity. You won't be bothering me if you call before 11 p.m. Our last talk had potential. Philip 638-6783.

270 PERSONALS

SPOT WANTS A WALK
Are you a young couple with a dog interested in meeting others for sociable group dog walks in the park. Meets weekly. Call (416) 545-0425.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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Attr. tall male,fin. secure, seeks special relationship with woman late 20's - late 30's. 633-1728.

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Easy to get along with, male, with a great sense of humour, loves to be with people, always with a smile & sense of humour, looking for the right gal. Must enjoy long leisurely strolls along the lake, casinos, music & dining out, for a serious long-term relationship. CJN Box 6930.

Single, prof. gentleman, 45, 160 lbs., 5 ft. 8 in. seeks female, 35-43, slim, petite, no dependents. Spontaneity & sense of humour a must for a serious relationship. CJN Box 6935.

Active senior lady would like to meet a gentleman to spend summer, and the winter at my condo in Flda. CJN Box 6934

Male looking for lady mid 40's for dinner/dancing, riding Rolls Royce and... CJN Box 6933

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:
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The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

330 OBITUARIES

KATS, Marko - on June 14, 1997, late of 1 Canyon Ave.
ROY, Mary - on June 14, 1997.
STUMMER, Maximilian - on June 14, 1997, late of 38 Greyhound Dr.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

MILLER, Pierrette - on May 9, 1997.
HERSHENHORN, Francis - on May 11, 1997.
LANDAU, Helene - on May 14, 1997.
FISHMAN, Gean - on May 23, 1997.
STRUM, Abe - on May 31, 1997.

The Simple Alternative

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Goodman Zinberg. Stan and Elisa and big sister Dana are proud to announce the birth of their beautiful son, Cole Adam, born on June 2nd, 1997. Weighing 8 lbs. 1 oz. Thrilled Bubies and Zaidys, Arthur and Charlotte Goodman and Percy and Rose Zinberg. 8th great grandchild for Molly Goodman.

Mazel Tov
ALAN and ESTHER TURNER
are delighted to announce
the engagement of their son
JONATHAN
to
MICHELLE
daughter of
MADELAINE and STEVEN GORJUP

330 OBITUARIES

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Israel Cancer Research Fund
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Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of Donna and Alan Newton

MERSHEIN, Irving Israel - on June 9, 1997.
BRAUNER, Israel - on June 12, 1997, late of 33 Wilmington Ave.
COHEN, Roy - on June 12, 1997.
PAPIER, Bella - on June 12, 1997, late of 370 Ridelle Ave.
BELLACK, Dave - on June 13, 1997, late of 599 Danforth Rd.
STROM, Anne - on June 13, 1997, late of 52 Montressor Dr.
SUGAR, Sam - on June 13, 1997, late of 10 Senlac Rd.
WAJSFUS, Claire- on June 13, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KALNITZSKY, Mary - on June 14, 1997, late of 550 Cummer Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

FRIEDMAN, Nucham - on June 6, 1997, late of 625 Bedford Park Ave.
CADESKY, Maurice - on June 7, 1997, late of 10 Prue Ave., #501.
WUCHER, Sam - on June 7, 1997, late of 2 Lilywood Rd.
BANK, Sam (Shloime) - on June 9, 1997, late of 16 Menin Rd.
HELLER, Louis - on June 10, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
DUNKELMAN, Benjamin - on June 11, 1997, late of 1166 Bay St., #802.
ROSEN, Henry - on June 11, 1997, late of 1643 Bathurst St., #103
DONNENFIELD, George - on June 12, 1997, late of 642 Sheppard Ave. E., #1911.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MARY AWRONSKI ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 29th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Centre Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYLVIA PLANT ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 29th, 12:30 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Workman's Circle Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Harry and Lena Cutler ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 29th, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie Dr.
Community Section DD Row E-31
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Faiga Rosenblum ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 6 12:30 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
(Wilson West of Dufferin)
T.I.B.A. Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
REGINA FISCHER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 29th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
James H. *(Jimmy)* Silverberg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 29th, 11:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
YMHA Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Bella Morgenstern ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 29th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ROSE SPEISMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 29th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst St., South of Steeles
Adath Israel North Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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The Maccabiah in Israel — let the games begin

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — After years of preparation, organization and selection, it's time to get down to competition.

On July 9, 250 of Canada's best Jewish athletes will board an El Al charter and wing their way to the Holy Land to participate in the 15th Maccabiah Games.

The '97 squad is Canada's largest to date and perhaps most talented. With the inclusion of hockey for the first time in the Games' history, some of Canada's best Jewish athletes, including professionals, have been given the opportunity to compete.

In addition to the puck-chasers, Canada will be represented by top teams in men's softball, winners of the gold medal last time out, in basketball, squash, weightlifting, bowling, karate, tennis, swimming, judo and taekwon-do. Altogether, Canadians will compete in 35 of the 43 recognized sports that will be featured at the games, with many taking part in unofficial events like falafel-eating and the beachside vodka clinics.

Although the Canadian team is the largest yet, they're a modest proportion of the total athlete participation. Altogether, 6,000 sportsmen and women from more than 50 countries are expected to attend the games, making them one of the largest international sporting events in the world. An estimated 50,000 to 60,000 spectators will cheer the athletes when they march into Ramat Gan Stadium for the opening ceremonies on July 14, which kick off the 10-day Games.

From there, the Canadian athletes will disperse to half a dozen cities where they will be lodged during the competition.

The hockey and rugby teams, both with 23 athletes, are the largest single groups of athletes in the Canadian contingent, while lone athletes will represent Canada in badminton (Laura Lande, a Quebecer) and in table tennis (Andrew Giblon of Toronto). The beach volleyball team is not much larger, consisting of Dan Padva of Alberta and Jack Serlin of British Columbia.

Canada will send a 12-athlete bowling team to the games, headed by Lisa Abush, who'll be participating in her third Maccabiah. Abush recently bowled a 300 game in a competition in Peterborough, points out Bob Guest, a Toronto-based member of Maccabi Canada's national athletic committee.

The wrestling team includes two nationally-ranked grapplers — Andrew Borodow and Oleg Ladik of Montreal — who represented Canada at the Olympic Games in Atlanta last year.

Nineteen-eighty-four Olympic silver medalist Mark Berger of Winnipeg will coach the judo team, which includes his daughter Olia.

The softball team, which beat the Americans for gold at the '93 games after two consecutive silver medal finishes, will have the three Green brothers on board, Bob, Mark and Rick. Bob played on the world fastball champion Gators.

The tennis team consists of six men and four women along with four junior boys and two junior girls, while the swimming team includes nine men, four women, three junior boys and two junior girls. The team should be of very high calibre, Guest said, since to make the cut, swimmers had to equal or better the bronze medal times from the '93 games.

Also on the team are top-ranked karate fighter Susan Adaskin of Toronto and national junior squash champion Greg Hutner of Toronto.

Three disabled athletes made the team, Nissim Louis of Montreal, Daniel Heuman from Ontario and Steven Pollack from British Columbia.

Making its first appearance at the games will be women's basketball.

The Maccabi Canada contingent includes 36 coaches, 13 medical personnel and 12 members of the Maccabi Canada administration. The 430-seat El Al charter is completely sold out, as friends and relatives bought up the remaining seats, Guest said.

Unlike the situation in the 1980s when the team was fully subsidized, athletes are being asked to pony up $1,500 of the $5,000 per athlete cost of sending them to Israel. Athletes and teams embarked on fundraising ventures, with some more successful than others. The hockey team exceeded its goal of $200,000 while the woman's basketball team was still short of its funding as of last week, though Guest believed they would meet their goal. Men's rugby likewise was scrambling to raise enough money, he added.

None of the masters athletes (35 and older) will be subsidized, Guest added.

While the inclusion of a woman's basketball team has raised the number of women on the Canadian team, Guest acknowledged that increasing female participation fell short of organizers' goals.

"From the beginning of our four-year term, we had a mandate to increase the number of women, but there just don't appear to be as many competing at that high a level," he said.

A recent posting on Maccabi Canada's Internet site listed 175 male athletes and 17 boys compared to 38 women and nine girls.

For many sportsmen and women, the Maccabiah affords their only opportunity to visit Israel. "We present it as an opportunity to represent your country at an international competition that includes Jews from all over the world," he said. "It combines sport with cultural and religious programming. Kids who have been there before froth at the mouth for the opportunity to go again."

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	T	O	M	S		J	A	M		H	A	R	P	S
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NUMBER _____
EXPIRY DATE _____
TELEPHONE NO. _____

The USDS Warriors are all smiles after winning the basketball title in the Jewish Day School League. Seen here, bottom row, from left: Lynne Gordon, Laura Bercuson, Alanna Hager, Jennifer Rudnick, Pamela Klein and Rachelle Lieberman. Top row, from left: Jordana Gold, Amanda Suchter, Alisa Newman, Julie Berkowitz, Jaclyn Wolfman and Rena Appelton.

USDS girls win hoops title

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The mantlepiece at USDS Bayview just got a little more crowded with championship trophies as a result of the triumph of the girls' basketball team in the Jewish Day School Basketball League.

The USDS Warriors defeated Bialik 26-17 in the championship game, giving the school a clean sweep in three inter-school competitions over the past season.

In mid-winter, the boys hockey team captured the Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Hockey Tournament for the second consecutive year, while the boys basketball team went undefeated to capture the day school boys basketball championship. Now it was the turn of the girls, who capped off a 14-1 season with the title win.

USDS competes in a day school league that includes teams from Bialik, Leo Baeck, Netivot Hatorah, USDS Bathurst and teams from Associated's Leslie and Finch branches.

USDS Bayview squeaked by Associated's Finch team in the semi-final before meeting Bialik in the championship game.

"The girls are beginning to play fabulous basketball and the games are getting close," said Barbara Tweyman, vice-principal at USDS Bayview.

While the 6-year-old league promotes good athletic competition, its main raison d'être is its role in enhancing school spirit and camaraderie. It also helps create friendship among students at various day schools, Tweyman said.

"Sport is alive and well and flourishing at the day schools," she said.

The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

נביא מאת: שולמית הראבן

לפני כעשר שנים כתבה שולמית הראבן נובלה פוליטית שמשמעותה האקטואלית ארוכת-ימים.

הסיפור נביא מעורר אסוציאציה מיידית עם תולדות כיבוש הארץ, ככתוב בספר יהושע, פרק ט'. אך אין מדובר בקורות המצור והכיבוש אלא .במאבק להגשמה ומימוש התרבות המונותאיסטית.

השתלשלות הארועים בנביא מביאה באחריתה לנצחון תרבות העברים. העלילה מתמקדת סביב דמות הנביא, חיואי, שהוא גיבור יצירתה של הראבן. עד שפגש בעברים, חיואי היה חי בקרב הגבעונים ותרבותם האלילית. בגבעון לא היה שמץ מהרוחניות. מעלות החן והחסד לא נודעו בכלל. לנוכח השמועה בדבר המצור והעברים הקרבים לעיר, משתלט בגבעון פחד אימתני. "איש לא הילך ברחובות בלילה מפחד האוייב... בבתים עמד זעם. אשה תפסה מדקרה והרגה את פרת שכנתה... אדם עשה שפטים באחיו..."

אצל הגבעונים האכזריות בכל. גילוי-הערויות נפוץ (גם במשפחת חיואי) וכולם, מגדול ועד קטן, שותפים למערכת חיים של חמס, ביזה ורצח. נבואתו האלילית של חיואי היא נבואת שקר ומהולה בשכרון, סמים ושפיכת דם ילדים.

שונה היא חברת העברים שבה אין החיים הפקר ובה נהוגים כללי המוסר והצדק ומעל לכל הדאגה לילדים. וכך מבקשת הסופרת להעיד, שטיבה האמיתי של חברה נמדד ביחסה לילדיה. בגבעון הילדים עושים את אותם מעשי זוועה שהמבוגרים מעוללים בהם. בסופו של סיפור, במפגשו הראשון של חיואי עם ילדי העברים (כשהוא בשליחות הגבעונים בנסיון להוליך את העברים שולל) תחל לידתו מחדש. למראה ילדי העברים, תמימותם וצחוקם "בלי שמץ פחד" מזדעזעת נפשו של חיואי.

קשה היא דרכו החדשה של חיואי. אשה עבריה, מרית, תלמדו שאם לא נתן "חוק ומשפט בעמו (בגבעון) לא נביא ולא בן נביא הוא." הוא שהיה רגיל ברצח ילדים לצרכי פולחן אלילי והוא שהיתה דרכו בזנות וגניבות נדרש בהתמודדות עם חוקי מוסר נשגבים.

בתחילה הוא משנן את לשון העברים, "מלה אחרי מלה כמו חוצב באבן". אחר-כך יפסה למצוא מענה לשאלות הרבות המתעוררות בנתיבו החדש. את אלוהי העברים אינו רואה והוא תוהה "הבקול איש ידבר אם בקול אשה". היאמין לעברים שאין דמות ואין גוף וצלם לאלוהים? ולא ראה אותו אדם וחי, אולי רק משה לבדו.

ואז, והוא עודנו צועד לראשונה בדרכי התרבות המונותאיסטית, הועמד חיואי במבחן משמעותי; בדרכו מזדמן ילד פרא, שלשונו כרותה ושברעבונו גנב דגים מחיואי. בהתקף של זעם, תפס חיואי את הילד וכמעט חנק את הנגב הקטן, חסר הישע שאינו מדובב בשל לשונו הכרותה.

חיואי עומד במבחן, משחרר את הילד, מקרבו אליו ומעתה ידאג לו כאב לבנו. ואף שם קרא לו: גושע. ובמתן השם, מתגלה סודו האפל של חיואי והוא זוכר את מה שהודחק אצלו שנים רבות; השם גושע "הלא שם אחיו הוא זה, אחיו הילד אשר הועלה קורבן במקדש גבעון."

תמה דרכו החשוכה של הנביא הזקן והחלה מתבהרת מוכנותו הנפשית לאמץ את צדקת האמת האלוהית. וכך הציל חיואי את נפשו ואת חיי הילד גושע ו"אולי לשנה הזאת, ייקח את הקנים הטובים ויעשה לשניהם חלילים."

שולמית הראבן נבחרה באחרונה על-ידי השבועון הצרפתי ל"אקספרס" לאחת ממאה הנשים המשפיעות ביותר בעולם. נביא הוא ספרה ה-12. לאחרונה פרסמה את אוצר המלים של השלום.

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6 filo leaves
8 - 10 bananas
1/3 - 1/2 cup white sugar
cinnamon
1/2 cup plain bread crumbs
lemon juice
melted butter

Peel, thinly slice bananas and sprinkle completely with lemon juice. Place 1 filo leaf on flat surface and brush lightly with melted butter. Working quickly, repeat 5 more times, adding each filo leaf on top of the other.

Place bananas on one end of dough. Sprinkle sugar and cinnamon on top of bananas. Sprinkle plenty of sugar and some bread crumbs over the exposed dough. Roll up carefully and fold ends under.

Brush melted butter on top and sprinkle with a little sugar. Place in a greased pan. Mark with a knife at 2" intervals. Bake at 300°F approx. 45 minutes.

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About families

Dear Susan,

I am currently planning our firstborn's wedding. My husband and I had a tumultuous divorce 20 years ago. Money was a major source of friction.

My son's bar mitzvah was hell on wheels because of our inability to resolve old hurts. As my daughter's wedding approaches I find myself anxious about another recurrence of the heartache we suffered during my son's bar mitzvah.

Dear Reader,

Thank you for sharing your grief in such a candid fashion. It is clear that you and your ex have some homework to do in order to overcome your indifference and ensure a pleasant simchah.

You might consider mediation in order to resolve the issues that were not worked through when you initially became separated and divorced. You should reflect on your son's bar mitzvah and what went wrong. As parents you should make amends to your son for spoiling his day due to your inability to quash marital squabbles.

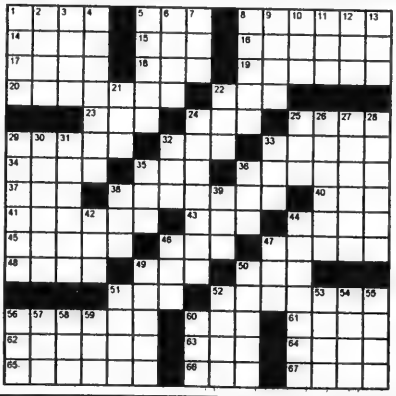
As a family discuss how you could have rewritten the script in order to ensure a pleasant bar mitzvah.

On the cusp of your daughter's simchah you have the opportunity to rewrite a wrong and recast the die. As one historian said you are only stupid if you make the same mistake twice. Make sure you redeem yourselves as parents who are less self-absorbed and more concerned about the situation at hand – your daughter and son-in-law's day. Be well and behave.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Actor Lee J.
5. Sopher need?
8. Female Yid
14. Israeli city
15. Ark's rear
16. Noah's landing pad
17. Dreidel letter
18. Lillian Florence Hellman
19. Israeli mesa?
20. Cave dwelling sect?
22. It is, to Bialik
23. Make the Latkes?
24. Landon role
25. "Can we __?", Joan Rivers
29. Foodbag?
32. Wages
33. Pray (Yid)
34. Hebrew letter
35. Tal hope
36. Poet
37. Aisle
38. Ishmael progeny
40. 504
41. Stern and Asimov
43. Jewish Org.
44. Tekiah or Teruah
45. Uncle Miltie
46. Switch positons
47. Roasted on Pesach
48. Amens
49. That woman
50. Art Shamsky stat
51. Torah breastplate
52. Moses' bush
56. Golfer Herman
60. American Mossad?
61. Purim month
62. "The Brain" __ Rothstein
63. Fiedler to friends
64. Schnazz (Eng)
65. Like the Passover Angel
66. Israeli dreidel letter
67. Kill biblically

Down

1. Kunstler account
2. NY Times owner
3. Eighth day event
4. Charity event
5. CBS exec
6. Fays (Eng.)
7. Last degree
8. Actor Curtis
9. Roman and Messianic
10. Existed
11. Bo Belinsky stat
12. Shiva mood
13. Depot (abbr)
21. Political Party
22. Chatchka (Eng)
24. "__ of an ass", Samson's tool
25. Prayer for dew
26. Photographer Richard
27. Israel's progeny
28. Tools for the Mohel
29. Sopher (Eng)
30. "The__" (Potok)
31. Dreidel gelt
32. Not on Pesach?
33. Bilhah's boy
35. Salk and Sabin
36. Yarmulke
38. Canasta card
39. Taxmen
42. Rosen and Jolson
44. Lear and Marie
46. Dotted vavs?
47. Gottex suit top
49. Koufax
50. Eilat, old style
51. Fee
52. Moses' bush
53. Stolen from Laban
54. Resnik's org.
55. "Cabaret", Joel
56. Hamen or Amalek
57. Exist
58. Tay-Sachs carrier
59. Actor Steiger
60. Kippah (Eng)

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 42.)

Prices Effective from
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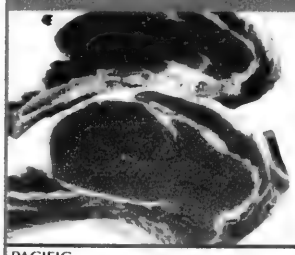
Sat. June 28, 1997

HIGHLAND FARMS

Come see what you're missing



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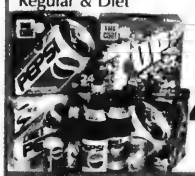

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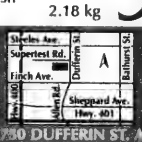

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

System that enforces human rights has "broken down," professor tells conference. *Page 3*

Kevin Forster takes part in the fourth annual Baycrest bikathon. *Page 5*

Former students of South African Jewish day schools reunite in Thornhill. *Page 17*

Business

Sid Katz, new chief executive officer of Ontario Science Centre. *Profile.* *Page 37*

Arts

Joel Strauss, former weightlifter, turns his strength over to art. *Page 41*

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
Just Between Us 19
On Campus 21
What's New 22
Coast to Coast 24
International 27
Health 31
Travel, Arts & Business 34
Classified 38
Sports 42
Ask Lisa 43
Crossword 43

Shabbat: Korach
Candlelighting: 8:43
Sivan 29, 5757
Havdalah: 9:48

War crimes cases heard

Supreme Court to decide whether to throw out cases

BY PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Lawyers for three alleged Nazi war criminals facing loss of citizenship were given a rough ride by the Supreme Court of Canada last week, as justices questioned their contention that the cases should be stayed.

Several judges agreed that a meeting between a senior Justice Department official and the Chief Justice of the Federal Court was wrong, but they wondered whether bringing the cases to a halt was the only available remedy.

Lawyer Donald Bayne, representing alleged war criminal Johann Dueck, said the integrity of the court was in question. The conduct was so egregious and the repercussions so vast that a stay of proceeding would be the only appropriate recourse.

Continued on page 20

TREE PLANTING NEAR MORAG
Israeli soldiers guard settlers as they plant trees around the Israeli flag near the community of Morag in the Gaza Strip. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

SALUTE TO THE 15TH MACCABIAH
The Israel Postal Authority will release this stamp next week to honor the upcoming 15th Maccabiah games that begin in Israel on July 14. *[Igal Gabay stamp designer]*

Community divided over Pol Pot trial in Canada

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Leading Jewish spokespersons on the war crimes issue are divided over whether Canada should prosecute former Cambodian dictator Pol Pot for crimes against humanity.

While they agree that Pol Pot ought to be brought to justice, two believed the international community should bring him to trial, while two others thought Canada would be a better venue for a criminal prosecution of the Cambodian strongman.

"I think it ought to be the position of the Jewish community that everything that could be done to bring this man to justice should be done," said York University professor Irving Abella.

"I don't think we should be looking for excuses not to bring him to Canada," he said.

Winnipeg lawyer David Matas said, "I'm in favor of Canada accepting the call" to prosecute Pol Pot, but first Canada's war crimes legislation must be amended to remove defences that stymied a successful prosecution of alleged Hungarian war criminal Imre Finta.

The question of prosecuting Pol Pot arose last week, when U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright asked Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy at the Denver Summit of Eight to consider extraditing the former Cambodian leader.

Axworthy later told a conference of human rights expert in Toronto that Canada "ought to consider applying the laws to Pol Pot," *The CJN*'s Ron Csillag reports.

Pol Pot led the mid-1970s communist government that killed an estimated two million Cambodians. Recent reports from Cambodia

Continued on page 20

INSIDE

Human Rights, Judaism and the law: a personal account.
Please see page 9.

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Jews must make peace with one another: Netanyahu — please see page 27

The News in Brief

CANADA

Ambulance Donated

TORONTO — Magen David Adom for Israel received a new ambulance from the Izzy and Betty Kirshenbaum Foundation last month at Adath Israel Synagogue.

Besides the Kirshenbaums, guests included Art Eggleton, federal minister of defence; Elinor Caplan, MP for Thornhill; Monte Kwinter, MPP for Wilson Heights; North York Councillor Mike Feldman; Miri Gur, from the aliyah office; Rabbi Steven Saltzman; Alan Spector, president of Toronto CMDA; Yegal Rosen, ambulance chair; and Justice Alfred Segal, a member of the national board of CMDA from Montreal.

Ontario Appointments

TORONTO — Sharon Rosenfeldt was recently named chair of the Ontario Criminal Injuries Compensation Board and Linda Abrams was named as vice-chair.

Rosenfeldt is president of Victims of Violence Canadian Centre for Missing Children and vice-president of the Canadian Police Association's Resource Centre for Victims of Violent Crime. Abrams, a litigation lawyer, has been a member of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board since 1994.

Award for Mount Sinai

WINNIPEG — The Foundations for Life Gift Planning Program for the Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation recently won top honors at the Association for Health Care Philanthropy of Canada's annual conference.

The award is one of seven categories presented to development professionals and their organizations who have shown outstanding achievement in the fundraising field within the health care industry.

ISRAEL

Soldier's Memorial

JERUSALEM — Israel is considering moving a soldier's memorial after acknowledging that it was erected on Palestinian land in the Gaza Strip.

The soldier, Yehuda Levy, was killed by Palestinian sniper fire during riots in September that were sparked by the opening of a second entrance to an archeological tunnel in Jerusalem.

The erection of the memorial at the Gush Katif intersection in Gaza sparked tensions between Jewish settlers and Palestinians earlier this month. Palestinians said the memorial should be removed because it was on Palestinian land.

WORLD

Pipe Bomb

NEW YORK — A man who planted a bomb at a Florida synagogue where Shimon Peres was scheduled to speak has been sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Harry Shapiro, 31, planted a pipe bomb in February in the Jacksonville Jewish Centre, a Conservative synagogue, in the hopes of preventing a speech by the former Israeli prime minister.

Swiss Probe

BUENOS AIRES — The Swiss government has decided to investigate the immediate post-World War II relationship between Argentina and alleged Nazi war criminals.

Nazi Memorial Reopens

MOSCOW — A monument to the Russian victims of Nazi genocide reopened last week on the 56th anniversary of the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union.

The monument, which bears a Hebrew inscription, is located at Poklonnaya Gora, the state complex in Moscow that honors Russia's sacrifices in World War II.

Tolerance Urged

VENICE — The leader of Italy's Jewish community and the mayor of Venice urged last week that the Jewish experience be used to help combat increasing racism and intolerance in Italy.

The president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, Tullia Zevi, and Venice Mayor Massimo Cacciari spoke at the opening ceremony of the canal city's second International Festival of Jewish Culture.

The festival included concerts, performances, exhibitions and lectures, as well as guided tours of Venice's 600-year-old Jewish cemetery and the historic ghetto that is the heart of Jewish life in the city.

Essay Contest Winner

NEW YORK — A second year rabbinic ordination student at Yeshiva University's (YU) affiliated Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary has won the top prize in the institution's annual Imrei Shefer Essay Contest.

Solomon Kapustin of Willowdale, Ont., a 1996 graduate of YU's Yeshiva College who also completed the university's Yeshiva Program/Mazer School of Talmudic Studies prior to entering RIETS, won the $1,500 first prize for his essay *Gentiles, Their Gods, and the Color Red.*

Citizenship Revoked

WASHINGTON — A U.S. District Court in Hammond, Ind., has revoked the citizenship of Kazys Ciurinskas, an Indiana man who served in a Nazi-sponsored mobile killing unit that murdered thousands of Jews and other in Lithuania and Byelorussia (now Belarus).

Judge James Moody found that Ciurinskas, 79, served in the 2nd Lithuanian Schutzmannschaft Battalion which, in October 1941 alone, participated in massacres of 10,000 civilians in Byelorussia.

The CJN wins two Rockower Awards

WASHINGTON, D.C. — *The Canadian Jewish News* received two Simon Rockower Awards for Excellence in Jewish Journalism this year at the American Jewish Press Association's annual conference.

The paper placed second in the Excellence in Editorial Writing category for its piece on "Policy and Myth" and received an honorable mention in the Excellence in Special Sections or Supplements for its rabbinic writings on Pirkei Avot.

The Rockower Awards were established in 1980. The contest provides Jewish publications with incentive to improve the quality of Jewish journalism.

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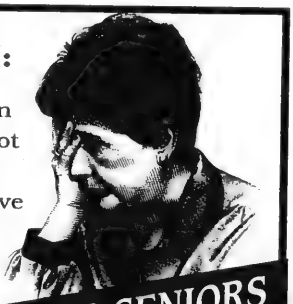

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The Canadian Jewish news

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 11 (2,857)

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IMP - Israel Advertising Representatives
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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,711 copies.
Average net paid circulation per issue: 45,109 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997.

SUBSCRIPTIONS
Canada: $29.95, 1 yr. incl. GST. $54.95, 2 yr. incl. GST.
U.S.A.: $60 U.S funds, 1 yr.
All other countries: $75 U.S. funds, 1 yr.

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Human rights enforcement called difficult

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Getting the world's nations to sign treaties on human rights is relatively easy. Getting them to live up to those treaties is another matter.

In fact, the system that enforces the honoring of global human rights agreements has "broken down," Prof. Anne Bayefsky of York University told the conclusion of a three-day conference here last week.

Nearly 60 academics and human rights experts from around the world gathered to brainstorm on how to improve enforcement of signed treaties on basic civil, political and social rights, and how to deal with the rogue nations that often ignore them.

Israel was well represented at the conference, with three delegates: Judith Karp, the country's deputy attorney general and a member of the United Nations' Committee on the Rights of the Child; Prof. David Kretzmer, a member of the UN's Human Rights Committee and director of the Centre for Human Rights at Hebrew University's law faculty; and women's rights activist Carmel Shalev of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel.

Also on hand for the closing session was Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, who said Canada "ought to consider" applying its laws on war crimes, enacted mainly to pursue alleged Nazis, against former Cambodian dictator Pol Pot, rumored captured by his former Khmer Rouge allies. (See related story, page 1.)

The United States has asked Canada to consider extraditing the former despot blamed for the deaths of some two million Cambodians during his reign of terror in the 1970s.

Canada, Axworthy said, is one of only a few countries to provide for war crimes trials for offenses committed outside its borders.

The conference focused on getting six key treaties enforced uniformly around the world. They deal with race, the rights of children, eliminating discrimination against women, wiping out torture, civil and political rights, and economic, social and cultural rights. Each area is represented at the UN as a distinct body. Committees hear reports every four or five years from individual countries on how they are faring in each category.

Canada and Israel are signatories to all six. Every country in the world has ratified at least one of the treaties.

Bayefsky, director of York University's Centre for Refugee Studies and a human rights expert, cited some troubling numbers about the state of human rights in the world: Ninety-five countries have five or more overdue reports and one-third of ratifying nations have never submitted a single report; the treaty calling for the banning of torture is the least ratified of the six, with half the UN membership not signed on; and the UN has not received complaints from individual citizens of 40 percent of the world's nations.

On the plus side, three-quarters of UN member states have ratified at least five of the treaties.

Predictably, nations with the poorest reporting have the worst human rights records. They include Lebanon, Somalia, Libya and Afghanistan.

Bayefsky did not let the UN off the hook. She decried the backlog of cases and the short shrift reports are often given. She said the whole system of implementation and reporting is in danger of losing its credibility.

She issued a well-received list of 131 suggestions on how to revitalize implementation and reporting, including the establishment of an international court of human rights and the need for follow-up with countries with poor records.

In past conferences on human rights, Israel has been invariably targeted through calls for exceptional reports, which means asking a country to issue a report on a specific area or issue at any given time.

Bayefsky's suggestions include refraining from requesting exceptional reports.

Her ideas will be forwarded to the UN and to Canada's Foreign Affairs and Justice departments.

* * *

In interviews with *The CJN*, the Israeli delegates painted an optimistic picture of human rights advancements in Israel.

Shalev said women have made enormous strides in Israel but still have a long way to go.

The biggest obstacle for women continues to be in the areas of marriage and family relations, she said. That's because marriage and divorce are governed solely by religious law. There is no civil divorce in Israel.

The country has no comprehensive bill of rights mainly because of the clash between religious and secular laws, she said.

Besides marriage, Israeli women, Shalev said, are focusing efforts on several key areas: under-representation in the political arena, unequal share of economic power, domestic violence and inequality in the military.

Kretzmer sits on the UN committee that will consider a complaint from a Toronto parent that Ontario's system of funding Catholic schools, but not Jewish ones, is discriminatory. The complaint was filed at the UN by Arieh Waldman last year, before Canada's Supreme Court ruled that Ontario is not obliged to fund all religious-based schools.

Kretzmer said he could not discuss the case, but said it could take several years before it is heard. Although UN decisions on human rights violations are not legally binding, they often influence countries to change their laws, he noted.

Karp, an expert on children's rights, said the treaty dealing with children has been ratified by all but two countries: Somalia and the United States.

The agreement calls for the outlawing of exploitation of children. Karp said the "real problem" is getting countries to honor it.

ROSES FOR ROSE

Retiring University of Toronto Chancellor Rose Wolfe holds yellow roses presented to her by each of the 250 graduates at the recent convocation of the university's medical school. It was the last convocation ceremony for Wolfe, who's stepping down from the post after serving two terms. [Steve Frost photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Volunteerism a hallmark of democracy

Last week in this space, I wrote about the significance that Judaism attaches to becoming actively involved in promoting the welfare and the betterment of one's community.

A logical extension of the importance of that obligation, I wrote, was the pursuit of elected office. But it was deeply regrettable and even harmful to our society in the long run, I added, that we seem to be going through a period of time where the public little respects the people who seek public office: our politicians.

But our politicians comprise only a small number of the total of the people who actually "get involved."

By far, the greatest number of those people in our society who "promote the welfare and the betterment of one's community" do so as volunteers, the lay leaders of the community, or as the professionals who work with them.

Our way of life rests upon the notion, built deeply into the structure of democracy like the stone at the centre of an arch, that duties attach to rights and responsibilities attach to freedoms.

This notion is the breath that breathes life into volunteerism. Thus, volunteerism – the epitome of getting involved – is both a hallmark and a requirement of democracy.

As most *CJN* readers know, Jewish life abounds with high levels of volunteerism. Organizational Jewish life – at every level, and of every type – would collapse without the involvement of volunteers, the lay leaders.

Similarly, the involvement of the volunteer lay leader can only be sustained with the support of the professional. Both are leaders "actively involved in promoting the welfare and the betterment of the community."

It is against this background that I refer to an article recently written by Gary Rosenblatt, the publisher and editor of the *New York Jewish Week* in which he reflected on the question: "What makes a Jewish leader?"

Some readers may recall that I have on other occasions referred to articles by Rosenblatt, a highly respected, thoughtful writer and journalist.

In the column, Rosenblatt wrote of his observations at a meeting of some 20 lay and professional leaders, the beneficiaries of a special training program of the Mandel Associated Foundations of Cleveland, who had convened for a single day to discuss, as he described, the "joys and woes of leadership."

"What emerged was a shared sense of anger and frustration at the current level of dissension and infighting among Jews along religious lines, and a common search for an over-arching vision that could unite the community."

Although Rosenblatt writes of the condition of the American Jewish community, his observations apply as well to the Canadian situation.

He goes on to observe that with the tasks of the sheer physical rescue and survival of Jews and of Israel "largely complete, a sense of sacred mission has been lost and the community has turned inward, focusing on communal survival in the face of growing assimilations and intermarriage. But religion has become less a common denominator than a bone of contention, with some activists calling for a return to tradition while others insist on expanding our definition of who is a Jew and what is Judaism."

After quoting some of the opinions of the participants at the meeting on their ideas of the criteria for leadership, Rosenblatt offers his own test.

"It's true that organizational leaders need to know how to cut budgets and raise dollars. But a Jewish leader needs to raise spirits as well. He or she must have a vision that incorporates a proud heritage with a hopeful future because Jewish leadership is about wisdom and guidance. It's about bringing people closer together, focused on shared sense of "chosenness" and becoming "a light unto the nations."

"Some of us believe our oldest model is still the best – *the study of and commitment to Torah, however we define it. Campaign is important but covenant is imperative.*" (My emphasis)

It is clear, then, that Rosenblatt believes that one of the key tasks of the modern Jewish leader is to help bring about Jewish unity, to help restore among the modern-day people what was never lost among our forbears: a sense of Jewish interdependence and inter-relatedness.

He refers to this sense as a feeling of covenant. Not surprisingly, this was the very point that Rabbi Howard Joseph made so eloquently and so forcefully in his recent translation and study of the essay by Rabbi Naphtali Zvi Yehuda Berlin called *The Remnant of Israel*. (See From The Editor's Desk, *The CJN*, May 8)

* * *

Across my desk I received last week part of the June edition of the *Montreal Anglican*, the newspaper of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal.

It contained an article entitled "Faith and Ethnocultural Mission." A propos the subject of Jewish leadership, the article described a recent successful, interfaith event, an initiative of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

I shall excerpt a portion of that article.

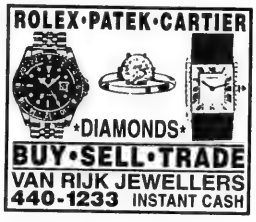
"Canons David Oliver and Jeno Kohner recently took part in a Faith and Ethnocultural Leadership Mission to Washington, D.C. Canadian Jewish Congress, sponsors of the event, wished to share with Christian faith communities, and cultural groups, topics that they are working on, and invited us to attend as partners:

There were five topics:

- The unity of Canada.
- Dealing with hate.
- The deportation of war criminals who entered Canada on false pretexts.
- [Forcing] Swiss and other banking authorities who have not restored deposits of war victims to their inheritors, to do so.
- [T]he need to continually remember the Holocaust.

Our visit was an incredibly rich one...it was a privilege for us to have been invited."

Applying the Rosenblatt test of Jewish leadership – a vision that incorporates a proud heritage with a hopeful future...bringing people closer together...and becoming "a light unto the nations – the invitation by the CJC to the Anglican church seems to have been a positive example. *MBD*



An inter-generational dance

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Backstage at the Leah Posluns Theatre, dozens of girls dressed in leotards and costumes scurried through a maze of corridors and dressing rooms.

The young dancers, all students of the Koffler Centre School of Dance, were getting ready for their performance on the second night of Showcase '97, the school's year-end dance recital.

Warming up for the big night, teenage girls pirouetted in doorways, while tap dancers in turquoise shuffled down the halls. In a large mirrored dance studio near the dressing rooms, a group of jazz dancers had time for one last rehearsal.

The recent show offered an opportunity to showcase the talent of the school's 620 students. The second and third nights of the show also included performances by the Chai Dancers, a seniors dance troupe based at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

More than 500 family members and friends were on hand for the second night's performance.

This night was particularly special for Vi Wolf and Chelsea Rubin's family. Wolf, a 17-year member of the Chai Dancers, performed in the same show as Chelsea, her 5-year-old great-grand daughter. The two were honored with a special presentation.

Wolf, a grandmother of three and great-grandmother of two, told *The CJN* that participating in the same show as her great-grand daughter was "a dream come true. I never thought it would happen."

Wolf who gave her age as "39 and still holding," danced professionally from the age of 12 until she married. Dancing keeps her young, she said.

"I feel like 18...I'll always dance. It's something I'll never give up. I'm going to dance my way to heaven."

In a telephone interview at the conclusion of Showcase '97 Jacque Foesier, director of the Koffler Centre School, said that the school has "reached a new milestone" with a great-grandmother and granddaughter dancing in the same program.

ESSAY WRITING CONTEST

Winners of the 4th annual Essay Writing Contest on the Holocaust are (front row, from left) Amy Siegel, grade 7 second place in the junior division; author and essay contest sponsor Wanda Lerek;Doris Andrade, grade 8, Brookview Middle School, First Place in junior division; (back row, from left) Razie Shulman, Northern S.S., grade 12, first place senior division; Stephen Bloom, contest judge and head of history department, Westmount Collegiate; Courtney McCabe, grade 7, Forest Hill P.S., third place in junior division; Ellen Cole, chair of community relations, CJC and contest judge; Cameron Archer, grade 10, Centre Hastings S.S., second place in senior division; and Martin Levy, grade 12, Thornlea S.S., third place in senior division.

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Greater Toronto Area

Canadian Jews were silent after Holocaust: researcher

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Toronto scholar has ventured into little-explored areas in the well-tilled field of Holocaust research, and unearthed some fascinating, if disturbing, finds.

Frank Bialystock, in his PhD thesis in history at York University, has found that between 1945 and 1960, Canadian Jews exhibited a "collective amnesia" when it came to the murder of six million of their European brethren, while Holocaust survivors who immigrated here were too busy rebuilding their lives to dwell on the tragedy. The chasm between the two groups would not be bridged for years.

Bialystock, a son of survivors, has delved into what he calls "virgin territory." After poring over hundreds of archival documents and interviewing 35 survivors and others, he found two solitudes when it came to the Holocaust: Canadian Jews who ignored it for a variety of reasons, and survivors who buried it for their own reasons.

In short, he found that the Holocaust played a marginal role in the formation of Canadian Jewish consciousness in the 15 years after the war, a situation that reversed itself dramatically later.

The 400-page study, titled *Delayed Impact: The Holocaust and the Canadian Jewish Community, 1945-1985,* examines "collective memory," Bialystock, 51, told *The CJN*. "The essential question is, why was the Holocaust not talked about, not dealt with in Canada, for almost a generation? For a long time, there was silence."

The answer, he discovered, was that for Jews born in Canada, the Holocaust was, in the immediate post-war period, a foreign event that happened on distant shores. "It was tragic, a great loss. Some [Canadian Jews] lost family members. But it was not an event that was part of them. It was outside their experience," Bialystock explained. "The Holocaust played virtually no role in their self-definition."

As well, organizations such as Canadian Jewish Congress had not yet politicized the issue of Nazi war criminals living here.

Survivors, meantime, were preoccupied with settling into a strange new land and dealing with their trauma. "When they did attempt to speak [about the Holocaust], reaction from Canadian Jews ranged from incomprehension to derision."

Faced with disinterest, disbelief and the myth that European Jews went to their deaths like sheep, survivors tended to stick together, in silence. They didn't want to tell, and Canadian Jews didn't want to know. It's what the author terms "historical amnesia."

"The whole period is marked by misperceptions. Survivors thought they were coming to a welcoming place, and found it difficult. Canadians thought survivors would be like all the other immigrants."

Bialystock looks for historical events that transformed the silence into action, and found that 1960 was the watershed year. Things began to change in late 1959, when a three-week spree of swastika daubings and desecrations of Jewish buildings took place in Toronto. Also in 1960, Adolf Eichmann was captured by Israeli commandoes. And on the national scene, U.S. Nazi leader George Lincoln Rockwell announced in a CBC interview that a Canadian neo-Nazi cell was active. Survivors, by this time more secure in their place in Canadian society, started to stir.

"They were no longer immigrants," the author says. "They weren't willing to sit by. [For them], Congress was not doing enough." Survivors thus became "radicalized."

The attitude among Canadian Jewish officials changed too. "There was an element of guilt [because] the community didn't lobby harder 30 years earlier [to bring Jewish refugees over.]"

The following 25 years were marked by what Bialystock calls the "institutionalization" of the Holocaust in the community's agenda. In 1973, Congress "very grudgingly" inaugurated its Holocaust Remembrance Committee, of which Bialystock is currently a member.

Bialystock's seminal study ends in 1985, when the whole issue "took off." It was that year the Deschenes commission began its inquiry into Nazi war criminals living in Canada, the first trials of Ernst Zundel and Jim Keegstra took place, and when thousands of survivors gathered for a conference in Ottawa. Despite setbacks, inaction and disappointments ever since, Canada's Jewish community would never be the same.

Frank Bialystock

Baycrest bike-a-thon a real family affair

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – The fourth annual Bike for Baycrest drew three generations of bikers.

Held recently in and around the grounds of the scenic King City Campus of Seneca College, the bike-a-thon was very much a family event, offering an afternoon of festivities that included a barbecue, pony rides, carnival games, a jumping dragon castle, paddle boat rides and arts and crafts.

The three different biking routes were designed to challenge riders of all levels. Participants had the choice of riding 14-, 30- or 60-kilometre routes. There was even a 3-km ride for kids. Riders were escorted by Toronto's only Jewish motorcycle group, the YOWIES (Yidden on Wheels).

Often called Mr. Baycrest, Sam Ruth, the president emeritus of the Baycrest Centre Foundation was out at the bike-a-thon with two generations of his family.

"The work of Baycrest is carried on from generation to generation; therefore, I was most pleased that one of my sons and one of my grandsons participated in the bike-a-thon," Ruth says. "This will ensure their longtime support for years to come. It was nice to see other three-generation families participating as well."

The bike-a thon, a fundraiser for the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, was organized by the leadership development group, which is made up of professionals and community-minded people between the ages of 25 and 45. Ron Melvin and Peter Seligman were the co-chairs. The group also runs a golf tournament, a hockey pool and an art auction.

Joanne Nisker, project coordinator for the leadership development group, says she was pleased with the turnout.

"The success of this annual fundraising event is the direct result of the hard work and dedication by a committed group of volunteers. Their effort and the generous support of our sponsors made this a fabulous day."

Mintz and Partners Chartered Accountants, the Royal Bank Financial Group, Sandylion Sticker Designs and the Sports Clubs of Canada were the main sponsors of the event, but many other businesses donated money, prizes, refreshments, beverages, loot bags and entertainment.

Kevin Forster rides in the Baycrest bike-a-thon. [B. Silverstein photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Kroft new Hadassah president

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Sharon Kroft

TORONTO — What started off as a way to make new friends, has turned into a full-time volunteer career for Sharon Kroft, newly installed president of Toronto Hadassah-WIZO.

Kroft, 47, originally from Windsor, says that as a new wife and mother, she turned to the organization 20 years ago, "strictly for friendship, but quickly realized [the organization] fills a far greater need. Coming from a city with a Jewish population of 100 families, I can appreciate being Jewish in Toronto. We often don't realize in a city this size what we have here."

After holding such positions as bazaar chair, Youth Aliyah chair and vice-president, she sees her two-year term as president as a chance to bring in new members and hold on to current members.To this end, she is reaching out to women who may not know about the organization.

"I advertised a group for 22- to 26-year-old women and 35 people turned out for the first meeting. It shows that women do want to be affiliated with something."

Recently two women have been appointed to reach out to brides and new mothers, she says. The new mothers will be encouraged to get together with their children and brides will be offered a one-year membership.

"Once we introduce them to the organization, I know they will be committed. What we are doing is trying to meet the particular needs of Jewish women and bring similar-minded women together."

Kroft concedes that making time for a volunteer organization is not an easy task. "Women today are busy working and raising families, but they can prioritize. Everyone has the same number of hours in a day. Its what you do with them that is important.

"The days of women getting together on a week-day afternoon and having a relaxed meeting, are over. Meetings have become more streamlined. Members have learned to work smarter, not harder."

Among the organization's various projects are Youth Aliyah, which raises money for disadvantaged Israeli youth; the Woman to Woman Breakfast, which earmarks funds for women's shelters; and the ever-popular fall Hadassah Bazaar, which raises funds (often in the range of several hundred thousand dollars) for Israeli medical services and resources and usually attracts from 20,000 to 30,000 people.

"The secret of the bazaar's success is that the day it ends, next year's chair is looking for ways to improve it. She works so intently that you'd think her bazaar was next week. It is a year-long job and it is the highlight of our year. We have 90-year-old women who have never missed a bazaar. Three-thousand members working under one roof for the same cause is an amazing thing."

Kroft, who took a year off from her speech pathology practice when she became bazaar chair, says that when that year ended she was asked to be vice-president and she did not return to her practice. "Being president is a time and a half job. There is something going on every day. I know what I've signed on for, however, and I'm looking forward to the next two years. I'm going to savor every moment."

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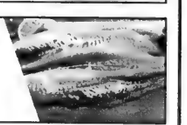

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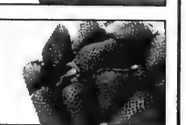

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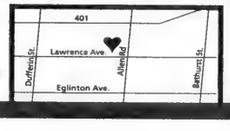

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Benquesus takes over Sephardi organization

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Jacques Benquesus

TORONTO — Although there is no official link between Toronto's Or HaEmet Sephardic School and Jerusalem's World Sephardic Educational Centre (WSEC), Jacques Benquesus would like to see one.

The 48-year-old Moroccan-born Toronto businessman – president of the former institution and president of the first international board of governors of the latter – is a strong proponent of Sephardi education.

Most Sephardi rabbis have been educated in Ashkenazi yeshivahs, he noted in a recent interview.

Although the WSEC doesn't currently grant smichah, education of Sephardi spiritual leaders is part of its mandate. "We want to educate them in Sephardic surroundings," said Benquesus.

The centre is not restricted to Sephardi Jews, he said, noting that about 10 percent of the participants at a recent international WSEC meeting were Ashkenazi. "Unless we can integrate Ashkenazim, they will never understand our needs or the beauty [of the Sephardi tradition]," said Benquesus.

The centre, which is "recognized by the Israeli government" but doesn't receive government funding, was founded in 1980 by José Nessim, a Paraguayan-born physician based in Los Angeles. Since then over 15,000 young adults, among them about 1,300 Canadians, have studied there.

The WSEC's three rented buildings in Jerusalem's Old City need about $5 million (US) in renovations, said Benquesus. Plans are to buy the buildings, which have a long Sephardi history, from the Israeli government and restore them.

Other plans include establishing a smichah program and obtaining accreditation for a one-year university equivalent program, said Benquesus, whose involvement with the organization dates back at least five years.

"We believe the youth is the future of the Jewish community," said Benquesus, a father of four and grandfather of two. "We have to be able to reduce intermarriage and assimilation."

He hopes to see Or HaEmet students go on to study at WSEC. His son Ruben, 20, will be a counsellor there this summer and his daughter Esther is president of Toronto's recently formed young adult chapter, with 350 members. Montreal's young adult chapter has 1,000 members, and the WSEC is looking to establish a presence in Vancouver, where there are an estimated 500 Sephardi adults, said Benquesus.

Worldwide, the organization has chapters in 12 countries.

DIPLOMATS ATTEND BOOK LAUNCH

Romanian diplomats attended the launch of *Shattered! 50 Years of History and Voices of the Tragedy in Romania and Transnistria*, a history of the Holocaust in Romania. From left: Bogdan-Giuseppe Nia, third secretary at the Romanian Embassy in Ottawa; author Felicia Carmelly; Pnina Zilberman, director, Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre; Mrs. Ilia Puscas and Romanian consul to Toronto Ilia Puscas. The book recently won the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem Award at the annual Jewish Book Awards.

Greater Toronto Area

Zuroff calls for boycott of Lithuanian ceremony

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Efraim Zuroff

TORONTO — One of Israel's foremost Nazi-hunters is urging Jewish organizations around the world not to participate in Lithuanian-government programs to mark the 200th anniversary of the death of the Vilna Gaon.

Efraim Zuroff, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's (SWC) Israel office, says the Lithuanian government has not followed through on promises to bring Nazi war criminals to justice. On the contrary, he said, Lithuanians who have fled other jurisdictions to avoid the legal consequences of their crimes are finding refuge in the Baltic state.

Three of the nine former members of the 12 police battalion ordered out of the United States, Juozas Grabauskas, Antanas Mincikis and Juozas Budreika, have found refuge in Lithuania. In addition, Aleksandras Lileikis, the wartime head of the security police in Vilnius, fled his home in Norwood, Mass., when the media reported Israel was considering requesting his extradition for war crimes, Zuroff said.

Lithuania, which pledged to bring war criminals to justice, has turned a blind eye to their presence. In 1995, during a visit to the Knesset, Lithuanian president Algirdas Brazauskas promised that Nazi war criminals "would be prosecuted 'publicly, consistently and conscientiously,'" Zuroff said. "Since then, gur nicht (nothing), not a one."

What makes the situation even more egregious is that in May 1990, after Lithuania became independent of the Soviet Union, the government announced a rehabilitation program for former state (Soviet) enemies that included back pay and restoration of property. While the legislation specifically excluded benefits to perpetrators of war crimes, bureaucrats implementing the policy "don't check or don't care," Zuroff said.

The SWC exposed the fact that 12 former members of a killing squad were rehabilitated, Zuroff said. That revelation led to creation of a joint Lithuanian/Israeli commission, of which Zuroff is a member, to investigate the rehabilitation program's implementation. After checking 100 files in the Lithuanian archives of those being rehabilitated, "90 had participated in murders," Zuroff said.

Those results were passed on to the Lithuanian government with a request that action be taken, "but not a single rehabilitation has been cancelled."

The Lithuanian government is stonewalling requests for action because "there is widespread support for coverup." After Brazauskas promised action against war criminals and apologized to the Knesset for persecutions during the war, the Lithuanian press and public attacked him, Zuroff said.

So far, the World Zionist Organization has cancelled its participation in a Lithuanian government commemoration for the great rabbinic sage and Zuroff planned to meet with the American Jewish Committee, B'nai Brith International, the Anti-Defamation League, the World Jewish Congress and rabbinical organizations to suggest that they too forgo the official commemoration of the Sept. 9 anniversary.

He's also concerned that representatives of the Israeli government might participate in Lithuanian government programs and a meeting with the Israeli minister of education led to the promise that official representatives of the state would not participate unless action was taken against Lileikis, one of the most notorious of the Lithuanian war criminals.

Zuroff also planned to meet with U.S. congressmen in Washington. The United States has substantial leverage over Lithuania, which is seeking NATO membership as well as aid, he said.

Zuroff, whose family origins can be traced to Lithuania, is a member of the board of Association of Lithuanian Jews, which is based in Israel. He is seeking the assistance of Lithuanian Diaspora Jews and has travelled to South Africa, where many Lithuanian Jews emigrated, to rally their support.

Grabuaskas, Mincikis and Budreika (who has since died) were all members of the 12th battalion, a police murder squad. It was sent on Oct. 6, 1941 to Byelorussia (now Belarus) where it carried out bloody pogroms in Minsk and Slutsk. The Slutsk rampage was so egregious that the German officer in charge complained about their activities. The unit was responsible for the murder of 50,000 Jews in Byelorussia and before it was shipped out of Lithuania, it murdered thousands of Jews in Kaunas.

Lileikis served as head of the security police in Vilnius District and commanded a staff of 100. They turned over Jews to Lithuanian murder squads at Ponar where 70,000 were killed. Lileikis was in charge of ghetto security and administration and he signed orders turning over Jews for death.

He lost his U.S. citizenship in 1996 and shortly afterwards fled to Lithuania.

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SIDDUR CEREMONY

Daniel Ozier and Cara Davies pray together at the recent annual grade 1 siddur ceremony at United Synagogue Day School's Bayview campus. The parents' association presented each student with a siddur to mark the occasion.

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The Canadian Jewish News, a corporation without share capital.
Head Office:
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont. M3B 3K4

The test of the street

The courtroom of the Supreme Court of Canada is an elegant, dignified sanctum of polished wood and polished argument. No aspect of Canadian life is beyond the judges' reach. The nine justices are called upon to make decisions on matters that both touch the sublime of human existence and hover no higher than the mundane.

But regardless of their subject, all their decisions must pass the test of the street. They must make sense and be sensible to the majority of "ordinary" Canadians who lead unspectacular, law-abiding lives, who are reasonable people, understand fairness and cherish democracy.

Nothing will sooner or more decisively bring the law into disrespect than a decision which rests neatly on a theoretical framework, but which quickly collapses when touched by the common hand.

Last week, the court reserved judgment on the request by three alleged Nazi war criminals, Helmut Oberlander, Johann Dueck and Erichs Tobias, to have the deportation proceedings against them permanently suspended. The three were appealing the ruling of the Federal Court of Appeal, which refused to stop the proceedings.

The case has attracted much attention. It involves the now much-publicized, unfortunate lapse in judgment by a federal justice official who arranged a private meeting in March 1996 with the chief justice of the Federal Court to discuss the slow pace of war crimes proceedings in the charge of the Associate Chief Justice James Jerome.

Predictably, once the fact of that meeting became known, an even stickier web of further proceedings and further delays was spun in which the attempted deportations have now gotten stuck.

The lawyers for the accused men characterized the ill-conceived effort by the federal government to expedite the denaturalization and deportation proceedings as "an attack on judicial independence...unprecedented in Canadian history." "They sought to manipulate the judiciary in the backroom," said lawyer Don Bayne. The only appropriate remedy to the government's indiscretion, they argue, is to put a permanent halt to the process.

Without making light of the mistake by the justice official in failing to notify the defendants of his meeting with the chief justice and of the federal government's determination to see the cases move faster, the defendants' position makes no logical, or indeed, moral sense.

In recent weeks, the very same court directed a new trial in the "mercy killing" case involving Robert Latimer as a result of objectionable conduct aimed at the jury by the Crown attorney. The court did not throw out the proceedings. If in that case, in which the potential penalty to the accused is far graver than the "mere" possible deportation staring at the three accused Nazis, a stay was not ordered, how can one be warranted in this case?

Moreover, as chief justice of the Supreme Court, Antonio Lamer, correctly implied, an abandonment of the proceedings would effectively call into question the abilities of all Federal Court judges, as well as judges outside the Federal Court, to whom the cases could be directed, by imputing they were incapable of rendering fair and honest judgment. The indiscretion by the officials involved can and should be dealt with on its own merits without depriving the Canadian judicial system of the opportunity finally to deal fairly and honestly with the original allegations against the three accused men on their own merits.

We await judgment and hope that it will pass the test of the street.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"Jewish misery has two forms, the material and the moral. In Eastern Europe, North Africa and Western Asia...the misery is understood quite literally. It is the daily distress of the body, anxiety for every following day, the painful fight for the maintenance of a bare existence."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

Dry Bones

THE DIRECT ELECTION OF THE PRIME MINISTER..
HAS ALLOWED NETANYAHU TO DO MORE THAN JUST WRECK THE LABOR PARTY
IT'S GIVEN HIM ENOUGH STRENGTH TO...
...CRUSH THE LIKUD AS WELL!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

July 3, 1965 the Lieutenant Governor approved the nomination of the first five Jewish members of the Protestant School Board of Montreal. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Parents support Leah's lifestyle

Re: "NCSY scholarships help cement Jewish identity" (*CJN*, June 19).

My first problem with the article was the part about my entering Eitz Chaim in Grade 8, "against the wishes of my parents." True, they did not want me entering into a Jewish school at first. However, they have become unbelievably supportive of my decision especially when I decided to go to Bais Yaakov. They see how happy I am being there and how meaningful it's been for me. In fact, my parents went to the extent of publishing a two-page article in the *Exodus* (a Jewish Russian paper), expressing their joys about my becoming Orthodox and how proud they think my grandparents would have been if they could see me today.

My parents have constantly gone out of their way for me, whether it was agreeing on making my kitchen kosher or joining me at the Shabbat table so I wouldn't be alone. They even allow me to turn my kitchen "upside down" to kosher it for Pesach every year. I want people to know that my parents have been there for me and have supported me.

I also felt that Bais Yaakov was unfairly undermined and criticized. It was wrongly put in a bad light, making it seem like it was a school that only taught the "rules of Torah" and not the "nurturing and love of Torah." I would like to make it very clear that this statement is a real misunderstanding. Not only has my school shown me the love of Torah, but they are the ones who make me what I am today: a girl who is happy and proud of being Jewish. When I came to Bais Yaakov in Grade 9, I was confused and not sure of where exactly I was heading. However, my principal (Rabbi Stefansky) took it upon himself to help guide me on the right path.

I would just like to say that without the nurture and soft approach to Judaism that my school provided for me, I honestly don't know where I would be right now.

Leah Basin
Toronto

A 'traditional family' backs Leah

Thank you to Frances Kraft for her sensitive and well-balanced article (NCSY Scholarships help cement Jewish identity) (*CJN*, June 19). Having been associated with NCSY for over 30 years, we appreciate the community-wide recognition she has given to this aspect of the very important work NCSY does with Jewish youth.

Please allow us to alter an inaccurate conclusion that may be drawn from the comment that Leah Basin "entered Eitz Chaim School in Grade 8 against the wishes of her parents." In the five years which have passed since that time, Leah, her parents and her sister have been guests in our home on several occasions.

While the rest of the family continue to lead a "traditional" rather than an "observant" way of life, they certainly support very strongly the changes that Leah has made in her lifestyle. Leah leaves for Israel at the end of the summer with the full encouragement of her family, and we wish her a great year in every way.

Harvey and Miriam Poch
Toronto

Says Golem of technology is a rant

Shel Krakofsky's rant against computers (*CJN*, June 19) was so silly that its only value is the opportunity it provides to criticize widely held inanities.

If Krakofsky is so worried about the golem of technology, rather than let someone adjust his video player, why doesn't he just scrap it along with his phone, typewriter and car.

He might want to stop dealing with mailmen as well, since I hear that some of them receive their letters and packages by airplane. I guess that since planes were in existence before he was born they aren't hi-tech. They're simply B.S. (Before Shel) — like his article.

Michael Kelemen
Toronto

Lori Black had a fighting spirit

I read with interest that a community centre has been created in dedication to the memory of Lori Black (*CJN*, Montreal edition, June 26). Due to a close friendship with a member of her family, I had the privilege of meeting and getting to know Lori when she was seven years old. Despite her intellectual handicap, even at that young age Lori radiated with a sense of innate optimism coupled with a warm and loving personality. We developed nicknames for each other and Lori would bubble over with delight when we referred to each other by these special names.

As life moved on and so did friendships, I did not see Lori again for many years until I heard that she was in the hospital. I mustered my courage to visit her. Despite her being hooked up to a series of machines, all but paralyzed and barely able to communicate, Lori's sense of fighting spirit struck me. One could not avoid crying over this grave injustice.

With the dedication of the Lori Black Community Centre, the memory of this righteous, kind and loving human being will be forever honored.

Eric Gralnick
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Human rights, Judaism and the law

The following is excerpted from the text of the address by the author on being recently named the Lord Reading Society Human Rights Honoree for 1997, at a ceremony in Montreal.

By DAVID MATAS

Thank you for making me the Lord Reading Law Society Honoree for 1997. I appreciate the gesture. It encourages me to continue with my human rights work.

The Lord Reading Society, I learned tonight, was founded in Montreal in 1948 and named after the first Jewish member of the judicial committee of the House of Lords in the United Kingdom. The society was founded to combat discrimination against Jews in the legal profession in Quebec. It is heartening to see that the human rights work of the society continues and that the society's values endure in a larger arena, now that the discrimination which gave it birth has largely ended. I cannot persuade you of the need for human rights work, because you were already persuaded before I arrived.

Since this is an award given by an association of predominantly Jewish lawyers, I thought I would make some remarks about the connection of law and of Judaism to my human rights work. For me, the law has been a source of ammunition and of frustration. For many of my cases, the court room is the arena for a human rights battle. The law library is the arsenal from which the weapons are drawn. The arms are not just human rights law, but, as well, for the battles I have fought, administrative law, the law of evidence, the law of civil procedure, international law and criminal law.

I have been in private practice since 1973 and in those 24 years, I have been part of many victories and many defeats. In the case I argued of Fernando Molina in 1979, Justice Rhodes Smith of the Federal Court Trial Division held that reasons had to be given for the refusal of a refugee claim. Following that decision, Ron Atkey, then minister of immigration in the Tory government of the day, changed government policy and decided that reasons for refusals would be given in all refugee cases. That policy has now become a commonplace to the point where the duty to give reasons for a refugee refusal is written into the current Immigration Act.

In the case of Albert Helmut Rauca, in 1983 at the Ontario Court of Appeal, I intervened on behalf of the Canadian Jewish Congress, as did Irwin Cotler, who is here tonight. We intervened on the side of the Crown, arguing that an accused Nazi mass murderer who was a Canadian citizen could be extradited to stand trial in Germany despite the right to remain in Canada given to Canadian citizens in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Our arguments were accepted and Rauca was extradited to Germany, where he died in jail.

In the case of John Ross Taylor in 1989 at the Supreme Court of Canada, I intervened on behalf of B'nai Brith, as Irwin Cotler did on behalf of the Canadian Jewish Congress, to argue on the side of the Crown that provisions in the Canadian Human Rights Act prohibiting the use of the telephone to communicate hate speech were constitutionally valid despite the guarantee of freedom of speech in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The court accepted that argument, and upheld the ban on hate speech. Taylor went to jail for his refusal to abide by the banning order of the Canadian Human Rights Commission. That decision now looms in importance with the spread of hate speech through the Internet, since Internet communication is at its base telephone communication.

These were a few of our successes. But there were many failures. I learned that the law as a weapon in the battle for human rights is as likely to blow up in your hands as to hit its target.

In the case of Imre Finta, I intervened at the Supreme Court of Canada for B'nai Brith, to argue on the side of the Crown for a retrial. The Supreme Court of Canada nonetheless, in 1994, upheld Finta's acquittal, even though the trial judge had allowed Finta's counsel to put to the jury the defence that Finta was justified in shipping Jews off to Auschwitz crammed in cattle cars, because Finta genuinely believed prevalent Nazi propaganda that all Jews, including children, were traitors.

The prophets, carrying forward the message of the laws of Moses, were champions of human rights. Here we see an etching of the prophet Amos as imagined by Gustave Doré.

Though we like to link law and justice, the stark reality is that law is often the handmaiden of massive injustice, the sword of the oppressor rather than the shield of the oppressed. Doctors swear the Hippocratic oath, swear not to use their skills to harm and kill their patients. Lawyers take no such oath and often behave in no such way. The United Nations Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers, adopted in 1990, state that lawyers shall seek to uphold human rights and fundamental freedoms. However, that duty is not part of the code of ethics of law societies in Canada. It is not part of the oath of office of judges.

Doctors will not take part in execution because it violates the Hippocratic oath to do so. Lawyers, on the other hand, just a few miles south of us in the United States, without hesitation prosecute death penalty cases and judges impose the death penalty, without the thought crossing their minds that it might violate their professional ethics. Lawyers in a frightening number of countries in the world offer evidence in court that is obtained by torture. Judges admit that evidence and base their findings on it, again without a twitch of professional conscience.

So, for me, in my pursuit of human rights, law has been ambivalent, sometimes a friend, as often an enemy. The ideal of law is justice. However, day to day justice is far from the reality. Law can be used and is used to inflict injustice. However, if the ideal of justice is ever to be realized, surely we lawyers must play an important part.

My Judaism is a different matter. It is at the core of why I am involved in the human rights battle. It is a source of commitment and determination.

I do not mean that I am inspired by the Jewish religious texts, although surely there is much there that is inspirational. Rather, what has sparked my dedication to human rights values is being part of the Jewish people, a people that was targeted for total extermination in the Holocaust during my lifetime.

Ishmael, in Herman Melville's novel, *Moby Dick*, ends his tragic tale of Captain Ahab and the ship Pequod by quoting from the book of Job, saying: "And I only am escaped alone to tell thee." Strictly speaking, I am not a survivor of the Holocaust, since all four of my grandparents came to Canada before World War I. Yet, in a very real sense, I and every Jewish person are survivors of the Holocaust. Six million Jews were killed. All Jews were targeted. It is only the fortunes of war that gave us an Allied rather than an Axis victory in World War II. If the Axis powers had won, not I, not one Jewish person would be alive today.

We only have escaped alone to tell the world. And tell the world we must.

If we can give any meaning at all to the meaningless slaughter of so many millions of innocents, we must learn the lessons of the Holocaust. But these are lessons we must learn ourselves. They will not descend from Heaven like the holy Jewish texts. They rather ascend from hell, the inferno of total conflagration from which the remnants of the Jewish community escaped. Elie Wiesel in his novel *Twilight* writes: "It may not be in man's power to erase society's evil, but he must become its conscience."

For the lessons of the Holocaust to have their greatest reverberation, for the deaths of the Holocaust to have their greatest meaning, we must avoid narrowing its focus in future just to "how to protect the Jewish community." We must learn the larger lessons of how to protect all humanity from its oppressors.

To say, never again, is easy. To make it happen is not so easy. The reality is since World War II, genocide has happened again and again, not to Jews, but to Cambodians, to Hutus, to Tutsis, to Bosnians, to Somalis and even more. In biblical times, God made a covenant with the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to make their descendants multiply like the stars in heaven and the sand upon the sea shore.

In modern times, after the Holocaust, after so many observant and non-observant, rabbis and scholars were murdered, the painful question must be asked: Where is that covenant now? But there are no answers.

Thus, in a secular world, we must make our own individual covenants with reality, to combat human rights violations wherever they are found. The fate of millions depends on it. That is a duty that falls on everyone, not just the Jewish people. But surely the Jewish people who have suffered so much and escaped so narrowly must learn that lesson first, must learn that lesson best.

The post-war international human rights movement began as a reaction to the Holocaust. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, the Genocide Convention of 1951, the Refugee Convention of 1951 were all adopted as so many attempted lessons learned from the Shoah. While the legacy of the Holocaust belongs to all humanity, if we who are Jewish put that legacy aside, how many others will take it up?

The lessons I have attempted to draw from the Holocaust are that we must prosecute, convict and punish mass murderers; ban hate speech; protect refugees; and never accept in silence gross violations of human rights, wherever they occur. Virtually all of my human rights work has been dedicated to acting on these lessons. I do not claim that these are the only lessons to be learned from the Holocaust, though I am partial to them. What I do claim is that the Jewish community cannot turn a blind eye to the Holocaust and lead our daily lives as if it never happened.

David Matas is a Winnipeg lawyer. His latest book is No More: The Battle against Human Rights Violations *published by Dundurn Press.*

Opinions

Netanyahu's troubles

All is not well in the Likud. Dan Meridor's resignation from the finance portfolio last month was the most recent in a series of episodes that mark the unraveling of the historic Likud, and the disenchantment with Benjamin Netanyahu within its ranks and those of his coalition.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

In the Likud itself there are three different reactions to Netanyahu. The first is the disappointment of the ideologues. This reaction was best manifested in the resignation of Benny Begin from the cabinet several months ago, over the redeployment in Hebron. Begin Jr. is perhaps the last of the hardliners in the party. For him, any additional territorial concessions to the Palestinians are a betrayal of the party's historic commitment to a Greater Israel, even at the cost of renewed conflict with the Arab world. Begin is joined by former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, who has said that he would not vote for Netanyahu if given the choice again.

The second reaction is that of those committed to due process and good government. Meridor is the chief proponent of this position and he is joined by another member of the older generation in the party, Moshe Arens, former minister of defence. Although Meridor and Netanyahu have never seen eye to eye on matters of style and operation, Meridor was a loyal lieutenant during the election campaign that brought Netanyahu to power. The ethically damning report of the attorney general over the Bar-On affair almost led to Meridor's resignation, but it took the personal affront of a blatant attempt to oust him from government to actually force his hand. Meridor, a popular and respected politician across the Israeli spectrum, has been upset with the workings of government since the last election. Arens, in turn, is apparently so disappointed with the performance of his former protégé that he has become an advocate of a repeal of the system of direct election of the prime minister — the very system that brought Netanyahu to power.

The third reaction is that of those who feel personally betrayed by Netanyahu's broken promises. Foreign Minister David Levy, leader of the Gesher faction in Likud and a historic rival of Netanyahu's for the leadership of the party, absented himself from the crucial no-confidence vote in the Knesset last week. After Meridor's resignation, Ariel Sharon, who was overlooked by Netanyahu in the first round of cabinet negotiations, upped the ante in his own bid for the Finance job. Limor Livnat, the feisty and talented minister of communications, has also been outspoken about her disaffection with Netanyahu's style.

The coalition also seems shaky at the moment. The Third Way, led by Avigdor Kahalani, minister of internal security, has been pressing Netanyahu for some time to move more aggressively on the Palestinian negotiations. They are now flirting with the idea of a new, right-of-centre bloc, along with Meridor. Minister of Trade and Industry Natan Sharansky, a personal friend of the prime minister, has also expressed misgivings about broken promises and the process of governance.

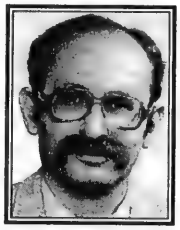
It isn't just the policy, and it isn't just the style — but, as always in politics, a combination of the two. Netanyahu came into office pledging to change the policy and style of the preceding government. In so doing, he finds himself, one year after his election, facing a disgruntled caucus and coalition. They do not necessarily have any significant recourse. In the current system, a successful no-confidence vote means new elections for prime minister and Knesset. Many politicians do not want to face that prospect for fear of losing the next time around. But Netanyahu's slim majority in the Knesset renders him vulnerable to the bolting of any of his partners, or, for that matter, the Levy faction inside Likud. There is talk of the preference for early elections inside Likud, and there is talk of "the Likud without Netanyahu."

In 1988, a groundswell of public disgust with the horsetrading involved in coalition negotiations resulted in a lengthy process of review of the electoral system, and ultimately in the decision, which many viewed as misguided, to reform the system to allow for direct election of the prime minister.

In 1997, the public seems indifferent to the machinations of the Netanyahu government. At the moment, public support for Netanyahu has not dropped significantly. I wouldn't write him off. Netanyahu has demonstrated his ability to take over the party, its administration, and its power bases — and to win the election. The power of his office is not insignificant and his desire to govern for a second term is overwhelming. The key question is whether the mishaps of the last few months will repeat themselves in what may be a fatal pattern, or whether he will outmanoeuvre his opponents yet again and remain in office for the duration of his term.

Principles for Jewish continuity programs

A recent issue of *The Jerusalem Report* included a two-page statement signed by a number of American Jewish academics, rabbis and communal leaders. The elegant manifesto set forth guidelines, and in effect boundaries, for acceptable continuity programs on the part of Jewish communal organizations.



By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

The major impetus for this manifesto, as one of the main drafters told me, was to take exception to an "anything goes" mentality which has cropped up in efforts to combat assimilation. Too much New Age Judaism is not for this group — or for me. They warn of the possible dangers of being too inclusive when defining Judaic objectives for continuity programs.

The drafters set out five principles to guide any continuity efforts: Torah, am Yisrael, klal Yisrael (pluralism), brit (covenant) and keruv (outreach). Limitations of space preclude a detailed analysis of these themes. They say failure to adhere to these five would risk diluting continuity efforts, and by implication, the nature of American Judaism.

The drafters have had to walk a tightrope. On the one hand, they accept that pluralism (klal Yisrael) is a key ingredient of American Jewish life. And they further recognize that the future of American Judaism lies in the ability of Conservative and Reform Judaism to retain its members.

Yet they also recognize that there must be limits to what can legitimately be called Jewish. If everything is Jewish, then nothing is Jewish. They help open a useful debate on the future parameters of Jewish life. Since Judaism has no papacy, Jews of all persuasions will enter this hopefully civil discussion and shape the boundaries of effective continuity programs. But while the drafters were careful to focus their text on communal programs, the underlying issues remain those which animate the Who is a Jew? debate.

While they never identify efforts that they find faulty, they offer some clues. They emphasize a strategy of tipping the balance of outreach efforts to those who are already moderately affiliated — an "inreach" strategy — with which I also agree. (They would nevertheless continue some efforts aimed at disaffiliated or marginal Jews.) They would likely de-emphasize recent efforts at proselytization, reaching out to the "unchurched."

An example offered in the statement of excessive if well-intentioned inclusivity, is the idea of "giving an aliyah to a non-Jew." This example helps us ponder the limits of Judaic pluralism. All things being equal, there is no case for giving an aliyah to a non-Jew. Recall the joke about the Reform temple that is so liberal the rabbi is a gentile. But at times all things are not equal.

Consider the following. A liberal Reform temple includes among its congregants many individuals involved in mixed marriages. As part of a considered effort to bring the interested non-Jewish partner who is clearly open to conversion to experience more of Judaism, the temple offers them aliyot, along with their Jewish spouse. Such aliyot would not be frivolous, but would represent part of an outreach effort designed to more fully retain members and their children.

Are such outreach efforts deserving of contempt for threatening to dilute Judaism or to remove the religious stigma from outmarriage? One could argue that on the contrary, it is precisely the kind of experimental program parts of the Reform movement ought to consider, despite its risks.

Another case. Recently in Montreal, a secular Jewish organization requested financial support from the organized community to help establish a Jewish school. As an explicitly secular Jewish group, it is a throwback to an earlier period in this century. The evidence is clear that secular Jewishness in its earlier forms has not been able to sustain itself intergenerationally. Should this new group be denied communal financial support?

The individuals involved in the Montreal effort, like their counterparts elsewhere, are people who take their Jewish heritage and the Jewish community seriously. So too are some of the secular ex-Israelis living in North America, who might also risk being lost to the Jewish community if the five values listed above became the sine qua non for continuity or outreach efforts. While none of the above examples is my "glaizel" of tea, I am personally not prepared to exclude them — or their programs — from Jewish communal support.

There is nothing wrong with trying to enhance the effectiveness of continuity programs and to seek to define some minimal standards. But the debate on the limits of Jewish pluralism is far from over.

Samples of wisdom

Summer time provides many people with added opportunities for reading. Strange as it may seem, it was so in olden days as well, as some of our traditional sources tell us. That is why the readings from the Pirkei Avot (Sayings of the Fathers) were assigned, not only to the time between Pesach and Shavuot, but extended to Rosh Hashanah. Every Shabbat during this period, we are supposed to read one chapter — which takes less than 15 minutes (unless one reads a commentary along with it), and there is no question that these texts are not only delightful and memorable but also highly instructive.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

They come from six chapters in the Mishnah and are rules of life. They are, in their way, as up-to-date now as they were when they were committed to writing, which happened about the year 200 CE.

Take your prayer book and open it to the Pirkei Avot, which you will find appended to the Shabbat afternoon services (some prayer books contain selections at the beginning of the volume). Once you begin, you will keep on reading.

Most of these aphorisms begin by naming the author. But in the samples below, I will leave their names out for brevity's sake. The translation is by Rabbi Chaim Stern.

Get yourself a teacher; acquire a friend to study with you. When you judge people, give them the benefit of the doubt.

Be of the disciples of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing it, loving your fellow creatures, and drawing them near to the Torah.

If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?

The world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice and by peace.

Do not separate yourself from the community; do not be certain of yourself until the day you die; do not judge others until you are in their positions and do not say: "When I have leisure, I shall study" — you may never have that leisure.

In a place where no one behaves like a human being, you must try to be one.

Let your neighbor's honor be as dear to you as your own.

When two people sit and words of Torah pass between them, the Divine Presence rests between them.

One mitzvah performed leads to another, and one transgression leads to another.

Despise no one and call nothing useless, for there is no one whose hour does not come and there is no thing that does not have its place.

Do not try to placate your friends at the height of their anger; do not attempt to comfort them in the first shock of bereavement; do not question their sincerity at the moment when they make a solemn promise; do not be overeager to visit them in the hour of their disgrace.

Do not look at the flask but at what it contains.

These are just samples. Look at your prayer book for more sayings that will enrich your life. Of all your other summer reading, this one will last you longer than all the others. And if you are moved to take the next step, go to your synagogue or community library and take out one of the many commentaries on the Pirkei Avot.

The Kirshner File

The war just around the corner

Jottings from a Swiss notebook...

For Saly Fromer, a Swiss Jew living in Basel, the conflagration

By Sheldon Kirshner

was next door. "We could hear the shooting between French and German soldiers," recalled the 75-year-old retired banker. "The war was just around the corner."

Fromer and his family lived five minutes by foot from the French border, and after Germany's invasion of France in 1940, World War II was no longer an abstraction for the residents of Basel, where the frontiers of Switzerland, France and Germany converge.

"If you looked over the Rhine River, you could see German soldiers," said Fromer, who, as Swiss army reservist, regularly exchanged his banker's suit for soldier's fatigues.

With Germany on the ascendancy in the second year of the war, there was real angst in Switzerland — a neutral — that its territorial integrity could be violated despite its extensive commercial links with the Germans.

"We trembled that Germany might invade Switzerland," said Fromer, whose parents were Polish Jews. "We were very frightened. We knew that if Germany came to Switzerland, it would be the end of the Jews in Switzerland."

Although Swiss newspapers were censored, Fromer was aware of the Holocaust and realized that a German occupation of Switzerland would immediately imperil its Jewish population.

Looking back almost six decades, Fromer remembers the Jewish refugees who streamed into Basel until 1942, the year the border was summarily closed by the Swiss authorities. To him, they were not merely faceless strangers. His mother hid an illegal refugee for two months. The migrant was permitted to spend the rest of the war in Switzerland.

All told, Switzerland allowed 30,000 Jewish refugees to enter the country during this period, but rejected an equal number. "It's quite clear that the government didn't do enough for Jewish refugees," he said. In his view, the Swiss government was anti-Semitic, driven by the fear that Switzerland would be overrun by Jews.

Fromer, however, believes that the vast majority of Swiss were not pro-Nazi. "Most of the people were against Germany and completely on the side of the Allies."

An island of tranquillity in a turbulent sea, Switzerland was spared the horrors of the war. Nevertheless, life was not easy, food rationing being the order of the day and mail delivery from the United States sporadic at best.

Jews could purchase kosher chickens from a Christian butcher in Basel. But most Jews bought their chickens live and had them koshered at the synagogue.

* * *

The war forced some Swiss Jews into morally unpleasant situations. Jacqueline Bloch, a Basel tour guide, said that her father, a soldier with the border patrol, requested a transfer to a different unit after he was compelled to turn away Jewish refugees.

* * *

Silvia Matile-Steiner, a spokesperson for the Swiss Bankers Association in Basel, projects a cool, unflappable demeanor in discussing the fate of unclaimed dormant accounts left behind by victims of the Holocaust. She has been interviewed by scores of journalists and can rhyme off her answers without missing a beat. But at the end of the interview, when the topic suddenly shifts to Switzerland's Jewish refugee policy, her tone changes and her features soften.

"I am ashamed of it," she declared unequivocally. "That's the darkest part of our policy, even if other countries were no better. Switzerland could have done more. I can't accept the argument that the boat was full."

When I asked her if Switzerland's attitude was colored by anti-Semitism, she appeared defensive. "The policy was determined by certain people in government and some of them may have been anti-Semitic," she replied, weighing her words.

* * *

Ulrich Schluer, 52, is mayor of Flaach, a bucolic village 35 kilometres northeast of Zurich. He is also a member of the federal parliament, representing the right-wing People's party, led by Christoph Blocher.

Of late, Blocher has been in the news, having gone on record as opposing a scheme by the Swiss government to establish a $4.7 billion (US) foundation to help the victims of oppression, poverty and the Holocaust.

Curious about his views, I requested an interview with Blocher. Since he was unavailable, I settled for a chat with Schluer, one of 29 People's party backbenchers in the 200-seat National Council.

Schluer, a historian by training, cites two reasons for his opposition to the foundation. It's an admission of guilt regarding Switzerland's wartime behavior. This he cannot accept. And he strenuously objects to financing it with gold from the Swiss National Bank. "The national bank," he observed, "must be independent from the political process."

Schluer strongly believes that Swiss voters will reject the idea in a referendum, likely to be held in 1998. But if they vote in favor of the proposed foundation, he will personally contribute to it.

Turning to another subject, Schluer described as "unreal" the assertion by the World Jewish Congress that Switzerland is sitting on $7 billion (US) worth of unclaimed Jewish assets. "I have no doubt that the real figure is $40 million," he said, referring to a figure released by the Swiss Bankers Association (SBA) to account for all dormant funds found so far. "I think the SBA conducted a careful audit, and I have the impression that Georg Krayer told us the truth." Krayer is president of the SBA.

In Schluer's opinion, the Swiss Jewish community has played a "very responsible" role as the Nazi gold controversy has inexorably unfolded. He rejects accusations that Blocher, his leader, is an anti-Semite. "Blocher is a fighter for the independence of Switzerland. He is very open-minded." And ideologically, he concluded, Blocher is a Swiss Ronald Reagan.

* * *

Francois Loeb, 57, has the distinction of being the sole Jewish member of Switzerland's federal parliament. A resident of Bern, the country's capital, he belongs to the Free Democratic party, an affiliate of the Liberal International.

An easy-going, self-effacing man, Loeb has been in politics since 1976, previously having served at the local and regional levels. He was elected to the National Council 10 years ago. Since then, he has been twice acclaimed as the most popular politician from Bern.

As well, Loeb is chief executive officer of the Loeb Group, a 116-year-old company which controls the smallest department store chain in Switzerland. In Bern, the Loeb establishment dominates a city block near the bustling railway station. The business, with 12 stores scattered throughout the country, was founded by his ancestors from Germany.

Loeb has connections to Canada. In 1966/67, he worked for Simpson-Sears' catalogue in Montreal, where his daughter, Nicole, was born.

* * *

On Israel's 40th anniversary, Keren Kayemeth shipped 40 Israeli cedar trees to Basel — site of the first Zionist Congress in 1897 — and had them planted in Bruderholz, one of Basel's poshest neighborhoods. Ten years on, the trees have grown, and Israel Park is still the only Keren Kayemeth forest (it is really a wood) outside Israel.

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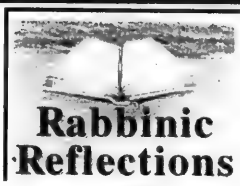

Campfire tales helpful in Israel

By RABBI AARON FLANZRAICH

A campfire is a wonderful thing.

In the summer, when the days are longer and warmer, the evenings are a welcome time to relax and enjoy the cool air. So we make our way outdoors, light a fire, and with family and friends toast marshmallows and tell our stories (true and not so true...!)

In Israel, lighting campfires is a near national pastime and we use the opportunity to share our experiences and lives with others. We hope they will benefit from the lessons of our mistakes and can use the story of our lives as a foundation for their own.

For a Jew, a life is not just a life, but another link in the grand and epic tale of our people. This is why the story of Korach Ben Yitzhar in this week's parshah of Korach is one of the saddest stories in the Torah — because it is the story of a life gone to waste, of destroyed potential, of lost opportunities.

In life, many of us strongly believe that what we have to say is of incredible importance. And in the heat and emotion of our own opinions, we all too often fail to realize that others have ideas, opinions and approaches that may very well be totally alien to our own. But this doesn't make them wrong. Only different.

Indeed, in Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers), we read, "Who is the wise one? It is the one who learns from all people." Thus, in the course of my rabbinic studies, I was taught a lesson I will never want to forget.

In the volumes of the Talmud that we study, there is a great deal of intense debate as to whether a particular law should be adopted as code. Yet, in spite of the clash of the great minds and great hearts of our holy sages, there is one thing that you will never read. You will read strongly worded rabbinic statements that begin with "In my opinion" or "I would think to say" or "It appears to me to be so," but no sage ever says, "This is the truth!"

Because in this world, truth is the most elusive of all targets. And in this lies the tragedy of Korach — that Korach insisted that he was the sole repository of knowledge. As the Torah tells us, "And he (Korach) stood up against Moses." (Bamidbar 17:2)

Korach assumed he was taking the high ground, but fortunately for us, the man he chose to battle against was a man who sought nothing for himself.

As Moses succinctly put it, "If only this whole nation were prophets!" He didn't want to go at it alone. Everything Moses did, spoke, thought and accomplished was for the sake of the Jewish people. He was, and remains, the prototypical leader.

As Korach angrily sowed the seeds of division, disunity and hatred, Moses patiently offered love, peace and understanding as the path to G-d.

In our Jewish world, we are replete with choice. We have Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and many other denominations. Each one believes that theirs is *the* authentic approach. But I argue that the only thing *truly* authentic is not the way we choose to practise Judaism, but the fact that we are Jewish. Leave us to make our choices and leave the judging to G-d. It is better to use our great energies as a people to build our sense of nation rather than destroy it. It is far better to tolerate than to condemn. Few have ever changed their minds through anger.

The stories that will be told about Korach around the campfire will only serve as a warning and not as an inspiration to us. Indeed, Korach's great sin was not the commitment to his cause, but his refusal to open his eyes and see that his way is not the only way.

While he will be eternally vilified, his descendants were given lofty positions in the ceremonies of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. For they chose, unlike their forbearer, to be part of us and not apart from us. So should we all.

Rabbi Flanzraich is the spiritual leader of Pride of Israel Synagogue in Toronto.

Our views can influence prayers

BY RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

Welcome to Midrashic Moments. I have found over time that my Thoughts for a New Moon, with its focus on women, has been growing and evolving. It became clear that Jewish life with its myriad of complexities could not be limited to one group or one gender. This monthly column will still appear at Rosh Chodesh and will still revolve around Jewish text and holidays.

Judaism encourages us to embrace a broad perspective on most issues; so once a month I invite you to share in a textual moment.

Included in the Torah portions for this month is the story of Bilaam. A Moabite king has hired Bilaam, a gentile prophet, to curse Israel. G-d has forbidden Bilaam to accept such a mission, but he attempts the journey nonetheless.

Along the way, there is an angel blocking his path whom he does not see, but his donkey does. After a most enjoyable exchange between Bilaam, his donkey and the angel, Bilaam arrives at the camp.

The king takes the prophet up one mountain where Israel can be seen in the valley below. Bilaam opens his mouth to deliver the curse, but instead a blessing results. The king is angry and suggests moving to a second mountaintop where only a portion of the Israelites can be seen.

On the second peak, Bilaam once again blesses Israel. The angry king moves Bilaam yet again and it is on this last mountaintop that Bilaam pronounces the words: "How goodly are your tents, Jacob, your dwellings, Israel," the very words which appear at the start of our siddur.

The story raises serious questions about God's communication with other nations and about the persona of a prophet. One can certainly question the spiritual integrity of a prophet whose donkey is more spiritually aware than he is. Yet the most pronounced absurdity seems to be the movement from mountaintop to mountaintop. If Bilaam was unable to curse Israel from one mountain, why change locations?

The story seems full of unexplained anomalies and unanswered questions. And yet it is the words spoken by the gentile prophet that we utter when we open a Jewish prayer book or enter a synagogue.

The answer may be found when one pictures the entire scene. The Israelites are in the valley below unaware of the intended curse. They remain unknowing and unchanging. Bilaam is being moved around above them in the hope that a change of perspective will result in a change of outcome. Each time he views Israel his perspective is changed, as is the outcome: the blessings become stronger with each occurrence. The text has given us an insightful glimpse at the unexpected outcomes that result from a change in view.

When we enter our synagogues to begin our prayers, we utter the words of Bilaam, the gentile prophet. Perhaps we understand how prayer can influence our perspectives or how our views can influence our prayers. When a problem seems insurmountable, perhaps all we require is another mountaintop.

JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

Parents must teach concept of morality

By ELLIOTT MALAMET

Is there something about young people that makes them resist the kind of authority that is inherent in Judaism? On this point, we find a very telling incident recorded in I Kings, chapter 12, which tells the story of Rehayam, who was the son of King Solomon and became king after him.

Rehavam, faced with possible civil strife in the wake of his father's system of heavy taxation, goes out and seeks advice of his cabinet, as it were. First he turns to his elderly advisors, and they tell him to eradicate the taxes, to tear down the heavy burden that Solomon had placed upon the people. They counsel caution — don't be brazen or arrogant, they tell him, take the long view.

Then Rehavam turns to his younger counsellors, the young turks. They are bold, not afraid of the future, unable to foresee any consequences to their actions. So what do they tell him? Keep the taxes up, keep the pressure on, don't worry about tomorrow.

And Rehavam heeds the advice of his young counsellors and maintains the heavy taxes. The consequences are that the northern tribes of Israel eventually rebel and form their own kingdom, separate from Judea, a catastrophic blow to national unity and the beginning of the end for Jewish sovereignty at that time.

And what does the Talmud say about this? It says: "If young people advise you to build and elders tell you to tear down, listen to the elders, for their breaking apart of things is, in truth, constructive, while the 'building up' of youth is really equal to destruction. The proof of this is Rehavam."

What is the Talmud telling us about the nature of youth? Young people, at almost any age, want to display independence and seek out their own path, as they look to explore the world and test its limits. They do not always factor in the long-term repercussions of their choices; so, young people, even under the guise of "building up," i.e. discovering themselves, can walk a non-productive path, if their energies are not tempered with a sound moral vision.

Young people seek out their own path

In other words, children must be tamed, to borrow the expression from *The Little Prince.* Parents must not be afraid of transferring a strong Jewish concept of morality to their children. Because if we don't, there's going to be a lot tugging at them in the other direction, a huge marketplace of ideas and temptations that await them in the outside world, and that child is an instant candidate for opting out of Judaism. We should not be surprised by that turn of events. We should be prepared.

My old political theory professor, the late Allan Bloom, author of *The Closing of the American Mind,* often used to argue that the university today no longer contributes to the moral development of young people, and the reason is that openness — the idea that every value that people hold dear is of equal significance — has become the credo of every young person. The only absolute value that many people in the West today maintain is ironically, that there are no absolute values. Everything is relative to one's culture, one's upbringing, one's point of view.

Bloom's observation, it seems to me, is profoundly true and tells us a great deal about why Judaism, with its series of dos and don'ts, meets such resistance in an open society and appears to be authoritarian to so many young people. In my next column, we'll offer some practical suggestions for softening such resistance and helping children create their own Jewish future.

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The Board of Directors of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care offers its heartfelt condolences to the family of the late

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LARRY S. GROSSMAN

Time to hop aboard the Internet express

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Summer is here. And that means it's time to say good-bye to work or school, even turn off the computer and go on vacation. So to help you get ready for your travels, here are a few places to visit on the Jewish Highway before you hit the real one.

If you are planning to visit any of the four corners of the earth, start your preparations at the World Jewish Congress' Jewish Communities of the World **[http://www.virtual.co.il/communities/wjcbook/]**. In addition to copious information about major Jewish communities, you'll find out that Tahiti's Jewish community of 120 has a new synagogue in Papeete that was consecrated in 1993. And that "the Santiago community maintains a volunteer fire department, called 'Bomba Israel.' Among the fire-fighters are several rabbis, and the two fire engines fly both Chilean and Israeli flags." Also see Am Yisrael **[http://www.amyisrael.co.il/]**.

Even if you have no travel plans, you can still tag along on a vicarious voyage. There are several interesting sites where travellers have published their journals. You can follow Australian Rabbi J. Hershy Worch as he "peddles his spiritual wares in the African outback, to a community of Jewish converts hungry for every morsel of Jewish learning" at **[http://www.jcn18.com/uganda/]**.

David A. Chapin tells of his travel experiences in Ukraine **[http://www.ncc.com/dvjcc/ukraine.html]**. And Calvin Sims of the New York Times tells of his visit to the fascinating town of Moises Ville, Argentina **[http://www.latinolink.com:80/life/0430ljew.html]**. Although Jews now make up only 15 percent of the town's 2,000 residents, Moises Ville is still permeated with the Jewish culture introduced by European Jews who came to Argentina a century ago.

Singapore's Raphael Meyer says, "It would be a pity to miss the opportunity to visit the magnificent Synagogues in the region and all the vast heritage that these Jews have to share." So he designed the Jews from Asia site **[http://www.kashrus.org/asian/asian.html]**. This is a comprehensive site with valuable travel information for Jewish travellers to India, Indonesia, Thailand, Japan, China, Singapore, the Philippines and Hong Kong. After reading these essays about Jews in the most surprising locales, G-d's proclamation in Ezekiel 22:15, has special resonance: "I will scatter you among the nations, and disperse you through the countries." **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/leviticu/haft/1KEDOS7.HTM]**.

Next week I shall write about some travel sites closer to home.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Greater Toronto Area

Greenberg concerned about 'split' in community

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Irving Greenberg, who to the chagrin of his right-wing colleagues is an outspoken proponent of Jewish pluralism, appeared for a brief moment to be dodging an interview question. That wasn't the case. An amused — perhaps rueful — laugh merely preceded his thoughtful answer.

Yitz Greenberg, as he had introduced himself, turned out to be direct, unpretentious and politely but unflinchingly critical of some of his Orthodox colleagues during a recent hour-long interview, praising the pioneering outreach efforts of groups like Lubavitch and Aish HaTorah while lamenting their contribution to divisiveness among Jews, as he perceives it.

"They have strengthened the hand that says there's no legitimacy to any other groups. It has tilted the balance...The side effect is that the modern Orthodox position has been shunted aside."

The question concerned Rabbi Greenberg's views on pluralism, which he promotes through CLAL – The National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership, the New York-based organization he co-founded in 1972. Has his philosophy changed since his 1953 ordination as an Orthodox rabbi, or has the rest of the Orthodox world just become more right-wing?

"A little bit of both," he conceded.

Unlike many of his colleagues, Rabbi Greenberg, 64, who was in town recently as a guest speaker at (the Conservative) Beth Tikvah Synagogue, espouses accepting non-Orthodox expressions of Judaism as legitimate.

Considered a leading Jewish thinker, the rabbi — who has a PhD from Harvard University — is president of CLAL, where he brings together Jewish leaders from every sector of the community for dialogue.

Born in the United States and raised in an Orthodox home with "a real sense of openness and respect for others," Rabbi Greenberg said it wasn't until the 1960s that his pluralist philosophy of acceptance, not mere tolerance, began to jell.

Rabbi Irving (Yitz) Greenberg

One of the factors was contact with non-Orthodox rabbis "of a very high calibre...You come to see their dignity and authenticity. It moved me from being just a liberal to being a pluralist."

Unfortunately, he added wryly, his transformation coincided with the general trend of Orthodoxy in the opposite direction. "It has caused great strains."

Some Orthodox rabbis would deny Rabbi Greenberg's status as a colleague, believing he has crossed a line, he explained. Others believe he's "wrong but we have to be tolerant because he does some good things too."

While the rabbi doesn't agree with all the changes introduced by the Conservative and Reform movements, particularly regarding the pace of change and the underlying authority, he is most positive about others.

"I think they will be seen in retrospect as pioneering new roles for women. In some cases I think they went too far, [but] I'm willing to learn from them.

"I think they have a lot to learn from the Orthodox, it goes without saying," he added.

Given recent trends, he fears the Jewish community is "heading for a split."

He has often been told by Jewish parents they would rather their daughters married non-Jews than Orthodox Jews. "This is a tragedy. Some people have become so assimilated that it's less disruptive to their lives to marry a non-Jew than an Orthodox one.

"I say to Orthodox Jews, 'What are you doing that gets people so angry?'"

At a UJA Federation lecture earlier that day, he said assimilated Jews must be persuaded, not coerced, into believing that Judaism is worth holding onto, or else the community will lose them.

He urged Jews to become more knowledgeable about Judaism and suggested incorporating Jewish values into the workplace and home.

The rise in religious fundamentalism over the past two decades, both within and outside the Jewish community, has been a reaction to unprecedented freedom to assimilate, the rabbi told *The CJN*.

It's not the right alternative, he argues, in part because it means "writing off 90 percent of the Jewish people."

And you can't really shut out the world, he noted. "I think the Torah is eternal. That means it not only lives forever, but it has to apply in every culture."

As a pluralist, Rabbi Greenberg thinks the ultra-Orthodox viewpoint "should be treasured," but not to the extent that "modernity becomes deligitimated."

He doesn't see the future as totally bleak. "There's [still] some health in the Jewish community. Probably the single most important thing that would help would be for the Modern Orthodox to reassert themselves, but it hasn't happened yet. I think we need emissaries of pluralism in every community."

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Farber meets with police recruits

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The sensitivity he found among 250 police recruits to hate crime is "heartening," says Bernie Farber, national director of community relations at Canadian Jewish Congress.

Farber spoke recently at the Ontario Police College, Aylmer, at the invitation of Rudy Gheysen, deputy director. On the same panel two women from London spoke on victimization of women.

It was the first time Farber spoke to such a large group of police candidates, and he said he was impressed at the attitude of these recruits who come from all over Ontario

The recruits, from village, town and city forces as well as the Ontario Provincial Police, were all university or college graduates and at least 25 percent were women, Farber said.

They are taking a two-month course at the college before going on the beat in their home towns and cities.

The questions Farber faced were insightful and represented a willingness to enforce the law against hate crimes, he said.

"I tried to draw a picture for them of how a member of a minority group feels when victimized and why a community is so devastated when there is a crime within its racial or religious group."

Though he was impressed with the number of women who were accepted as recruits, Farber said, "I didn't see many people of color. They still have a long way to go on that."

Among the questions he was asked were what is required of a police representative on entering the home of an Orthodox Jew and/or entering a synagogue or temple. "They particularly wanted to know when they should keep their hats on."

Greater Toronto Area

Community activist Shulman says goodbye to Congress

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ordinarily, Steven Shulman would be too young to have seen it all.

Only 32, Shulman is all too familiar with the world of white supremacists, hatemongers, neo-Nazi propagandists and mayhem-creators bent on fomenting racial divisions. For four years, he served as associate national director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress as well as assistant legal counsel, at a time when the organization was on a full-blown offensive against those who would torment the Jewish community and set racial groups against each other.

But recently, Shulman cleaned up his desk and said goodbye to that world, returning to private legal practice where he hopes to build a practice in immigration law, civil litigation and general business law.

It was an amicable separation for Shulman and Congress, with Shulman feeling it was simply time for a career change. He looks back on his tenure at Congress with some satisfaction, believing progress was made on a number of fronts where the protection of the Jewish community's interests were concerned.

His former colleague, Bernie Farber, national director of community relations, says "we're going to miss him. His legal background was of incredible use to us...He is a consummate professional. He has a grasp of issues and he speaks well."

With his background in law and his skill as a public speaker, Shulman played a significant role in preparing legal briefs, conducting research and articulating the views of Congress to public groups, government inquiries, the media and the general public.

He counts his work on the Somalia dossier, working with the Sikh community on the turban issue, opposing hate crimes and pressing for more fervent government action against war criminals as his most satisfying activities.

Not surprisingly, responding to the propaganda disseminated by Nazi-apologist Ernst Zundel was one of Shulman's first tasks — something that has kept community-protection groups busy for years. At the time, Zundel was using satellite transmission stations in the United States and short wave radio broadcasts to spread his gospel. Congress was at the forefront of those who convinced the stations to drop Zundel's programming. Although faced with a strong argument on U.S. First Amendment (free speech) bases, Congress argued running the shows "was beneath the dignity of these stations," Shulman said.

Shulman points proudly to his part in Congress' efforts to bring the issue of Nazi war criminals to the government's front burner. In January, 1995, he recalls, he participated in a meeting in which Justice and Immigration officials told a group of Jewish leaders they would initiate only four cases and wait until precedents were set before proceeding with more.

Steven Shulman

"Their initial position was indefensible. It was like them saying, we know there are many rapists and killers, but we only have the resources and precedents to deal with four," Shulman said.

Since then, with continued pressure from the Jewish community and with the embarrassment generated by U.S. investigator Steven Rambam's high profile interviews with Nazis, the government appears to be increasing its commitment to the issue. "It has been painstakingly slow since then, but we have managed to have our voice heard and it's had an impact," he says.

Shulman is particularly proud of his work in preparing the Congress legal documents for the inquiry into the Somalia affair. Congress, he noted, was granted full standing at the inquiry to address the issue of racism in the military.

"This is the story of a military culture, from leadership on down, that did not pay attention to racism right up to the Somalia deployment," he said. One of the inquiry's more dramatic moments came when a sergeant in charge of discipline, under cross-examination by Congress lawyer Keith Landy, said he was unconcerned by manifestations of neo-Nazi sympathies among soldiers of the Airborne Regiment.

Shulman was also deeply involved in advocacy for the rights of Sikh veterans to wear turbans in Canadian Legion halls and with the Toronto Muslim community's bid to erect a mosque in East York.

Working with these groups provoked an interest in immigration issues and brought him back to the law, he said. At Congress, "I honed my advocacy skills and it re-awakened my interest in private practice."

A one-time winner as a youth of BBYO's International Oratory Contest, Shulman went on to study political science and then the law. Working at Congress afforded him the opportunity to apply his idealism, his legal education and advocacy skills to issues that concerned him.

"I had a good experience working with top people in the law and political advocacy. That's the kind of experience that's difficult to get," he said.

While he's left the organization, he continues to believe that "from a resources standpoint, the community must put more into political advocacy...If we're to continue to play a leading role in this country into the 21st century, we need the stable and even increased funding for advocacy," he said.

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Thumbs up: Students at She'arim Hebrew Day School with Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick (left) and former federal solicitor general Robert Kaplan at the school's recent annual brunch. [Marek Goldyn Photo]

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Students praised at She'arim brunch

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – Although three politicians were the official honorees at Dr. Abraham Shore Academy She'arim Hebrew Day School's recent annual brunch, it was the students, parents and teachers who received the most praise.

When called to speak, Ontario attorney general Charles Harnick, former solicitor general Robert Kaplan and Herb Gray, deputy prime minister of Canada, all acknowledged the hard work and dedication of the various factions of the school.

"I have been involved with She'arim in a small way, but it has allowed me to see what you do every day. [The school] is a special place because of the children and community it serves and its curriculum," said Harnick. "It reflects the things to which we in the Jewish community strive — recognizing the needs of everyone."

Kaplan referred to the saying, "Sticks and stones can break my bones but names can never hurt me," and said that "the conventional wisdom is false. Words can humiliate a youngster and they can stick to them for life. From a young age, it matters to a child to be treated with dignity and respect." She'arim treats them like that, he said.

Gray commended She'arim teachers and parents for "recognizing human potential in each and every way. It would be a loss if there were no She'arim to bring out this potential."

The proverbs, he said, command students to "apply thy heart unto instruction [and that is what they do].

"There is a synergy between parents, teachers and students that brings out the best in everyone. I am honored by the cause served by this brunch and by the school."

Three 1997 graduates, Michelle Hausman, Mordechai Soroka and Adam White, spoke of their positive learning experience at She'arim and former student Avi Deutsch, now an architectural student at George Brown College, praised the school for helping him get this far in his education. A musical presentation by She'arim students was led by Ruth Zwilling Ohayon.

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MARCH OF LIVING

Three Leo Baeck Day School graduates currently at CHAT returned to Leo Baeck to talk to the grade 8 classes about their experiences on the March of the Living. Seen here (from left) are Neil Hammerschlag, Ryan Rakowski and Cory Birenbaum.

Greater Toronto Area

South African immigrants gather for school reunion

By SIMONE JOSEPH
Student Intern

TORONTO — Former students of King David High School flew from all over North America, England, South Africa and Australia to attend the school's reunion held recently in Thornhill.

Close to 550 people ate, danced, prayed and reminisced at the reunion of the King David schools, two Jewish day schools in Johannesburg, South Africa.

"The naughtiest little boys in class turned out to be the real successes in life...A lot of friendships were renewed and people enjoyed showing their family and children to the people they were at school with," says Heather Super, the coordinator of the Toronto Committee of King David Alumni of North America.

Super says Toronto has the largest concentration of King David alumni in North America and that a large number of them live in Thornhill.

The weekend's events included a Friday night service at Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, a weekend-long open house "meet and greet" event at the Sheraton Parkway Hotel on Highway 7, a Sunday morning brunch at Le Parc in Markham and a Sunday night grand gala dinner dance.

Graduates, from 1957 to the most recent class of 1997, attended the reunion of what Super says is "the largest Jewish day school in the Southern hemisphere."

The guests of honor were Norman Sandler, who started the high school and was principal from 1954 to 1973; Elliot Wolf, the current principal of the Linksfield campus; and his twin brother Jeffrey Wolf, who is the current principal of the Victory Park campus.

What is so special about the reunion is that while the South African community has scattered all over the world, they were brought together for this weekend, said Edna Lipworth, a 1979 graduate of the King David Victory Park campus.

"There's a huge pocket [of South African immigrants] in Sydney, Australia, there's huge pockets all over the States and there's obviously a lot of us here in Toronto. So a reunion is a momentous occasion because we don't ever imagine that we can [be] like other schools in North America where a reunion is taken for granted," she said.

Pamela Dennill, a 1972 graduate of the Victory Park campus who attended the school from Grade 1 to matriculation (Grade 12) and was a previous teacher at the school, said the high'ight of the weekend was the "camaraderie and the sense of loyalty that was displayed amongst the ex-Davidians...even though we hadn't seen each other in well over 20 years."

Super said next year there will be a King David alumni reunion in Israel and since King David was established in 1948, it will be sharing Israel's 50th birthday. In the year 2000, Super predicts a reunion in California.

When asked about the prospect of another King David reunion in either Toronto or another part of Canada, she said, "Eventually, we'll have another one, but it will take a few years before the cycle turns and it comes back here".

Toronto Committee of King David Alumni of North America. From left, Bernard Isaacs, Heather Super, Jeffrey Wolf, Norman Sandler, Elliot Wolf, Chips Klein, Allan Rabie and Rabbi Izak Rudomin. [Laurence Paiken photo]

Parents, kids' problems said not the same

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Parents must develop the confidence that they know what is best for their children, and act accordingly, says psychiatrist Harvey Armstrong, executive director of Parents for Youth.

Armstrong recently spoke at Westmount Collegiate in Thornhill at a program, Parents Under Siege: challenges of parenting your adolescent, sponsored by the school and by the York Region office of Jewish Family & Child Service.

The best asset a child, especially a child in trouble, can have, Armstrong said, is a parent who is committed to him, but who "doesn't feel that he owns the child's problems. He doesn't insist on fixing things for the child, but helps him without indignation, guilt or fear."

What he has found, he says, are that "children are choking from overparenting. Parents and kids need help disentangling themselves from each other."

We respond as if their problems are our problems, Armstrong said, and our dreams are their dreams. "We have to let that go."

The role of parents, Armstrong said, "is to help their kids control themselves, and to show them what the consequences of their actions are."

Parents are used to being blamed for everything that their children do, he said. "They devalue themselves. They are so fearful of other peoples' anger (their children's anger included) that the very act of setting boundaries is terrifying."

Yet, he said, boundaries must be drawn. "It is a myth that love is enough. There must be structure too."

Many parents tolerate treatment from their children that they wouldn't — and shouldn't — accept from anyone else, Armstrong said.

The consequences of a teenager's actions change as the child gets older, he said. "If a child doesn't get in until the middle of the night, you may have to lock the door and make a date to see him in two days. If a child is OK out until 4 a.m., he will be OK for the rest of the night."

Armstrong skirted the question posed from a member of the audience concerned about the danger to children, especially daughters, locked out of the house all night.

He had other suggestions for consequences for older teens: Don't cook unless you are given 24 hours notice that they will be home; disconnect the television; lock telephones in the trunk of your car.

"It takes ingenuity," he said.

Professionals are as guilty as anyone of blaming parents for their children's problems. "There are thousands of articles on that. But there are only two articles in all the literature on the effect of difficult kids on parents."

One problem teenagers have to deal with, Armstrong said, is the realization that their parents are no longer the ideal people the children once thought they were. Parents too have to deal with that, "and we become offended when our children treat us as just human beings."

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Darchei Noam helps Afghan family

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Last December while attending a social event, David Mendelsohn was approached by a former student with panic in his voice.

His brother, the student explained, had just phoned from Pakistan and was frantically requesting help in getting the family out of Afghanistan, away from the Taleban militia that had taken over the government.

Not knowing where to turn, the student, "Jay," asked his former teacher if he could help. Mendelsohn, a professor of English as a second language, agreed to look into the case.

Now, months later, Mendelsohn has succeeded in enrolling the support of his congregation at the Darchei Noam synagogue. Four of his friends have agreed to co-sponsor the family while the shul has publicized the situation in its in-house periodical and the synagogue was recently used for a fundraising musical evening.

In addition, Rabbi Lawrence Pinsker, the congregation's spiritual leader, has agreed to make his discretionary fund available for contributions to help the family.

Rabbi Pinsker's help has been invaluable and the congregation's support greatly appreciated, said Mendelsohn, who's dubbed the effort Project: To Save One Life. It's named after the Mishnaic verse that suggests if you save one life, it is as if you had saved the world.

Following his conversation with Rabbi Pinsker, Mendelsohn got in touch with an immigration lawyer who in turn discussed the case with Immigration Canada. In the wake of those conversations, Mendelsohn found the five people who would serve as joint guarantors for the family. In addition $25,000 will have to be raised: $1,000 immigration tax per person; $9,000 for airfare for the family of six; and $10,000 to aid in their settlement. So far, $13,000 has been raised.

While all this was going on, Jay's family paid smugglers to shepherd them through mountain passes into Pakistan, where three million Afghan refugees have fled. The family is well-known in Afghanistan but Mendelsohn and Rabbi Pinsker warned that publishing details of their lives could help identify them. Even in a Pakistani refugee camp, they are not safe from possible Taleban retribution, they said.

Coming to the aid of a Muslim family is unusual for Darchei Noam, which often does get involved in "worldly" concerns, Mendelsohn said.

"There's been a wonderful response in the shul," with people contributing sums ranging from $500 to $10, he added.

Rabbi Pinsker said the plight of Jay's family brought to mind a Holocaust memorial he attended in Manhattan seven years ago. At that time, the keynote speaker, Benjamin Meed, president of the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization, repeated the slogan "never again."

That should be applied broadly and not just to Jews, Rabbi Pinsker said.

Minorities in Afghanistan are subject to some of the same indignities that Jews suffered under the Nazis. They are made to wear distinctive clothing to mark them as a humiliated group and their women are forbidden to practise certain professions that had been open to them.

"The echo of the Holocaust is powerful," Rabbi Pinsker said.

As for Mendelsohn, he felt he had to do something once the student "came to me in a panic. What could I do? I felt I had to try to save their lives."

For more information call Darchei Noam Synagogue, 416-638-4783.

GETTING 'EM YOUNG

Adam Panov and Melanie Naiberg enjoy working at their new classroom computers in the all-day senior kindergarten at United Synagogue Day School's Bayview branch.

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בימי אליפות ההוקי לפני מספר שבועות שיחקו בחצי הגמר הקבוצה של דנבר קולוראדו נגד הקבוצה של דטרויט. אני עבדכם הייתי עם בני רז בקוויבק סיטי. מה זה קשור, אתם שואלים? ובכן, עד לפני שנתיים היתה קבוצת ההוקי של דנבר לא פחות ולא יותר בקוויבק סיטי. אלא שבספורט המקצועי הצפון אמריקני אין הקבוצה "שייכת" לעיר, אלא לבעלים שקנו אותה בממון רב. לפני שנתיים החליטו בעלי הקבוצה שקוויבק קטנה עליהם, ובגלל השוק היחסית קטן אין להם סיכוי להחזיר את השקעתם . הם עברו לדנבר שבטיחה להם הרים וגבעות. וראה זה פלא: תוך שנה זכתה הקבוצה באליפות... עכשיו אנו מסתובבים ברחובות קויבק ומגלים שהתושבים מאוד אוהבים את הקבוצה גם כשהיא בדנבר. ובחנויות הספורט נמכרים חולצות, כובעים ופוסטרים יותר מאשר של כל קבוצה אחרת! אני שואל בחור מקומי האם הם לא כועסים על ה"בגידה" והוא אומר לנו שדווקא לא, כי הם מכירים את השחקנים ושמחים שהם מצליחים. בשנה שעברה, כשזכתה דנבר באליפות, באו חמישה שחקנים להראות את הגביע והמדליות לאוהדים בקויבק. לא יכולתי שלא לחשוב כמה שונה התמונה הזו ממה שהראש הישראלי היה משדר: תארו לכם את בני יהודה תל אביב עוברת לשחק, נגיד, בבאר שבע. קודם כל היו יושבים עליהם שבעה, ואחר כך היו שונאים אותם (לדעתי בצדק) לכל החיים. אין לי ספק שקויבק סיטי בלי קבוצת ההוקי שונה מאוד עבור אלפים רבים של אוהדי המשחק, מה עוד שזו היתה הקבוצה היחידה שלהם בליגה מקצועית כלשהי. אולי התגובה הזו מלמדת משהו על הזיכור הנפשי שכל כך בולט פה. אנשים שעוברים בקלות מעיר לעיר בעבור חצי דולאר לשעה מבינים הרבה יותר קבוצות הוקי שעוברות מעיר לעיר עבור כמה מיליונים. אבל שישאר בינינו.

על שבאת חינם:

"לגידי קורן שלום רב, אני קורא את המאמרים שלך בCJN כבר הרבה זמן ובדרך כלל מאוד אוהב את מה שאני קורא. בהמלצתך קראתי ספרים שנהניתי מהם מאוד וקיבלתי מידע גם על מה שקורה בישראל, אבל אף פעם לא על מה שקורה כאן! בטורונטו, בקרב בני הקהילה הישראלית, הדרכים שונות, ולפעמים כל המרבה הרי זה משובח. כל האירגונים ותתי האירגונים, שבמקום לעודד השתתפות עוסקים בהתנצחות ותחרותיות וחבריהם שוכחים שהמטרה היא לאחד ולא לפלג את הקהילה. אם קיים עיתון עצמאי בעיר קמים חברי אירגון מסוים ומוציאים עלון משלהם במטרה להתחרות. נכון שאומרים כי תחרות היא יפה ומפרה, אך במקרה זה אף אחד מן העיתונים לא שומר על איזו שהיא איכות. אילו איחדו את כל הגורמים האלו אולי אפשר היה לקבל עיתון על רמה. לכל אירוע שמתקיים בקהילה יש תומכים ויש מתנגדים וכל אחד משווה את הפעילות של אירגונו לפעילות שיכולה היתה להתקיים אם חברי האירגון המתחרה היו "בני אדם". בברכה והרבה כבוד, יהושע גינצבורג ריצ'מונדהיל" -

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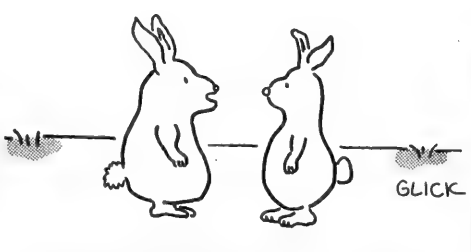

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Greater Toronto Area

War crimes cases heard by Supreme Court

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"If this isn't the clearest of cases to invoke that [principle], there is none," Bayne said.

At stake before the High Court is the future of denaturalization cases brought by federal authorities against Dueck, Helmut Oberlander and Erichs Tobiass. They are alleged to have lied about their wartime participation in Nazi-led murder squads.

A March 1 meeting between Justice Department official Ted Thompson and Federal Court Chief Justice Julius Isaac, in which Thompson complained about the slow pace of proceeding, touched off the stay application. Lawyers for the three men claim the meeting, and subsequent meetings, interfered in the judicial process and gave the appearance of a biased court.

Federal Court Judge Bud Cullen granted their application for a stay, but he was reversed by the Federal Court of Appeal. An appeal from that decision was before the Supreme Court last week.

During the three-hour hearing, Bayne and Michael Code, who represents Oberlander, were repeatedly questioned on their contention that a stay was the only appropriate remedy.

Justice Beverley McLachlin asked whether improper behavior would necessarily mean "we don't want to deal with this case."

Chief Justice Antonio Lamer asked whether meetings between Isaac and Thompson tainted all the other judges in the Federal Court.

Justice Peter Cory wanted to know whether other judges, who have taken a solemn oath of office, could provide the men a fair trial

Bayne told the justices that "an attack on judicial independence on this scale is unprecedented."

The March 1 meeting was not just about delay. Federal prosecutors were so unhappy with Associate Justice James Jerome, who was hearing the three cases, that they wanted him removed, Bayne said.

Jerome later recused (removed) himself but that recusal was "effected this private, back door way," he added.

Code said his client was apprehensive that he could not receive a fair trial. He also suggested the meetings created a "subconscious bias" among Federal Court judges.

Ian Binnie, who represented the Crown, said justice demands examining issues other than the meetings in question. The three alleged war criminals should be held accountable for their conduct. Other judges of the Federal Court must be treated fairly and not tainted with the suggestion they could not dispose of the cases without bias, he said.

Binnie suggested defence lawyers were hypocritical in arguing the March 1 meeting tainted the court even though they had been willing to allow Jerome to continue with the case after they learned of the meeting. In addition, Cullen, who ordered a stay, did not seem affected by interference.

Ed Morgan, representing Canadian Jewish Congress, the only intervener in the case, said in weighing the gravity of the misdeeds relating to the March 1 meeting, the High Court should also consider the gravity of the allegations against the three men.

"These proceedings commenced with allegations that these three individuals are alleged to have concealed their membership and activities in some of the most heinous organizations that the international community has ever known. We are talking here about Nazi death squads and their surrogate death squads in Eastern Europe," he said.

Giving the issue a Canadian spin, Morgan suggested the judges consider a situation in which double-murderer Paul Bernardo somehow had slipped into the United States and a justice official there met with a judge to express concern over the slow pace of proceedings.

"Would we be standing here now in Canada saying justice demands that Bernardo live freely in Vermont or New York?" he asked.

"The administration of justice in Canada will suffer a tremendous blow if it turns out that we cannot proceed with these proceedings."

Pol Pot trial divides community

[Cont'd. from page 1]

suggest Pol Pot has been captured by his former Khmer Rouge allies.

Abella, who chairs Canadian Jewish Congress' war crimes committee, said Canada is one of the few countries in the world with legislation allowing for criminal prosecution for acts committed outside its territory.

The purpose of such a prosecution would be "to teach us and remind us of man's inhumanity to man and how little we have progressed in the 20th century," Abella said.

Matas, who has represented B'nai Brith Canada on war crimes issues, said the organization had not taken an official position on the Pol Pot case either. But he believes that if the Criminal Code were strengthened, Pol Pot could be successfully prosecuted in Canada. Under current law, "Pol Pot could raise the defence that was set out in Finta and put it to the jury that he didn't have a guilty mind because he believed the people he killed were his enemies, based on the propaganda that he read," he said.

Matas suggested a permanent international court be established to prosecute cases involving human rights violations.

Sol Littman, spokesperson for the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, said Pol Pot "deserves to be tried" if he were to come to Canada, but Canada need not make any particular effort to bring him here. Trying him before an international tribunal would be a better solution. Canada need not be in the business of trying all alleged war criminals, he said.

Bert Raphael, spokesperson for the Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation, agreed that bringing Pol Pot before an international tribunal would be the best solution.

"My first reaction is that the Americans are probably passing the buck," but they don't have the enabling legislation that Canada possesses to try extraterritorial crimes, he said.

Should Pol Pot be brought to Canada, "there is the danger that his case could be mired the way our Nazi war crimes cases are."

Raphael suggested the United Nations extend the jurisdiction of the international court already trying Yugoslav war crimes cases to take on the Pol Pot case.

IGTO's Ben-Tzur completes term as tourism representative

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — After five years as director of the Israel Government Tourist Office here, Ruth Ben-Tzur is about to do something that she has helped persuade thousands of Canadians to do: pack her bags and leave for Israel.

Ben-Tzur, however, is going to Israel, not on holiday, but for good, having completed a term as perhaps Israel's most effective tourism representative in Canada to date. Her success seemingly has as much to do with the peace process as it does with her own considerable marketing skills and powers of persuasion.

Until five years ago, Canadian travellers to Israel did not exceed 40,000 annually in any given year except 1985, in which 45,000 made the trip. Since then, the annual number of Canadians to Israel has surpassed 50,000 several times — in 1995 it reached 52,000 — at least partly because Ben-Tzur managed to convince major tour operators like Regent Holidays and Sunquest of the profitability of offering smartly priced packages to Israel, and Air Canada of the good sense of inaugurating a new service to Tel Aviv in competition with the Israeli national carrier, El Al.

"When you're promoting a destination, the first thing you need is accessibility," Ben-Tzur explained recently. "We managed to get the biggest tour operators involved with Israel, but we found we couldn't expand the market with these big players if we were stuck with only 500 or 600 airline seats a week. That was very limiting. People can't swim to Israel."

Roughly one-third of Canadian travellers to Israel are Jewish, versus a corresponding figure of only about 20 per cent for the United States, according to Ben-Tzur. "Nobody has accurate numbers, but it's clear that the Canadian community visits Israel more than the American.

"In part, it's because the Jews in Canada are more affiliated than those in the United States. Also, in Canada the ties to Israel are more emotional; they're more business-like in the United States. In Canada, you can still talk to the emotions."

While the attachment of the Canadian Jewish community to Israel is strong, Ben-Tzur observed that relations between Diaspora Jews and the maturing Jewish state have attained a new level of parity.

"Israel is no longer the baby that has to be nourished, no longer the young state that the Diaspora has to bring up like a little kid. Israel is almost 50 years old. It's a very strong, very modern country that is doing very well economically.

"There is now a reciprocal relationship between Israel and the Diaspora. We in the Diaspora need Israel as much as Israel needs us."

Ben-Tzur's most enduring frustration has been in dealing with media outlets that apply a double standard to Israel and persistently portray the Jewish state in a negative light, she said.

"It's no secret that I wasn't satisfied with the general media coverage that Israel has received in North America and in Canada in particular. It seems that every hiccup in Israel becomes amplified and examined under an international microscope. Many things in Israel make news that would not be noticed in any other country. Because it's Israel, it gets a headline on the front page."

The peace process has improved Israel's "image problem" and has served as one of Ben-Tzur's best tools in promoting travel to Israel.

"Without the peace process, it would be very difficult to promote tourism to the region," she acknowledged.

Ruth and her husband, Eddie Ben-Tzur, an official with the United Israel Appeal, return to Jerusalem in mid-July.

"My husband, myself and my three children will always have a warm spot for Canada," she said.

"I felt at home here. I never thought that I could relate to the word 'home' as somewhere other than Jerusalem, but today I can really say that Toronto was home for me. I love the people, I love the culture, I love everything about Toronto but the weather. "

Israel's tourism ministry has designated Arie Shevy-Shibi, a ministry veteran previously posted in New York, Europe and the Far East, as Ben-Tzur's replacement. A farewell party for Ben-Tzur is slated for July 10.

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On Campus

Jewish student journalists gather for conference

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Dave Gordon

TORONTO — As editor of *Images*, a local Jewish university student paper published five times a year, and co-editor of *Dorot*, a Jewish student literary magazine, Dave Gordon sometimes felt his journalistic efforts were unique.

But recently the 24-year-old York University English major attended an intensive two-day conference of the Jewish Student Press Service (JSPS) held at New York University's Bronfman Centre for Jewish Student Life.

"I thought, 'Wow! There are other people who think as I do, who work as I do, put together these publications as I do," said Gordon. "It was such a learning experience."

There are some 40 Jewish student publications in the United States, according to a JSPS news release. Canada has fewer than half a dozen, to the best of Gordon's knowledge.

The purpose of the conference, according to the release, was to expose students to current Jewish media issues, help improve their technical skills and make them aware of the scope of the professional field.

JSPS functions as a network for Jewish student journalists as well as a source of articles, in the same way as a newswire service.

Gordon and Bram Aaron, a journalism student at Algonquin College in Ottawa, were the only Canadians among the 30 participants. Both received partial funding from their respective Jewish student organizations.

Aaron, 24, who is from Toronto, has several years' experience writing for Carleton University's student paper, the *Charlatan*. In fact, he enjoyed it so much he decided to pursue journalism as a career.

Although his main interest is sports writing, Aaron has written on Jewish subjects and said he would be happy to work in the Jewish media, a field about which he knew relatively little before the conference.

For Gordon, the Jewish student press represents an important conduit for opinion and a way of giving back to the community.

Speakers at the conference represented a "who's who of Jewish publications and editors," said Gordon. Among them were Winnipeg native Susan Weidman Schneider, editor-in-chief of *Lilith* magazine; Debra Nussbaum Cohen, Jewish Telegraphic Agency (JTA) staff writer; Leonard Fein, author and founder of *Moment* magazine; Blu Greenberg, feminist thinker and writer; Lisa Hostein, JTA editor; Letty Cottin Pogrebin, a founder of *Ms.* magazine; and Gary Rosenblatt, editor and publisher of the *New York Jewish Week*.

Issues addressed included investigative reporting, editing techniques – where to draw the line; and what constitutes Jewish content (both Canadians found the example of Jewish Olympic gymnast Kerri Strug particularly interesting). Most participants agreed, said Gordon, that just because someone is Jewish is not reason enough to do a story on them.

A session on Israel and the American Media reinforced Aaron's belief that Jewish students must be vigilant about monitoring how Israel is portrayed in the general media. Having responded in print to a "very anti-Israel article" in the general student press, Aaron recommends that students at least point out bias to others who will respond, if they are not inclined to do so themselves.

Bram Aaron

To his surprise, Aaron found a panel on Jewish Women and the Media worth attending. "I thought at first, 'What relevance does this have for me as a male?' I realized that, even as men, we need to be aware of these sorts of issues." Referring to his conference notes, Aaron noted the importance of maintaining balance within a story and doing justice to both men and women.

"I brought back nuggets of information – little gems – from every speaker," said Gordon.

Equally enlightening was the interaction with his American counterparts. Even those with a large Jewish student population to draw on were "a little envious" of the high number of editorial contributors (three dozen) to *Images'* most recent issue, Gordon said.

"A lot of conference-goers confessed they had to force friends to help out. I've been guilty of that myself."

Gordon returned from the conference full of ideas for the next issue of *Images*. "It was so intense that I came back physically exhausted but mentally energized."

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Volume 3 of Dorot, the student-run and student-produced "Jewish literary journal," has just been released. The editors, Sidura Ludwig, Dave Gordon, Janna Cohen and Moishe Weinberg, have provided readers with a diverse mix of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, drama and art. *Dorot* is co-sponsored by The Zukerman Charitable Foundation and by the Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto. Its official launch will be held in September.

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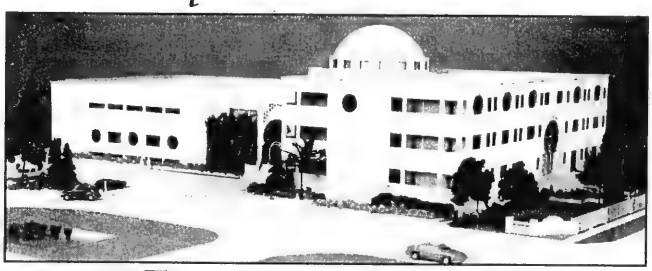

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, July 7, is deadline for July 17 issue. As *The CJN* offices will be closed the week of July 14, there will be no issue on July 24. That means that all items that would ordinarily appear July 24 must be included in the July 17 column. Then Monday, July 21, is deadline for July 31 issue. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, July 5

ROSH CHODESH

Celebrate the new moon of Tammuz with Azamra Institute and **Rabbi Jay Kelman** at Beth Jacob Synagogue, 147 Overbrook Pl., 10:45 p.m. A special Rosh Chodesh for the community. All are welcome. 537-2671.

Sunday, July 6

SEPHARDIC CENTRE

Sephardic Education Centre Toronto chapter presents Return to Eden, 9 p.m., Shark City, 117 Eglinton Ave. E. (19 years and over). Come and dance the night away! $8 in advance, $10 at door. For tickets, **Yaël** 398-4134.

FITNESS 'N FUN

Discovery Gymnastic Centre, a non-profit organization, hosts a Fitness 'n Fun day for children and families at Mel Lastman Square. Enjoy jumping on the trampoline, walking on a balance beam, rolling rhythmic ball and hoop, playing athletic games; try an aerobic class with parent, win a prize in a dance and rope jumping contest, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. It's all free. 638-3033.

Monday, July 7

YIDDISH CONCERT

Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation, Yiddish Concert in the Park, great songs of Yiddish theatre, with singers **Michael Mandel**, **Gloria Valentine** and **Stella Walker**, MC **David Abromowitz** and the Chutzpah Klezmer Band, 7 p.m., Earl Bales Park. Bring chairs or blankets. Admission free. In case of rain, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Sylvia Lustgarten** 635-2883, ext. 155.

Wednesday, July 9

WHAT'S YOUR SIGN?

Astrology, Horoscopes and Judaism with **Rabbi Amram Assayag**, chief rabbi, Sephardic Rabbinate of Ontario, presented by The Sephardic Education Centre, Toronto chapter, 7:30 p.m., Medrash Torah Vehayim, 7000 Bathurst St. (NW corner of Steeles). $5. **Yaël** 398-4134.

SUCCESSFUL AGING

Breakthroughs: Successful Aging, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue's final lecture in the Health Care series, focuses on new trends, new behaviors, hot topics, survival skills and current resources, 8 p.m.

And What Else Is New

GUARD YOUR TONGUE

Rebbitzen Phyllis Weinberg, lecturer/psychotherapist/columnist, is speaking in Ottawa July 2 and 3 to launch a Shmiras Halashon (Guard Your Tongue) Project for the community. This organization promotes positive speech and tries to teach the conscious awareness of the damage done by gossip and slander. Her topic: Hey, Did You Hear the Latest Gossip? She will also conduct a workshop on You and Your Stress — Who is in the Driver's Seat?

WIERZBNIKER LADIES

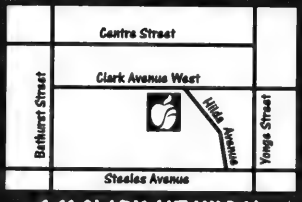
The Wierzbniker Ladies Auxiliary is alive and well! The reinstituted organization, mainly comprised of Holocaust survivors, held a successful tea at the home of **Mania Silverberg** and has made financial contributions to: Kiryat Sanz Laniado Hospital, Natanya, Israel, $1,200; The Soldiers' Fund, $500; Israeli Cancer Society, $400; Shaare Zedek Hospital, $400; Baycrest Hospital, $400.

OUTDOOR ASSISTANCE

Four Seasons Connections is a non-profit, outdoor home assistance program for seniors and adults with disabilities living in the City of North York. A student or adult worker is linked with you to assist with window washing, garden work, garage cleaning, planting, lawn mowing, outdoor painting. Students

[Cont'd on page 23]

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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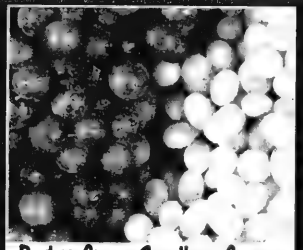

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600 g
299

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425 g loaf
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What's New

[Cont'd from page 22]

(12-17 years) charge $7 per hour and adults (18 plus) charge $12 per hour. Fees are paid directly by client to worker. Clients must provide all necessary equipment. 447-5074.

OLD VEHICLE DONATION

Do you have an old vehicle taking up space on your property? AADCO (Auto Auction Delivery Company) welcomes any vehicle in any condition at any location. It arranges for the pick up of your used vehicle and the sale price is donated to your local Alzheimer Society for which you receive a tax receipt. If you don't want to donate all the money to charity, the Society will receipt you for whatever portion you choose to donate. 1-800-463-5681.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Canadiana Department of the North York Public Library is looking for back issues of North York community newspapers in an effort to complete its collection. If you have any issues of the following newspapers, you are asked to consider donating them: *Willowdale Post* (1972-1976), *Yorkdale News* (1964-1965), *York Home News* (c.1958-c. 1961), *North York Maple Leaf* (c. 1976-c. 1977). **David Bain** or **John Jakobson** 395-5623. Donated materials will be photographed and provided on microfilm for future generations to consult.

FOR THE LOVE OF MUSIC

Volunteers are needed for Baycrest Centre's Music Library Cart Service. Volunteers will distribute music tapes to clients while providing them with a friendly visitor. Knowledge of music is an asset. For information and an appointment, Volunteer Services Department, 785-2500, ext. 2572.

SUMMER READING FUN

All 19 North York Public Library branches are offering their annual Summer Reading Fun program. Younger children are Going on a Mummy Hunt while older children Travel Down the Nile in Style. Along the way, children discover great new books, solve puzzles, do crafts, get a chance to win prizes and keep reading all summer long. Drop in at any North York branch to pick up a free story booklet. 395-5512.

BOARD MEMBERS

North York Women's Shelter, providing safety, support and counselling to women leaving abusive situations, is seeking women board members with experience and/or knowledge in human resources, finance or law. This is a two-year volunteer term with two meetings a month averaging 10 hours a month. **Maria Laws** or **Irene Barboza** 635-9427.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Separation/Divorce Group, begins July 8; Living With Your Teenager, begins July 7. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

BUSINESS ADVISORS

Entrepreneurial advisors are needed to sit on a Business Advisory Board. The process takes two or three evenings a week on a quarterly basis. Volunteers with business management experience question, critique and assess new business start-up plans. Volunteer Centre of Metro Toronto-North York Branch 631-6117.

FOR SENIORS

Senior singers wanted. Experience the joy of singing with the friendly **Shalom Singers** and participate in exciting concertising. Rehearsals are Thursdays, 10-11:30 a.m. at Bathurst Jewish Centre. 636-9468.

LZA Seniors Club has tickets for the the Stratford trip to see *Camelot* Sept. 3, available at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 2 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Kingston Thousand Island cruise, entertainment July 15; Ottawa, seven kosher meals, Renoir exhibit, Aug. 17-20. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). July 3 is bingo and games; July 10 video show with **Gabi Berlin;** July 13, trip to Owen Sound departing 8:45 a.m. members $32, guests $35. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: free blood pressure clinic July 8; Catskills Raleigh Hotel July 21-27; barbecue party Aug. 10; *Jolson* at Royal Alexandra Theatre Aug. 28; Casino Rama Sept. 17; Washington and Atlantic City $695 Canadian, Oct. 26-31; pre-holiday shopping in Buffalo, members $20, non-members $25, Nov. 5. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents culinary expert/cookbook author **Bonnie Stern** discussing Heartsmart Cooking, Thursday, July 3, 1:30-2:30 p.m. $5. Tickets at Information Desk or at door. **Joan.**

Israeli Etrog Club meets Wednesdays 7 p.m. in the auditorium. Programs include movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-alongs, dances, bingo. July 9 is sing-along. **Anna**

Dance to the music of the Creative Band Sunday, July 6, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880

Do a mitzvah, make a friend, call a newcomer! The Telephone Language Companion (TLC) Program of the Community Integration Program seeks volunteers to phone recently arrived immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Phoners are asked to make a commitment to telephone an assigned companion twice weekly for six months to help the immigrant develop telephone skills. **Melanie Kazman**, ext. 261 or **Luda Felik** 636-2316.

ABOUT PEOPLE

LAW SOCIETY AWARD

Among the recipients of the Law Society of Upper Canada's 1997 Bicentennial Award of Merit for distinguished volunteer service is Torontonian **Igor Ellyn.** In addition to his law practice, he was president of the Canadian Bar Association-Ontario in 1994-95 when the Bar Association passed a resolution remembering the victims of the Holocaust on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the death camps. He has also been co-chair of the Lawyers Division of UJA, chair of the international committee of Canadian Jewish Congress and has held leadership roles at Shaar Shalom Synagogue and Leo Baeck Day School. He has also participated in UJA Missions to Israel and Washington.

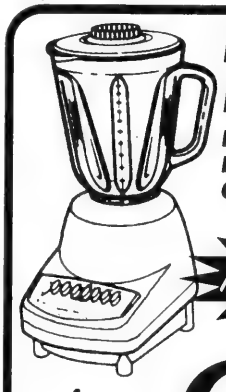
Igor Ellyn

HADASSAH-WIZO OFFICERS

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO officers 1997-1999 from left Margi Oksner, treasurer and financial secretary; Susan Shaffer, recording secretary; Sharon Kroft, president; Vivien Sharon, immediate past president; Carol Lou Spiegel, vice president; Dora Kichler, corresponding secretary.

USDS STUDENTS AND BEN-GURION

In celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut and as part of their integrated unit on Israel, Grade 5 United Synagogue Day School students from the Bayview Campus, researched the lives of famous Israeli statespeople and personalities. A highlight was the students' creation of soft-sculptured puppets which were used in dramatic skits. Featured are Samantha Katz and Michael Lieberman chatting with David Ben-Gurion.



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From coast to coast

JIAS holds national meeting in Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS) of Canada's national meeting here this year marked two milestones.

It was the first time the organization has held a national meeting outside Toronto or Montreal and it was the first major function at the new Asper Jewish Community Campus.

As JIAS celebrates its 75th anniversary, it looks back on a year of major change both in its personnel and focus. Following opening remarks by Larry Hurtig, president of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council, JIAS Canada president Adrian Albert of Edmonton presented a report on the year's events.

While helping new Jewish immigrants to Canada remains the organization's raison d'etre, JIAS leaders have concluded it is equally important to raise the agency's profile through education and to work more closely with Jewish family and child services in centres outside Toronto and Montreal to help Jewish newcomers become better integrated.

"While Montreal and Winnipeg have developed outreach programs to encourage more Jewish immigration from the former Soviet Union and Argentina, Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton are more concerned with integration and educating their communities on the benefits of immigration considering the negative reports in the general press," Albert said.

"Calgary and Edmonton are also concerned about having the financial resources to look after the needs of newcomers to the community."

Albert reviewed some of the events that have been held in Toronto and Montreal to celebrate JIAS's 75th anniversary, as well as some of the steps being taken or considered to raise the agency's profile.

"We are in the process of reactivating our public relations committee and we are working on a national brochure," he said. "We are looking for funding to allow us to put out our national newsletter more often. We have launched a national poster contest to mark our 75th anniversary. Unfortunately, our MAP project [the distribution of maps to Jewish schools outlining the different streams of Jewish immigration to Canada] is in limbo until we can find more grant money."

Barry Silverman and Sandy Atlin presented reports on JIAS activities in Montreal and Toronto respectively while Ian Fine of Nepean, Ont., gave a brief regional report.

In his report, new JIAS Canada executive director Michael Briks expressed anger at the recent decision by the Council of Jewish Federations (Canada) to cut the JIAS budget by $20,000.

"The council's decision to cut a relatively bare bones budget by six percent sends a warning signal and is a challenge to all levels of JIAS operations to do considerably more in an effective and efficient manner with considerably less," he said.

As a result, he noted, the national office will be staffed by part-timers and communications across the country will be shifted from the telephone to e-mail and other forms of higher tech communications.

JIAS relief and integration funds, and administrative funding for services provided by partners across the country, will remain intact.

In the meantime, the national office is looking to grants and other funding sources to make up part of the shortfall.

Briks reported that JIAS has been working with Jewish communities in Winnipeg, Windsor and Halifax to promote immigration, settlement and integration. The agency also took part in the 1997 JIAS Montreal 100 Family Mission to the former Soviet Union.

"Jewish immigration to Canada has not ended nor will it end in the foreseeable future," Briks said. "Anti-Semitism is on the rise in many corners of the world. It's up to all us to spread the word of JIAS."

Emily Shane, executive director of Winnipeg's Jewish Child & Family Service, gave a presentation on the experience of this city's new and growing Argentinian Jewish community.

Eight families have moved to Winnipeg from Buenos Aires in the past few months. Shane notes that they come not as refugees but as immigrants seeking to better their lives.

Therefore, they come with a positive attitude to the Jewish community here. They are westernized, speak English reasonably well and are economically independent. Some have already bought homes after less than a year.

"We hoped that there would be more professionals among our new community members from Argentina," Shane said. "Most who have come, however, have been professionals. Some are finding that their expectations are not being met. It is a challenge that we hope to resolve quickly. Overall though, over 50 percent are now employed."

Some of Winnipeg's other recent Jewish immigrants and refugees – those from the former Soviet Union and Bosnia – were also recognized with JIAS Canada scholarships. The John Hirsch Awards for the Performing Arts were awarded to talented young adult pianists Victoria Gomon, originally from central Asia, Evgenia Kirjner from Perm and Tatiana Roitman from Ukraine. Gomon is currently attending UBC while Roitman and Kirjner are at McGill.

The Michael and Marta Herling Award was given to Igor Tolstikov, from Uzbekistan, who is entering a Masters Program in Computer Science at the University of Waterloo.

General scholarships went to Slavic Djunc-Ciganovic, from Sarajevo, who is studying for a BSc in biology at the University of Winnipeg; Bella Imodina from Russia who hopes to pursue a career in medicine; and Dunja Malenica from Bosnia who is looking to a career in pharmacy.

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From coast to coast

Author shows Holocaust through children's eyes

By BAILA LAZARUS
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — It's not often a speaker can keep more than 50 elementary school children quiet and attentive for almost an hour, unless of course it's their teacher giving out information for an upcoming test.

But Carol Matas needed no desk or blackboard to hold the children's attention. The author had a silent house as she read from her work to the Vancouver Talmud Torah students at the Isaac Waldman Jewish Public Library May 26. Many students were keeping their excitement in quiet check, anticipating a chance to get their books signed.

"She talks about issues that we think about and want to know about," said Jessica Stoller, 12, explaining the author's success with her readership.

Those issues are not your everyday topics of kids growing up in North American homes trying to figure out who to ask to school dance. The stories cover some of the most horrific periods and subjects of modern history.

Her series *Lisa, Jesper,* and *Daniel's Story*, for which she is well known, are novels about young teenagers experiencing the Holocaust. But she has also written *It's Up to Us* about nuclear war, *The Burning Time* about witch hunts in 16th-century France, and *Sworn Enemies* about two Jewish children in Czarist Russia.

"Writing for the age that I write for seems to come naturally for me," said the 47-year-old Winnipeg writer. "It's not even a conscious thing. All I think about when I'm telling a story is how to tell it in the best way possible, not how to tell it in the best way possible for that age."

The best way possible means including some sticky moral issues in her work, for which she has been praised. Issues such as how far one person should go to survive or what happens when a rabbi becomes too friendly with teenagers.

"Sometimes that kind of honesty is troubling for children's book people," she admits. "They want everything to be very uplifting and very nice. If I get in trouble with reviewers it's because it's very difficult for people to handle that."

Matas' work recognized

Despite such observations, Matas' work is not without recognition in the literary world. *The Burning Time* was short-listed for a Governor General's award in 1994. *After the War*, which might be called the fourth in the series of Holocaust novels, won, among numerous other nominations, a 1997 Canadian Jewish Book Award for young adult fiction and the American Library Association best book of the year for young adults.

Though some of her adult readers may find the topics of her books tough to deal with, such is not the case with the audience for which they were written.

"They're easy to follow along," said Adam Braverman, 13. "I like the kind of style that she has. A lot of her characters are a year or two older that we are, but they have the same kind of attitude towards what we care about in those situations."

Mazel Tov

מזל טוב

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Arielle, daughter of Ules & Francine Pollock turns 2 July 3. Grandparents and great-grandparents are Brenda & the late Norman Pollock, Sadie & Al Fineberg.

Mazel tov to Robin & Nicholas on their engagement. Robin's parents, Ken & Sheila Mitchell, and Nicholas' parents, Peter & Barbara Stein, are thrilled.

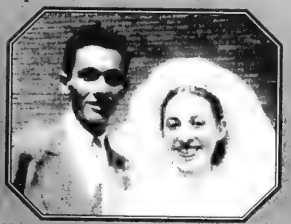
Pepi Ross, Phil Ross and Ellen & Saul Magder announce the engagement of their children Cari and Ari. A June 1998 is planned.

Mazel tov to Gloria & Leonard Wiseberg on your 40th anniversary. Love and kisses from Barb, Azriel, Sigal, Nitzan and Daphne.

Mazel tov to Marci Akman who recently graduated from York University with a BA in sociology. Love and best wishes from your family.

Rina & Matt Ivanski and Gail & Joe Forberg announce the engagement of their children Susan Ivanski to Steven Forberg. Proud grandparents are Sima & David Forberg.

Mazel tov to Etta & Morris Nelson on their 65th anniversary, May 24. Love, Sylvia, Hermie, Suzanne, Wendy, Vern, Barbara, Sheldon, Alex, Arielle and Russell.



Happy 50th anniversary to Sandy & Earl Greenberg. Love, Marsha, Corey, David, Robby, Janice, Michael, Rebecca, Shawna, Jonathan, Laura, Daniel, Carly.

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Jews must make peace with each other: PM

By MICHELE CHABIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Before Israel can make peace with its Arab neighbors, the Jewish people must make peace with one another.

That was the message Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu conveyed Sunday to the Jewish Agency for Israel Assembly.

"For there to be peace between Jews and Arabs, between Israelis and Palestinians, first there must be peace at home," said Netanyahu, referring to the growing rift between religious and secular Jews in Israel and the Diaspora.

"The key is to have peace among the Jews. We must have unity to meet our goals."

While stressing that Israelis must learn to be more tolerant of Jews abroad, the prime minister rejected the notion of American-style pluralism as a model for Israeli society.

Unlike the United States, which long ago defined the boundaries between religion and state, the religion-state relationship in Israel is still evolving, Netanyahu said.

He told more than 500 delegates on the assembly's final day, that Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion concluded nearly 50 years ago that "there is no way to resolve the disagreements between the halachic view of running the Jewish state and the secular view."

For this reason, Netanyahu said, the country has developed "a series of ad hoc compromises which Ben-Gurion called the status quo.

"We have communities that are becoming increasingly secular, and others that are becoming increasingly religious over time."

To accommodate both lifestyles, "there are certain compromises we make to keep this society intact," Netanyahu said.

"Religious communities are closed on Shabbat, while the secular communities are open. Some Israelis go to the army, some go to yeshivot."

In his address, Netanyahu appeared to scold Reform and Conservative Jewish leaders for disturbing what he called "the slowly evolving status quo."

In an apparent reference to Diaspora efforts to block legislation that would cement in law Orthodox authority over conversions, Netanyahu said, "there was an attempt to deliver a hammer blow."

While he acknowledged that the conversion bill was introduced by Orthodox Knesset members without input from Diaspora Jews, Netanyahu said Diaspora Jews often do not consult Israelis on religious matters.

"When it comes to patrilineal descent, no one consulted Israel," said Netanyahu, referring to the Reform movement's decision to regard as Jewish any child born of a Jewish father.

"If you don't want unilateral actions, let's avoid hammer blows."

Legislative work on the conversion bill was suspended last week after non-Orthodox leaders negotiated an accord with the government, establishing a committee to find a compromise this summer on the divisive issue.

"I urge people to tread very lightly on this very fragile ground," Netanyahu said. "I urge greater tolerance toward one another."

Change, he added, "must be incremental."

In contrast to pluralism, there was consensus in the hall when Netanyahu called for 50,000 young Jews to visit Israel every year.

"That's five times the amount who normally come," he said.

"We must make great efforts to bring youngsters here. There is nothing like walking the streets of Jerusalem, touching the [Western] Wall, to connect them to their roots."

While he applauded the prime minister's goal to bring more young Jews to Israel, Alan Feldbaum, a delegate from South Bend, Ind., had another idea.

Referring to the three-day fact-finding trip he and other delegates had taken last week to the former Soviet Union, Feldbaum proposed a Peace Corps-type program that would bring together Israeli and Diaspora teens.

"I'd like to take Jewish kids from the United States and their Israeli counterparts and send them to places like Nikolaev, a little town in Odessa that we visited. They could be partners, teaching other young people. Then we would really have something."

"The opportunity is there," Feldbaum said, "if we put the resources behind it."

Additional compensation offered

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

FRANKFURT — Thousands of Jewish Holocaust survivors could be eligible for additional compensation from Germany.

Under a recently negotiated agreement, qualified survivors could receive about $290 a month.

The accord reached between the German government and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany eases the criteria for receiving such assistance.

Those who previously received up to $20,230 in compensation from the German government can file a claim to obtain the additional payments.

Monthly payments were previously restricted to survivors who had received less than $5,780 in German compensation.

The money comes from a special hardship fund for Holocaust victims set up in the 1990 German unification treaty. The criteria for the monthly payments have often been criticized by both German and Jewish groups.

To qualify for the $290 monthly payment, survivors must prove that they spent at least six months in a concentration camp or at least 18 months in a ghetto or in hiding in Germany or Eastern Europe.

Children who were separated from their parents can file claims if they lived under a false identity for at least 18 months.

Those who lived in a Western European country at the time of persecution are not eligible because Germany paid reparations to those countries after the war.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Claims Conference and the American Jewish Committee continue to discuss the issue of compensation for Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe with senior German government officials, but no solution is in sight.

In May, the American Jewish Committee ran an advertisement in the *New York Times* to call attention to the problem.

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Russian Jewish community adjusting to new freedoms

By PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

MOSCOW — In the dingy and cramped courtyard of Moscow's Choral Synagogue, recent arrivals to the Jewish community have revived an ancient ritual. Jews from Chechnya and Georgia gather occasionally to slaughter sheep to provide themselves with kosher meat.

Second of a four-part series

Ten years ago, such an activity might have landed the perpetrators before a Soviet court. But in today's Russia, it's an indication that the practice of Judaism is reviving.

Ever since the Soviet Union collapsed and a form of rough and ready democracy took its place, the Jewish community and other minority groups have experienced a rebirth of community life. The Jewish community has seen the spontaneous creation of dozens of local organizations, as well as of an umbrella group, the Federation of Jewish Organizations, more commonly known as the Vaad.

For Michael Chlenov, president of the Vaad, planning for the welfare of the Jewish community is a greater priority than preparing them for life elsewhere. Since 1989, when there were no independent Jewish organizations, hundreds have been created across Russia and 300 have joined the Vaad.

Synagogues have been revitalized and new ones opened; several Jewish schools have been launched; kosher food has become available, though it remains expensive and hard to find; Jewish groups from abroad, including the Jewish Agency, the Joint Distribution Committee and an Israeli government liaison office, have established their presence; a Jewish theatre has experienced a burst of new life; and several Jews have risen to the highest levels of the Russian government.

The exodus of Russian Jews that so captured the imagination of the Diaspora in the early '90s has diminished, with emigration from larger ex-Soviet cities petering out. Jews from small towns and from the poorer republics in the south continue to make aliyah.

Close to one million Jews remain in Russia and another 600,000 to 700,000 in Ukraine. The city of Moscow alone is home to an estimated 250,000 to 300,000 Jews and St. Petersburg has a similar number. According to Chlenov, some sort of Jewish organizational life exists in 100 cities.

Chlenov, who also serves on the executive of the World Jewish Congress and as president of the Euro-Asian Jewish Congress, said those estimates are not based on halachic definition of Jewishness, but on Israel's Law of Return.

"We have a very specific type of identity. It's predominantly ethnic. The role of religion as a cementing power was very low under 70 years of communism," he said. For many urban-dwelling Russian Jews, identity was linked to the perception they are members of the country's intellectual elite, he added.

Elite or not, the Russian Jewish community faces enormous challenges, not the least of which is caring for an increasingly elderly and impoverished population. Seniors account for half the Jewish population and many live in dire economic circumstances, Chlenov said.

While the Vaad is Russia's largest umbrella organization, it is not the richest, said Vaad vice-president Roman Spector.

In fact, "the Vaad is a union of so-called poor people," he said.

Some of Russia's wealthier Jews, including bankers and industrial magnates, have established the Russian Jewish Congress, which finances its own projects. The Congress does not assist the Vaad in any of its programs.

Relations between the two organizations are proper and a new group has been formed to serve as a venue for discussing coordinated activities, Spector said.

Figures show that in recent years, Russian Jews increasingly are staying put — at least in the larger cities. Chlenov predicts a 30 percent drop in 1997 emigration compared to 1996 when 16,000 Jews left Russia. Only 1,000 of them were from Moscow. The majority of emigres originated in "the provinces" where Jews experience a lower standard of living than in the cities, he said.

Anti-Semitism is not proving a major factor in emigration, he continued. It is no longer state policy though "there is quite dangerous social and political anti-Semitism manifested by non-governmental organizations and among political opportunists," he said.

An indicator of the new openness of the Russian political system is the success of several Jewish or partly Jewish politicians who have vaulted to near the top of the Russian government. First Deputy Premier Boris Nemtsov, one of the country's most popular politicians, is Jewish and the other First Deputy Premier, Anatoly Chubais, is reputedly half-Jewish. Economics Minister Yakov Urenson is Jewish.

* * *

One indication that Russian Jews have experienced a sea change in local attitudes in recent years is the flourishing of Jewish education, from kindergarten and elementary school through to university programs.

The Moscow National Jewish School, a state-supported institution, is one of three Jewish day schools in Moscow. Established in October 1991, the school educates 250 students from grades one through 11. The building is bright and cheery and its walls are decorated with children's artwork as well as paintings provided by the Association of Jewish Artists of Moscow. The school has a kosher canteen supervised by a mashgiach.

Natalia Doukhon, a Grade 8 teacher, said the school has proven to be a runaway success, with its graduates generally excelling academically. The children receive instruction from two to four hours a day in Jewish studies.

She described the school as "liberal" with no mandate to push religious belief. Instead, it teaches *about* religious customs, Jewish history, the Hebrew language and Zionism, she said.

The school serves a dual purpose of educating parents as well as children, Doukhon said. People in their 30s and 40 are "a lost generation" who know very little about Jewish culture. Parents come to the school to share in holiday celebrations with their children and learn about Judaism from their kids, she added.

After high school, students have the opportunity of enrolling in Moscow State University or the Russian State Humanitarian University, where programs in Jewish culture, history, Yiddish, Hebrew and other Judaic subjects are offered, Spector said. About 450 students are currently enrolled in Jewish programs in those institutions, he said, adding there are six yeshivot now operating in Moscow.

* * *

As mashgiach at the National School, Zev Emmanuel is responsible for overseeing the kashrut of food served there. Appointed by Rabbi Moshe Goldberg, rosh yeshivah in Moscow for Chabad Lubavitch, Emmanuel said "it's getting easier to get kosher food, but it's very expensive."

Moscow is now served by two shoichetim (kosher slaughterers) but kosher food is available in only a few locations. Chabad Lubavitch is planning to open a large kosher food store, he said.

So far, Georgian Jews, Israelis living in Moscow and the families of children at the Jewish schools are the main customers. People living outside Moscow and St. Petersburg have little access to kosher food, Emmanuel said.

Emmanuel came to religious life late in life. A former member of the Spetnaz, the Russian Green Berets, he served in Afghanistan for two years. During that time, he had the opportunity to observe Passover and eat matzah when a member of his unit travelled to Tashkent to get the unleavened bread.

An expert in karate and other self-defence disciplines, Emmanu-el said his journey back to Judaism "is hard to explain. But a Jew always searches in different churches and confessions for God. But no where does he find God except in Judaism."

Israel & the Jewish World

The Week in Israel

June 23

• Israel and Poland inked a free-trade agreement scheduled to take effect in January 1998. The agreement covers all industrial exports and some agricultural exports.

• Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat said his security forces last week detained a woman who was planning to carry out a suicide bombing in Israel. Arafat has been blamed for not doing enough to prevent militant Islamic groups from carrying out attacks in the Jewish state.

June 24

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu asked for a meeting with Arafat in an attempt to revive the stalled peace negotiations. Reports indicate that Arafat responded by asking Netanyahu to implement the current peace agreements.

June 25

• Syria condemned recent Israeli-Turkish naval exercises. The Syrian foreign minister made his remarks at a conference attended by representatives from several Arab states.

June 26

• Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy met with Netanyahu in an effort to improve their relationship. The two men have been at odds in recent days over the possible accession of Ariel Sharon to the post of finance minister.

• The Knesset passed preliminary reading of a bill that would prevent Israel's president from pardoning a criminal convicted of killing a prime minister or judge. The initiative was prompted by the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

• A senior Palestinian official criticized the Knesset's approval of a proposal to annex Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The official called the move "the beginning of annexation and expansion at the expense of all the Palestinian lands."

June 27

• Fierce clashes between IDF troops and Palestinians broke out once again in Hebron after almost a week of tense calm in the city.

With files from JTA and JPFS.

Israel's final borders

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Although Israel's peace talks with the Palestine Authority are at a complete standstill and permanent status negotiations are thus far off on the horizon, speculation concerning Israel's final borders abounds.

Last month, just days after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denied reports that maps published in Israeli newspapers reflected his ideas of Israel's future boundaries, he presented the cabinet with a strikingly similar proposal.

Calling it the Allon-Plus plan, Netanyahu recommended that Israel should retain the Jordan Valley, the Gush Etzion bloc of settlements, the greater Jerusalem area and a security belt west of the old Green Line.

Under this scheme, which leaves the fate of the Gaza Strip in abeyance, Israel would annex at least 50 percent of the West Bank and virtually all the Jewish settlements there.

Despite Netanyahu's denials, the maps of Israel's final borders, which appeared in *Yediot Aharonot* and *Ha'aretz*, bore a resemblance to his own thinking. *Yediot* reported that Israel would keep 40 percent of Judea and Samaria, while *Ha'retz* claimed that the figure was closer to 60 percent.

Averaged out, these claims amount to about 50 percent of the West Bank — a significant enlargement of the original Allon plan, which is named after the late Yigal Allon.

A commander of the pre-state Palmach, as well as a deputy prime minister and a foreign minister in successive Labor party governments, Allon unveiled his plan shortly after the Six Day War.

Allon, a security hawk, wanted to hold on to one-third of the West Bank: a corridor along the Jordan Valley, the Hebron hills west of the Dead Sea, the Latrun salient, Gush Etzion and much of East Jerusalem.

For the most part, the land coveted by Allon was either uninhabited or sparsely populated by Palestinian Arabs. In accordance with Labor party strategy, Allon had no desire to occupy areas with a strong concentration of Palestinians.

Allon's policy guided the Israeli government for a decade, until the accession to power of the Likud's Menachem Begin. Influenced by the messianism of his religious coalition partners and the secular nationalism of the World Zionist Organization's settlement department, Begin expanded the scope of the Allon plan, launching an ambitious and costly campaign to build settlements in densely populated Palestinian sectors.

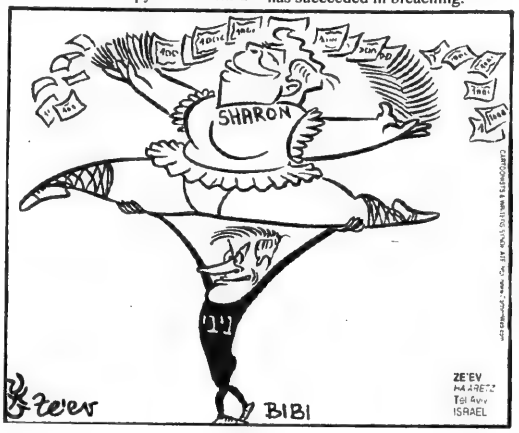
As a result of this ideologically-driven effort, the purpose of which was to maintain control of the West Bank, the number of settlements there increased by leaps and bounds.

Netanyahu, given his Revisionist beliefs and the composition of his government, is personally attracted to this vision. But in keeping with the provisions of the Oslo accords, he is prepared to partition the West Bank and grant the Palestinians some form of autonomy in non-contiguous islands of territory separated from each other by a network of Jewish settlements and roads.

A departure from Greater Israel doctrine, the plan owes its inspiration to The Third Way, the relatively centrist party in Netanyahu's coalition, and Ariel Sharon, the minister of national infrastructure.

In several respects, Netanyahu's conception of Israel's final borders is somewhat like the unofficial pact signed by Yossi Beilin of the Labor party and Michael Eitan of the Likud last year. They agreed that Israel should not return to the pre-1967 lines, that the majority of settlements should be under Israeli sovereignty and that Jerusalem —Israel's capital — should remain undivided. For the record, this document of national consensus was neither endorsed by Netanyahu nor accepted by the Palestine Authority.

The Palestinians, who now exercise varying degrees of control over 27 percent of the West Bank, fully expect Israel to relinquish at least 90 percent of the West Bank and Gaza, or 23 percent of Mandatory Palestine. And therein lies an awesome impasse, one that neither American nor Egyptian diplomacy has succeeded in breaching.



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Israel & the Jewish World

PM-Levy row delays cabinet reshuffle

By JAY BUSHINSKY and MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will likely have to delay the announcement of his new cabinet appointments. The prime minister had originally intended to introduce his new appointees this week.

The delay is a result of the ministerial flap over Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's secret meeting last week with Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), deputy head of the Palestinian Authority. One of Netanyahu's senior aides predicted a delay of at least 24 hours.

Foreign Minister David Levy, was deeply offended by not having been informed of the Sharon-Abbas rendezvous. He cancelled a scheduled meeting with Netanyahu at which the two men had been expected to patch up their most recent differences.

Levy called off the meeting, which would have been his third in the past four days with Netanyahu, last weekend, only half-an-hour before it was to have taken place. Levy also stated openly for the first time Sunday that he objected to Sharon's joining the "kitchen" cabinet — currently comprising the prime minister, foreign minister, and defence minister.

Netanyahu sent out reconciliatory messages, saying he had full confidence in Levy, and intends to discuss with him the next moves in the talks with the Palestinians at the first opportunity he gets. Israel Radio reported that the foreign minister left Jerusalem to attend a family event in the North. It did not elaborate. Sources close to Levy said he has lost all confidence in the prime minister and is considering resigning.

The Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman and Levy's assistant Ya'acov Bardugo met Sunday night in an effort to mend the rift between the two.

As Levy and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai bristled over their not having been notified of Sharon's talks with Abbas on his private farm June 16, other sources revealed that Mordechai participated in a clandestine meeting last week with Nabil Shaath, the PA's planning minister. The Defence

David Levy

Ministry's spokesperson refused to comment on the report.

Sources close to Netanyahu said the Sharon-Abbas meeting was kept secret at the request of the PA.

"There was no reason to tell anyone about it," an official said, "because nothing substantive came of it."

Abbas was surprised by the "leak" of his meeting with Sharon to the media. At the time of the broadcast on Channel 1, he was having dinner in the Ra'anana home of Nimrod Novik, ex-adviser to former prime minister Shimon Peres. Also present were PA counter-intelligence head Mahmoud Dahlan, Peres, and MKs Yossi Beilin, Ephraim Sneh, and Haim Ramon.

Netanyahu conferred with Sharon for more than two hours Sunday, their conversation presumably touching on the fallout from the Abbas talks and Sharon's projected appointment as finance minister in place of Dan Meridor, who resigned June 18.

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Israelis rally for Netanyahu to resign, call new elections

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israeli protesters took to the streets of Tel Aviv last week in separate rallies calling for an end to the Netanyahu government and to Orthodox influence.

Some 50,000 Israelis called on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to step down and they called for early elections during a rally last Saturday night at Rabin Square in central Tel Aviv.

The demonstration came after a week of growing crisis within the coalition. While the government defeated a no-confidence motion in the Knesset, several coalition members, including Foreign Minister David Levy, stayed away from the vote to protest Netanyahu's manner of running the country.

Commentators said that growing strains within coalition ranks could increase the chances of early elections.

The event was organized by a grassroots organization formed in response to the Bar-On affair.

At another rally in Tel Aviv, several thousand Israelis protested what they maintained are attempts at religious coercion by haredi Jews.

One of the slogans for the demonstration, "Stop the Haredim," drew sharp criticism from both religious and political circles, who maintained that it was racist and intolerant.

The rally came against the backdrop of the political strength the religious parties gained in the last elections and the resulting policy. Three religious parties, which hold 23 seats in the Knesset, are part of Netanyahu's coalition.

Religious coalition members have been trying to push through legislation that would set into law the Orthodox establishment's sole authority over conversions conducted in Israel.

An interdenominational committee formed as a result of negotiations between non-Orthodox U.S. Jewish leaders and the government is trying to work out a compromise on the conversion legislation by mid-August.

IDF, Jordanian army hold joint exercises at Naharayim

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The IDF and the Jordanian Armed Forces have conducted a joint military exercise in evacuating casualties from the Naharayim enclave, paving the way for the site to be reopened after being placed off limits following the March 13 massacre of seven school girls by a Jordanian soldier.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai ordered the IDF to arrange the exercise a few weeks ago and its implementation Sunday came during the visit to Israel of the Jordanian deputy chief of staff, Lt.-Gen. Mohammed Salameh Hiwan.

Hiwan briefed Mordechai on the exercise during a visit to the defence ministry in Tel Aviv afterwards. Mordechai also received a running account of the event from the IDF, the defence ministry added. The meeting was attended by senior Jordanian officers as well as IDF Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilnai, Ilan Biran, director-general of the Defence Ministry, and David Ivry, special adviser to Mordechai.

Defence Ministry officials said both sides expressed satisfaction with the defence and military relations between the two countries. The open cooperation between the IDF and Jordanian army comes in contrast to the cold relations between Israel and Egypt, and the limited security coordination between the IDF and the Palestinian Authority.

Despite the March massacre, military relations between Israel and the Hashemite kingdom have remained warm and are constantly growing. Since the 1994 peace treaty between the two countries, Israel has become a staunch supporter of Jordan's military, and was key in obtaining U.S. weapons and debt reduction for Jordan.

Security relations between the two countries have grown so close that senior officers from both sides have been invited to observe the other's military exercises. Israel has provided Jordan with mine-clearing equipment. There are also the beginnings of cooperation in the area of defence trade.

Mordechai asked Hiwan for Jordan's help in locating the remains of two IDF servicemen who went missing in the 1968 battle at Karameh, and of intelligence agent Ya'akov Bukai, who was executed by the Jordanians in 1949.

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Scarce medical resources trouble professionals

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — New medical and biomedical technologies, government cutbacks and increasing need vie with ethical and religious considerations when decisions are made about the allocation of scarce resources, a workshop on Ethical Issues in Allocating Resources was told.

The conclusion of the nurses, doctors and social workers present seemed to be that there is no definitive way to make those decisions. And that the situation caused them agony.

The workshop was part of an all-day symposium on Controversies in Medical Ethics: Jewish and Secular Perspectives, sponsored by the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, through the Fay Florence Grobin Memorial Fund.

Moderators Rabbi Nachum Berlat, director of pastoral care at Baycrest, and Dr. Shelley Sternberg, assistant professor of medicine at the University of Toronto, and a scientist in the clinical evaluation and epidemiology unit of Baycrest, described some of the considerations that go into making crucial decisions.

"Our synagogue holds 105 people," Rabbi Berlat said. "There are 921 residents. Do we deny access to those who might not benefit [from the religious experience?] or to those who are disruptive? And how do we provide for those who are quarantined for some reason?"

Other examples included a physician who wants to use an experimental drug that could shorten a hospital stay, as opposed to using penicillin, which he knows will work, but will lead to a longer stay.

"What about a code blue call (a demand for resuscitation) for a patient for whom it is unlikely to be successful, and which denies other patients care in the meantime [since staff is tied up with the code blue].

A social worker participating in the workshop brought up the question of being the only social worker caring for a 27-bed unit. "How do you chose who you will spend your time with? The person who needs you the most or the one who is the most vocal?"

This was echoed by a nurse, who noted nurses had to make the same kinds of decisions due to the constant retrenchment in nursing services.

On a broader scale, Sternberg brought up the question of whether scarce funds should be expended on AIDS or cancer, or on a skid row alcoholic as opposed to a college professor.

Discussion of a case study about which of three terminally ill patients should get access to one lifesaving machine, brought out some of the ways health professionals make decisions about ethical problems. These included which patient had the best chance of survival; pre-existing medical conditions (for example a patient with terminal cancer who is badly hurt in a car accident); one who has expressed a wish to die; the patients' value to society; age and whether or not one has dependents.

Rabbi Berlat explained that the Talmud deals with the same issues. Its solutions include helping the sickest first; treating the person who arrived first; helping a scholar before helping a king ('the principle of value to society," Rabbi Berlat noted).

Dump dieting, but reduce fat

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Dump dieting — it causes anxiety. When you gain back the weight, you are more stressed, says a clinical social worker who specializes in size, weight and body image problems.

"We know that diets work — that's why we have all been on so many of them," says Lil Brown, who is in private practice in Toronto counselling individuals and families in the areas of eating disorders and dual addiction — chemical abuse or alcoholism.

"The problem is, that after the initial thrilling weight loss, we gain back all the weight, and more. And we are off in search of another quick solution, the latest magic pill or the new diet bible."

Brown, who received her Masters of Social Work degree at the University of Toronto and who has written and lectured extensively, explodes the myth of dieting and helps her clients examine their self-esteem and power of control.

She says that our society has an obsession with slenderness — thinness being the only measure of self-esteem. Rather than perpetuate this myth, Brown substitutes physiological, psychological and biological realities involved in dieting.

In her early 60s, Brown believes that age is a frame of mind. Up and jogging at 5 a.m., she is also active in a diversified fitness regimen.

"What we've done with middle age is believe this is a time for retirement but it is really a time to get fit. We usually have more time then."

Most of us want to be healthy and we want to discover what foods to eat and what not to eat. "This requires redirecting individuals in their life style and choice of activities. You are well on the way to success when you get control of your food, get control of your life and when you can walk away from food and feel you have escaped danger."

Bingeing, she says, is a way to displace your problems. "You get angry with yourself and you don't have to think about your problem. It is a way of setting yourself up to suffer. You have to look at the problem realistically, face it, and learn to cope with it and not use the bingeing as a substitute."

A major problem today, she notes, is drive-in restaurants and fast food franchises. "You can be invisible in your car in a drive-through restaurant." And today, we use more and more prepared and packaged foods.

Where we used to have cracked cereal and toast for breakfast, this has changed to a muffin, a doughnut or danish — these are much easier for the coffee shops to handle."

The bottom line, she says, is what the heart, cancer, diabetes and many other groups are advocating — we must lower our saturated fat content and increase our intake of fresh fruits, vegetables and beans.

She cautions that artificial sweeteners are dangerous. "Your body doesn't know the difference and it releases insulin. "If you have a predisposition to diabetes, you are using up your insulin to burn the sugar or artificial sweetener — and the insulin creates a need to eat more — it is a vicious circle." She reminds parents that boxed juices have a large concentration of sugar "which make children fat."

Brown, who once weighted 242 pounds and now weighs 142 pounds says, "I don't ask anyone to do anything I don't do."

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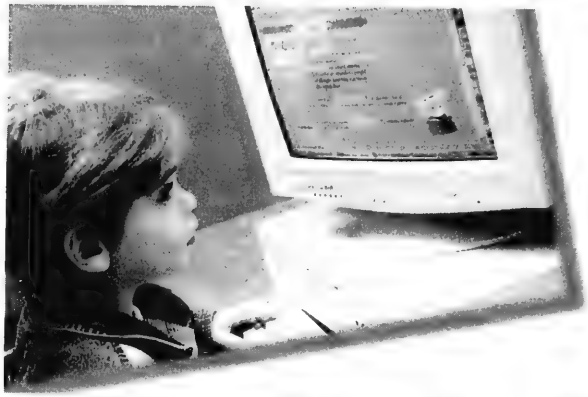

STARTING EARLY AT THE COMPUTER

In Israel, children are starting to "walk" to their computers at a very early age. Here we see a five-year-old boy (left) teleshopping for kids' software and a young toddler activating a computer program for tots with the aid of a 21-key keyboard designed by Tel Aviv University student Itai Kohavi. Together with the keyboard and a simplified child-size mouse, toddlers can talk and play with cartoon characters on the screen. [Photos by Sammy Avnisan and WZPS]

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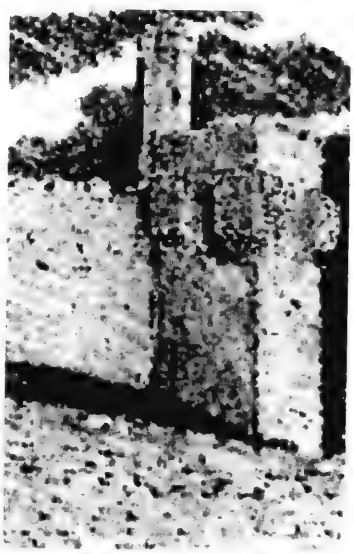
If you're not from Israel,
you don't know a wall.
You can't know a wall!
The Western Wall still stands tall and it never falls!
With so many holes I can't believe it still stands.
In and out go the hands!
If you're not from Israel, you don't know a wall.

If you're not from Israel you don't know what used to be sandy.
You can't know what used to be sandy!
Rocks and sand their feet must have hurt.
On a hot, hot day their feet probably burnt!
They proably felt like they needed a park.
It was a wonderful place to be if no dog barked.
If you're not from Israel
You don't know what used to be sandy.

If you're not from Israel
You don't know old.
You can't know old!
Israel is 49 years old
It is just like pure gold!
From 1948 to 2048 and beyond Israel will be there.
Until then we will all do the same:



Care.
If you're not from Israel, you don't know old!

by Matthew Magid, Grade 3

CJ Kids

Book Review & cartoon too

Summer the time to relax, enjoy short stories

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Now that school is over, one of the fun things to do is to find a shady spot, gather a few apples and crackers, and relax with a good book.

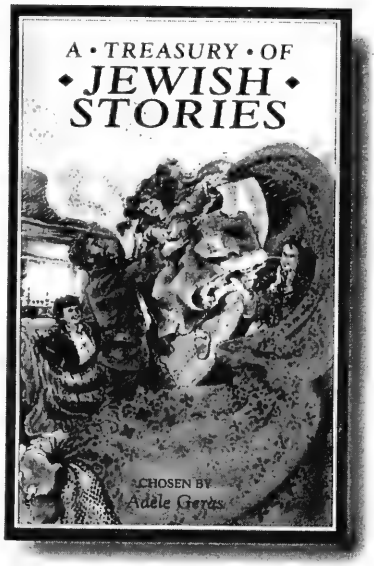
One that you will enjoy is *A Treasury of Jewish Stories*, chosen by Adele Geras, and illustrated by Jane Cope (Kingfisher Press, 1996).

The short stories are from different countries, such as Israel, Poland, England and South Africa. You will even find one from the silly city of Chelm, where all the inhabitants are fools.

Geras has also chosen stories from different times – 17th-century Poland, the Holocaust, the present day.

One story is set on a kibbutz in Israel, where a little girl, afraid she is getting fat, stops eating. Another is about a brother and sister who have to leave London while the Nazis are bombing the city. In one, a little girl finds out that bad temper can really hide shyness. And in another one, a rabbi and a fierce soldier find that they each have talents that the other can use.

There is enough variety that you will not become bored, but each story is short enough so that you can stop to chase butterflies or play a game with your friends.



LETS THINK OF IT AS... ZIONISM FUN!

Finnish-born Serach Bazer, a teacher and a parent, is holding a workshop on the subject of 100 years of Zionism for first grade students at the East Talpiot Elementary School in Jerusalem. She is using a new teaching technique: fun. [photo by Lisa Samin]

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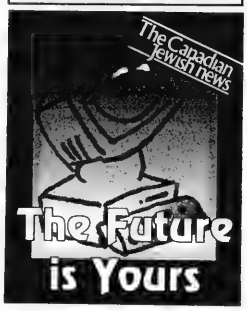
Mazel Tov kids

A hearty congratulations to Benjamin Halberstadt for the colorful Moses he sent to us. For his efforts he will receive $20 from *The CJN.*



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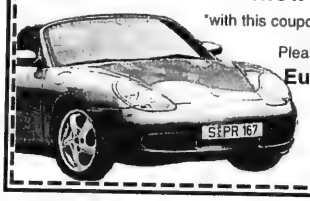
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Israeli-born singer releases video

By ADAM BELLO
Special to The CJN

NORTH YORK — Jazz singer Liora Kigel is proving that dreams can come true, especially when they can capture the imagination of both French and English audiences.

With a first-place win in the 1996 Ontario Pop competition for singer-songwriter, and the recent addition of her album *I Have Dreams* to the Sam the Record Man independent artist line, the Israeli-born Canadian is ready to make her national television debut this month on the Bravo! channel with the video single *Dear Reader.*

"Making my first video has taught me a lot about the music industry," Kigel says. "Now that I have been through some growing pains as a performer, I have a clearer vision of the direction my career should take."

Awarded a grant by Bravo! FACT, the melancholy jazz tune *Dear Reader* will be shown on *Bravo!Videos* at 7 p.m.

"Liora has had the determination to make a name for herself in both the French and English marketplaces, which will ultimately make the major record labels take note of this talented Canadian performer," says Karen Loftus, producer of *Dear Reader.*

Pursuing a recording contract, Kigel has been building a following for her bilingual jazz-blues style in Toronto. Singing under the name Lowa Kay, the 28-year-old North York resident recently gave showcase performances at various Toronto clubs.

While English audiences are only now discovering her, Kigel has been regularly featured on French Canadian media, with interviews and performances on Société Radio Canada (SRC), Toronto's CBLFT-TV and *tfo.* Kigel is currently set to perform in Ottawa on two SRC television specials, *Chez Nous '97* and *Boite à Chansons,* to be taped soon.

Liora Kigel (Lowa Kay) recently won the Ontario Pop competition.

While working on her singing career, Kigel also spent last summer in Israel under the Jerusalem Fellowship Program to study heritage and traditional Jewish practices. She has also volunteered at the Aish HaTorah Learning Centre in Thornhill on several of its outreach programs.

"Exploring new areas of Judaism has given me a sense of personal spirituality that I would not have found otherwise," Kigel says. "My new appreciation of the traditions has helped me take a personal path of action and my musical career is a reflection of that."

Kigel says the album track *Pearl of the World,* a bitter-sweet tale of unfound love, musically reveals the influences of her Israeli background.

Courageous Jonah's Holocaust story a must-see video

BY SIMONE JOSEPH
Student Intern

TORONTO — It is heart-wrenching to watch a child exposed to the cruelty, death, starvation and irrationality of war.

In *Jonah who lived in the Whale,* the on-screen adaption of Jona Oberski's autobiography *Childhood,* 4-year-old Jonah must face the realities of war after his family is banished from their comfortable, middle-class home and sent to the barren emptiness of a concentration camp in Westerbork.

Jonah's only weapon, as his possessions are expropriated, his head shaven and his father sent to a separate camp, is his bravery.

Courage is instilled in little Jonah from the beginning of the movie. The first shots feature scenes of Amsterdam in 1942 while the song *Jonah in the Whale* plays hauntingly in the background.

Jonah tells us that when he first heard this song on the radio, his mother sat him down and told him that if the biblical Jonah could get out of the whale, then little Jonah should think of him whenever he is afraid. At difficult times in the movie, his mother advises him to "keep your eyes on the sky and never allow yourself to hate."

Throughout the movie, we hear Jonah's young voice narrating his experiences while he grapples with the horrors of war.

Jonah in the Whale, which has played at the Montreal Film Festival and the Toronto Jewish Film Festival, is loaded with stark images: children in the concentration camp leaning into large soup-kitchen pots and lapping up food like hungry dogs, men having their payot snipped off by camp guards and concentration camp prisoners secretly lighting a menorah at Chanukah while softly singing *Ma'oz Tsur.*

[Cont'd on page 36]

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by Bill Gladstone

YIDDISH CONCERT AT EARL BALES IS JULY 7

This year's free Yiddish Concert in the Park, featuring great songs of Yiddish theatre, is set for July 7 at 7 p.m. at Earl Bales Park, Bathurst and Sheppard, North York.

Performers are **Michael Mandel**, **Gloria Valentine**, **Stella Walker** and the **Chutzpah Klezmer Band**. In case of rain, the concert will be moved to Beth Emeth Synagogue, 100 Elder St.

As in past years, remember to bring chairs or blankets. For further information call Sylvia Lustgarten at UJA Federation, 416-635-2883, ext. 155.

Theatre At Earl Bales

Skylight Theatre has announced three productions for the open-air Barry Zukerman Amphitheatre in Earl Bales Park, North York. Shakespeare's *Coriolanus*, adapted and directed by **Rod Carley** to involve the life of **Wyatt Earp** of the American Wild West and the shootout at the OK Corral. July 10 to 20, 8:30 nightly.

Shakespeare's *Othello* runs July 24 to Aug. 3, 8 p.m. From Aug. 5 to 9, 8 p.m. nightly, see the Dora Award winning play *Come Good Rain*, written and performed by **George Seremba**, a true story of life under the murderous reigns of Milton Obote and Idi Amin in Uganda.

Admission free (suggested donation $5). Tickets issued at amphitheatre box office one hour before performance. 416-392-3846.

Benefits & Galas

Songs of Broadway Revisited, a "delightful collection of solos and duets from Broadway's greatest musicals and songwriters," features **Joni Miller & Manny Veinish**, with comic **Lou Eisen** as opener. Presented by the Israel Cancer Research Fund; tickets are $50. July 16, 8 p.m. (doors open 7:30). Glenn Gould Studio, CBC Building, 250 Front St. W. Reception following performance. 416-487-5246.

Klim Publishes Tobiasse Lithographs

Artist **Theo Tobiasse** was born in Israel in 1927 to parents who had just arrived from Lithuania. Confronted by insurmountable material difficulties, the family returned to Kovno when Tobiasse was still a young child, then settled in Paris.

Klim Art Publishers of Toronto, which has just published an album of six original Tobiasse lithographs, has issued a brochure in which is recorded the artist's first impression of the City of Light: "Just six years old, he saw it bathed in the greyish mist of a sad winter morning when they walked out of the Gare de l'Est after an exhausting journey that had lasted several days."

The artist spent two years of his adolescence, from July 1942 to August 1944, cooped up with his parents in their tiny apartment in the 18th arrondissement, the passage of time "punctuated by the thud of Nazi boots" in the street.

The limited edition of 199 sets of six original lithographs is entitled Songs of Light And Exile, and each piece is numbered and signed by the artist. Klim Art Publishers, 1238 Centre St., Thornhill. 905-882-0884.

In the Spotlight

Jason Schwartz, 27-year-old photographer from Toronto, has spent six years concentrating on *The Ghosts That Haunt Us*. That's the title of a book of his photographs of Holocaust victims, due for publication by a major publisher this fall.

An exhibition of 26 of Schwartz's photographs of Holocaust survivors just closed after running 18 months – much longer than originally intended – at Yad Vashem's Valley of the Destroyed Communities.

A collection of 58 of his photographs is scheduled for exhibition at the Koffler Gallery and subsequently the Justina Barnicke Gallery, Hart House, this fall.

"The photographs are not about the Holocaust, per se," said Schwartz. "They're about the impressions of a young person such as myself about the Holocaust, which are based entirely on media images from print and movies. Accordingly, the book I've put together is about survivors, 50 years after the fact."

A self-described "third-generational child of survivors" who went to Hebrew day school in Toronto and jumped from a business to a fine arts track at York University, Schwartz recently won a coveted Canada Arts Council grant for his next photographic project.

"I'm seeking sponsors for yet another project," he said, "a photographic study of Israeli society as Israel approaches its 50th anniversary."

Klezmermania brings four top bands to Ford Centre

NORTH YORK — Four of North America's top klezmer bands will be performing in the 97/98 American Airlines Concert Season's Klezmermania series.

Winnipeg band Finjan launches the series on Dec.11, 1997. Finjan has recorded three albums and was the headline act at the annual Klezmer Mania in San Francisco.

Other bands appearing in the series are:Brave Old World on Jan. 28, 1998; The Klezmatics on March 12, 1998 and The Klezmer Conservatory Band on April 29, 1998.

All concerts are at 8 p.m. at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. Subscription prices for all four concerts are $66, $76 and $99. Call 416-324-9333, weekdays 9-5.

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The Klezmatics
Thurs., March 12 /98 8:00 pm
This ensemble of six collaborated with Itzhak Perlman on his klezmer CDs.

The Klezmer Conservatory Band
Wed., April 29 /98 8:00 pm
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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

ISRAEL PAINTING TOUR SET FOR LATE OCTOBER

A land of contrasts, Israel offers the painting experience of a lifetime, with a wealth of landscapes and architectural styles. The Palette of Israel: A Painting Tour of the Holy Land is set to follow the Mediterranean coast to the Galilee, then travel through the Jordan Valley to the Dead Sea.

The planned tour takes in the Roman ruins at Caesarea, the Belvoir Crusader fortress, a Bedouin village in the Judean wilderness, the mountaintop fortress of Masada, St. George's Monastery and picturesque alleyways in Old Jerusalem and other sites in places like Ein Hod, Jaffa, and Tel Aviv.

Tour instructor Margaret Roseman, an internationally acclaimed watercolorist living in Toronto, will demonstrate painting techniques; Toronto-based trip coordinator Bilha Morgan, who grew up in Israel, is also a noted artist and art instructor.

The tour runs from Oct. 26 to Nov. 9, and costs $3,499 per artist ($3,299 per non-artist) sharing a double room, with a single supplement of $625. Includes airfare, most meals, accommodations for 12 nights, entrance fees, porterage and sightseeing in private air-conditioned motorcoach with licensed guide. Aufgang Travel, 416-789-7117 or 800-789-7117.

* * *

Chinese Hong Kong: The Hong Kong Tourist Association is trumpeting a series of touristic events — a gourmet fiesta, food expo, fashion shows, musical events, Lan Kwai Fong party weekends, even a Jackie Chan movie spectacular — as part of 100 Days of Wonder, a promotion keyed to the first 100 days of Chinese sovereignty over the former British colony, July 1 to Oct. 8.

Special seven-day tour packages are priced from $1,997. HKTA, 416-366- 2389.

* * *

Cycling in Tuscany: A cycling tour through the cradle of the Italian Renaissance takes in the richness of Jewish history as well as the beauty of the landscape. In the Tuscan cities of Florence and Sienna, and in the medieval "border communities" of Monte San Savino, Pitigliano, Sorano and Sovana, the cyclists will meet many local representatives and stay in Renaissance villas, monasteries and castles. Sept. 10 to 17. Historical Cycling International, 714-499-0342.

* * *

Hudson Valley Singles: Vanguard, a wing of Hadassah that sponsors activities for Jewish singles, is promoting a weekend of outdoor fun in upstate New York, geared for approximately 100 participants. For those in their 20s or 30s, Vanguard's Camp Young Judaea can provide hiking, swimming, tennis, volleyball, arts and crafts, campfire singalongs and dancing by starlight, all in a scenic grove of the Hudson River Valley.

Mental challenges also await, as prizes will be awarded in Jewish history, theology and biblical studies; Rabbi David Ackerman, a Pennsylvania professor, is scholar-in-residence. Cost is US $230; round trip bus fare from New York City is $45; Aug. 22 to 24. 212-303-8061.

* * *

Hudson Valley Midrash: For those more spiritually inclined, the Institute for Contemporary Midrash presents Summer Midrash Training Intensives, 45 hours of courses by professionals in writing, art, dance and bibliodrama. Rivkah Walton, director. Elat Chayyim Retreat Centre, Hudson River Valley, July 14 to 20. 215-438- 6108.

* * *

Hotel Happenings: The Renaissance Fallsview Hotel in Niagara Falls, Ont., has recently introduced a kosher kitchen, supervised by Rabbi M. I. Applebaum, a member of the Rabbinical Alliance of America. A short walk from Niagara Falls, the 262-room Renaissance has catered many Jewish functions and offers private kosher meals upon request.

• Uptown Reservations specializes in bed and breakfasts in stylish homes in some of London's most fashionable areas. Phone 0171-351-3445.

* * *

Airline Notes: During the peak summer season, KLM operates daily non-stop flights to Amsterdam from Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. Special deals on hotels, car rentals and rail passes are available, as are timely connections to KLM's several weekly flights from Amsterdam to Tel Aviv. 416-204-5100 or 800-361-1887.

• Canada 3000 has recently added Whitehorse, Anchorage and Boston to its growing list of destinations. The charter airline, whose routes stretch from Fiji to Munich, carries more than 2.5 million passengers annually. New packages to Bermuda, offered with Conquest Tours, start in the fall.

Young boy's holocaust story a must-see video

[Cont'd from page 34]

Watching Jonah's family transform from a close, happy, well-adjusted family to a weak, emotionally disturbed one is a sobering experience. It makes one realize how much we, in 1997, take for granted and it makes one bitterly reflect on the fact that this mass murder occurred in our own century.

Jonah in the Whale is a well-written, powerful, touching drama that should not be missed. It is available for rent in selected video stores across Canada.

Wedding in the Park

by Allan Merovitz

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Business Profile

Science a creative art for new OSC director

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

As a young teenager in Montreal, Sid Katz defied pressure to focus his efforts on writing, an art at which he showed promise, to pursue his passion for science.

These days, he presides over the Ontario Science Centre (OSC), where he became director general and chief executive officer in March. Katz stepped in at a pivotal time in the 28-year-old institution's history, with provincial government funding down to a low of $11.8 million from a peak a decade ago of the $18 million needed to run the centre.

Now the OSC is relying increasingly on alternate sources of revenue such as its new OMNIMAX theatre, the centrepiece of a major revitalization project, to make up the shortfall.

Ensconced in his functional but not uncomfortable office, Katz, 53, discussed his vision of science and of the Science Centre during a recent interview.

Four decades ago, at Montreal's Herzliah High School, where poet Irving Layton was one of his teachers, science was "for bobos," Katz recalled.

He never bought into the negative stereotype. "Science plays such an important role in our lives from the moment we wake up in the morning and put on the coffee maker until we go to bed at night listening to the clock radio using, perhaps, nuclear energy. Science is very much part of our culture. It's every bit as creative and interesting as art. I love the idea of trying to find things — the pursuit of knowledge. Science was my way of expressing myself."

And express himself he did. A respected broadcaster and writer, Katz' curriculum vitae includes stints as medical science columnist on CBC Radio's *Morningside*, as a frequent guest on its science program *Quirks and Quarks*, and as a weekly science specialist on BCTV. He has written for publications such as *Homemaker's* and *B.C. Health News*.

Prior to accepting the Science Centre position, Katz was executive director of Science World in Vancouver, where he also was a professor at the University of British Columbia. With a PhD in Pharmacology from McGill University, Katz is still actively involved in medical research.

"He does get a twinkle in his eye when he speaks about the value of science education," said Debra Feldman-Pottens, director of the OSC's OMNIMAX Theatre/Reception branch. Feldman-Pottens, who has been with the Centre for 17 years, served as acting CEO for almost nine months preceding Katz' arrival, but did not apply for the top position herself.

"The transition, I think, has been very smooth," she said. "We were all very pleased."

Like the OSC, Science World in Vancouver is a hands-on science museum with a large-screen theatre. So why would Katz want to leave Vancouver's temperate climate, ocean and mountains for a more-or-less equivalent job?

"I certainly didn't do it for the money or my own c.v.," he said. Science World is "not in the centre of the universe. This has got to be the best possible venue to show the importance of informal education, in this case informal science education."

Sid Katz & Debra Feldman-Pottens (inset) [Barry Shainbaum photos]

Despite considerable provincial funding cuts, Katz praised Ontario's "better tradition of government support." Unlike the Science Centre, which was built as a project for Canada's centennial, Science World receives no government funding and is almost totally self-sufficient, earning 92 cents of every dollar it spends, he said.

At Science World, Katz created programs and exhibits with the intent of forging partnerships with industry and government. "That's essentially what I'm trying to do here. I can use the same tools I used at Science World. The idea is that nothing any more happens without solid partnerships. We have to integrate ourselves into these different communities to ensure that we survive and do well."

The OMNIMAX theatre, which bears the name of Shoppers' Drug Mart, is a case in point. The $15-million theatre has a long list of corporate sponsors; the Ontario government provided half the funding.

One of only three such theatres in Canada (the other two are at Science World and the Museum of Civilization in Hull, Quebec), the OMNIMAX — where shows like *Special Effects*, about visual trickery in Hollywood movies, are shown on an oversized concave screen — is living up to expectations.

Since it opened in December, over 250,000 people — more than half the visitors to the Science Centre over that time — have experienced the dizzying sensation of being right in the movie, enhanced by 13,000 watts of wraparound digital sound.

Unlike the oversize flat screen at Ontario Place's IMAX theatre, the OMNIMAX screen hugs the interior of a dome, extending back just over the heads of audience members.

In 1996, 850,000 people visited the Science Centre. Katz expects that number to increase to one million this year.

The addition of large-screen theatres at other institutions has translated into increased profits, said Feldman-Pottens, who oversaw the OMNIMAX project from its inception four years ago. She has good reason to believe the Science Centre will follow suit.

Already she has noted "a real increase in the seniors' market," particularly at the mid-afternoon shows. The three mid-day shows have been sellouts on weekdays when school is open. To complement the movies, the OSC has been developing related programs for school groups.

For seniors — and others — the location of the theatre at the front of the building is particularly appealing, said Feldman-Pottens. "They don't have to do a lot of walking."

The addition of an in-centre bistro has boosted the appeal of the theatre as an evening destination, she added, noting that the theatre can also be rented for private use. "It diversifies our revenue stream.

"We thought it's such a perfect fit," she said. "We thought the theatre would be one way to bring people back, but not the only way. If it's not a strong and healthy science centre, it will not survive."

Changing the film (there have been two so far) is a strong way of getting people back to the OSC more frequently, she pointed out.

Declining attendance figures in recent years were due in part to poor accessibility for strollers and wheelchairs and a perception that the centre was geared only to young children, said Feldman-Pottens. "We've made a conscious decision to develop content geared to older children as well."

Making the OSC "relevant and popular" is Katz' top priority. It's another way to increase revenues, he believes. "Be exciting and relevant and you get more people to come."

One way is to make teachers more aware of the excitement of teaching science, he said. Another is to raise awareness of career opportunities in science. "Science has to be one of the most important areas for careers in this country."

While most OSC-goers are from the Toronto area and nearby, the centre has several international links, and Katz is looking to strengthen them. A cooperative venture with the Bloomfield Science Centre in Jerusalem is under discussion. "They are coming to visit and we would be interested in collaborating with them," said Katz.

Currently an OSC exhibit called Science Circus is on display at a museum in Thailand, and the centre has done "quite a bit" in the Arab Emirates. Travelling exhibits, which have been done in the past and of which more are projected, provide revenue for the Centre.

Katz' favorite on-site exhibit, a new one called A Question of Truth, addresses cultural issues related to science. "I think that's really important. It shows that not any one culture has the corner on scientific knowledge. It's important to be searching all the time for what truth is."

"Don't give [students] facts," Katz said. "Facts will be wrong in a few years. Teach them about the process. It's more difficult but much more interesting."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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Basements, kitchens, bathrooms & all other home renov's. Good prices, many refs. (905) 886-9858,A. Halpert Renov. Ltd

Before signing any contract, make sure your contractor is appropriately licensed with the Metropolitan Licensing Commission (416) 392-3000

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

Call 391-1836
for information on rates

INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
108 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
163 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 FETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
548 WORD PROCESSING
550 WORKSHOPS

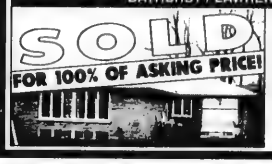
REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED
787-1712

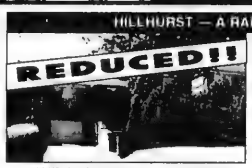
BATHURST / LAWRENCE



Spacious ranch bungalow on 60 ft. frontage, new windows, roof, floors — fabulous location close to all amenities. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

HILLHURST — A RARE GEM



Spacious + renovated 5 bdrm. side-split, huge family room, gleaming hardwood floors, modern European custom kitchen, prestigious location, only $469,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE — HOT NEW LISTING!
51 ft. frontage in demand location, fab. bldg. lot near Avenue Road, only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / SHEPPARD — REDUCED
4 bdrm. bung. on 43 x 160 ft. lot, sep. entry + in-law suite. WON'T LAST! Only $259,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — PRESTIGE PLUS!
Brand new, 6 bdrms., custom designed luxury home. Dream maple kitchen, oak panelled library, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. basement. Call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN - STORE FOR SALE - REDUCED!
Popular retail strip, good opportunity for user, only $199,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / PRUE — EXQUISITE EXECUTIVE HOME

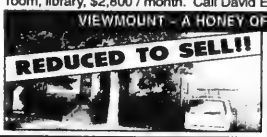
Custom-built, lux. upgrades throughout, exquisite finishes, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge rosewood-panelled fam. room, prestigious loc. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712 for details on this very special home!

HILLHURST — CONDO DUPLEX – UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY
2 families can live together in same building, separate apts.! 2 modern 3 bedroom units + in-law suite in basement. Elevator, balcony, prestigious location close to Bathurst and Cortleigh Park, asking only $479,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

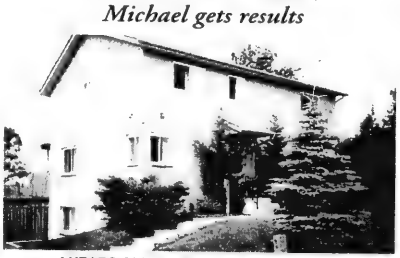
BATHURST / PRUE RENTAL — CLOSE TO VIEWMOUNT PARK
Prestigious area! Near subway, shops, 4 bdrm. exec. home, fam. room, library, $2,800 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT - A HONEY OF A HOME!



Renovated 3 bedroom, 2 storey, eat-in kit., new baths, thermopane windows, 50 x 140 ft. lot, $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

From condos to castles, Michael gets results



4 YEARS OLD – JACKSONS POINT HOME
2 storey with basement above ground, 6 bedrooms, 4 washrooms, huge main floor deck and two second floor balconies with beautiful lake view. Two minute walk to Shul and just a 50 minute drive from Toronto. Use it all year round and enjoy! **Asking just $199,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

EXCLUSIVE – ¼ ACRE LOT
Bathurst & Laurelcrest area. Build over 5000 sq. ft. Quiet crescent, lots of backyard fruit trees. **Asking only $289,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

HK HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

Celebrating our 40th Year!

RARE OPPORTUNITY – 3000 BATHURST ST.
For Sale: Stunning One Bedroom Condo
For rent: Spacious 2 Bedroom Condo. Call **B. Dorfman***

LAKE SIMCOE – YEAR ROUND RETREAT!
$174,900 - 2 sty., 4 bdrms., 3 baths, fireplace, fenced in for privacy, backs onto golf course. Make an offer! **C. Lazer***

1ST AD! 3 BEDROOM PENTHOUSE – $314,900
Promenade Circle - Spectacular suite approx. 1800 sq. ft., 2 walk-outs to 21' terrace, 2 pkg. spots. **Natalie Kopman***

1ST AD! LESLIE-YORK MILLS
$389,000 - 2 storey, 3 bdrm., CAC, modern kit/baths, new roof & furnace, hrdwd. flrs., quiet court. **Cheryl Graff***

BIG BAY POINT – SANDY BEACH!
Year round masterpiece, 4 bdrms & loft, overlooks fab. view, skylites, 2 fireplaces, $499,000 - Must see! **Carole Lazer***

DENLOW ESTATES – $573,000
Renovated 2 storey 4+1 bdrm., w/o bsmt., den & fam. rm., marble baths, immaculate condition! Call **Samantha Graff***

POOL!! DENLOW ESTATES – $880,000
Quiet court, contemporary style, w/o rec. rm., 5 bdrm., 3 ensuite baths, waterfall atrium. **Samantha Graff***

EDWARD GARDENS/BRIDLE PATH
$2,180,000 - Spectacular new stucco 7000 sq. ft., 10 ft. ceilings, w/o bsmt. All the bells!! **E. Kalles**** & **Cheryl Graff***

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to "Turning Point Charity" supporting Homeless Youth.

(416) 441-2888 www.harveykalles.com

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

Erica Fortinsky brings to us 13 years of experience in real estate as an agent and administrator for a large Toronto Property Management firm. Erica looks forward to selling your properties in the North York and Thornhill areas. You can reach her at our Bayview/Sheppard office. (416) 226-1987.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD - Condo Apartment $159,000. 2 bdrm. + den, 2 washrooms. Spectacular Ravine view!
BATHURST/MILNER - Great family home!!! $259,000.00, 2 storey, 4 bdrm. + family room, main fl. powder & laundry rms., finished bsmt.
MARSHA GOLDSTEIN - (416) 229-4454
HomeLife/Partners Realty Inc.

JUST LISTED!
BATHURST-WILSON
$339,000 - Beautifully maintained detached two storey home in Armour Heights. SOLD Updated throughout, 3 brms., 2 baths, "White" kitchen, central air, security, lovely landscaped garden. Don't miss this!
ROZ BENNETT
Sales Representative
ROYAL LEPAGE REAL ESTATE SERVICES LTD.
487-4311

BATHURST - ANTIBES
2 bedroom REDUCED full baths, large wrap-around balcony. $148,777.
BATHURST/MIRANDA
Executive home - a real gem! 4300 sq. ft. sheer beauty.
BAYCREST - BATHURST
Handy mans delight. Just listed - 5 bedroom, sidesplit, 4 baths, 2 kitchens.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

LARNELL
REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

• **BATHURST MANOR** - $189,000. 3 bd. semi-detached home, c/a, 3 bths (1 on main), fin. bsmt. apt. Must sell!

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST-WILSON $315,900
Armour Heights best buy, 3 bdrm., 2 storey, up-dated kit., fin. bsmnt., 55'x125' lot, don't miss!!

• • •

OVERBROOK-WILMINGTON
2 storey, 3 bdrm., 2 bths., fin. bsmnt., fast SOLD session.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR
Split lvl., 3 bdrm., 2 bths., liv. & din. comb., kit. w/out, fam. rm., rec. rm., dble drive, gar.

• • •

BATHURST-WILSON $129,900
2 bdrm. condo, bric., bth. & lndry ens., A-1 SOLD buy!.

• • •

BATHURST-WILSON
Store & apt., busy location, must sell, A-1 buy!.
A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

LARGE BUNGALOW

Superb 1960's 3+2 bd., bldr.'s own, custom stonework, marble foyer, mahogany drs./trim, close to all amenities incl. new Sheppard subway. Opportunity knocks!
ROBERT BANKS
Associate Broker
BOSLEY REAL ESTATE
(416) 481-6137

BATHURST & FINCH
Semi-backsplit, 3 sep. apts., 4 car parking, $264,900.
LEV ALEINIKOV
(416) 449-2400
Distinction Realty Limited

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

NEW LISTING! LYTTON PARK! *POOL*
Spectacular 5 bdrms., 4 baths, 50'x208'. R. Sud* 488-2875

AVENUE/LAWRENCE – CUSTOM
Approx. 3000 sq. ft., beautiful detached stone front. Sammy Roth** 488-2875

CASA LOMA AREA – $649,000.
2 storeys, 4 bdrms., SOLD, main flr. fam. rm. Gayle Mitchell* 488-2875

BATHURST/HEATH JUST $599K
Huge 5 bdrm., stucco home. 91'x120'. F. Sversky** 488-2875

NEW LISTING BERRYMAN-HAZELTON
3 bdrms., 3 baths, fam. rm., gar. 2 w/o $539K. Goldie Kay* 226-1987

UPPER VILLAGE – 1ST AD $509,000.
4 bdrms., 4 baths, den & fin. low. lev. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

BATHURST/EGLINTON JUST $499K
Charming Tudor home, 4 bdrms., finished bsmt. F. Sversky** 488-2875

PRIME ALLENBY – REBUILD
Stunning open concept - B/I gar., 2 fplc./ensuite. S. Roth** 488-2875

FAB. RENO – AVENUE/LAWRENCE $489K
4 bdrms., fam., mn. flr. laundry, deep S. lot. Sammy Roth** 488-2875

BATHURST/EGLINTON $449K
40'x119'. Prime Upper V... SOLD ...eth Sokol*/Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BRIGHT HOME ON 40'X115' LOT! HURRY!
3+1 large bedrooms, 3 baths, large kit. 2 w/o. Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

RIVERD... SOLD ...EMI! $319,000.
Stunning 3 bdrms. + fa... Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/LAWRENCE $299K
Totally reno'd. 3 bdrm., 1½ storey. Fin. bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST MANOR – VALUE – $265,000.
3 bdrms., family room, deck, garage, CAC. Dagmar Hansen* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW & YORK MILLS 81'X150'
3 bdrms., mn. flr. fam., dble. gar., live & reno. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

1ST AD BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS $1,295,000.
Spec. bungalow all done! Susan Smith* 488-2875

DESTINY ROSE HOMES & FOREST HILL R.E.
Presents 6 custom built homes in North York. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS 160'X127 CUL DE SAC
3 bdrm. ranch bung. + fam. rm. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

NEW LISTING IN BAYVIEW VILLAGE!
4 bdrms. & finished lower. Anna Pollock* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

REDUCED! WILTSHIRE AREA
Great street, 4 bdrm. prof. decorated. Rivy Blass* 226-1987

#18 ON QUIET CRES – 3 BDRM. DET. $259K
Main fam. rm., 2-car gar. & more! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATT: 1ST TIME BUYERS – NEW $204,900.
3 Bdrm. on cres., huge kit. & more! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

NEW LISTING! ...HURST/CLARK
2 bdrms., 2 baths, fabulo... SOLD ...ilding. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

BUSINESS PROPERTIES

YONGE & STEELES – HAIR SALON $199,500.
Turnkey - Call for details - Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

HOUSES FOR SALE

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

SOUGHT AFTER CORTLEIGH BLVD.
$869,000. A spacious contemporary style home w/fam. rm., eat-in-kit., master suite, pool.
SUE MILLS
487-4343
THE PRUDENTIAL SADIE MORANIS REALTY.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

CUL DE SAC!
Fabulous 5 bedroom, 4 bath home! Huge panelled family room, library with separate entrance. New modern kitchen.
Alisa Abrahams, Sales Representative
HARVEY KALLES REAL ESTATE LTD.
(416) 441-2888

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bathurst/Glencairn, custom home 3,000 sq. ft. Granite foyer, Kosher kit. w/ granite counter, 5 bdrm. 4 bath, fin bsmt. w/ kit. Lots of extas. $529,000. Open house - Sun. July 6, 1-4. 44 Glen Park Ave. Must be sold. NO AGENTS! 416-785-5626.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

DENISE ABRAHAM
Coldwell Banker
Pinnacle Real Estate
416 - 485-2299
Glencairn W. Subway - $127,900 to $129,900. Just listed, 2 Bdrm. + Laundry Enst. or 2 Bdrm. + 2 Baths + Shabat Elev! Call Denise Abraham 485-2299.
COLDWELL BANKER PINNACLE REAL ESTATE

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Bathurst/Eglinton. Lrg. 1 bdrm bsmt Sep. entr. Near subway. Non-smoker. 785-9198.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

GO NORTH! JUST 55 MINUTES FROM TORONTO! COTTAGES! BELLE EWART! Two separate side-by-side waterfront cottages, lots totalling 125' x 240', very quiet street, short walk to synagogue, motivated vendors! Buy one or both!
Call **Jacob Florans,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

Bathurst & Antibes
MAKE AN OFFER
Huge 3 bedroom condo, 3 parking spots. Bright and sunny unit, 5 appliances. Just Move In. Exercise Room, Rec Room, Sauna.
BRING YOUR BEST OFFER
$199,000.
Call Marty M. Bromberg (416) 966-0300
Sutton Group Associates Realty Inc.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst St., 1 bdrm + den, 5 appls, cac, cable, pkg, 24 hr. secur, sabbath elev, avail Imme.$1000/mo. 905-780-0685

Bathurst/Glencairn 2 bdrm + den, 1,230 sq ft, 6 appls, 2 pkg, $1450/mth. Imm occ. 905-671-1717, 416-223-8051.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Ave. Rd./Lawr., 1 bdrm in a 2 bdrm apt,$460. 486-4663,Doron

Looking for male or female 22-30 for June, July, Aug. to sublet 1 of 2 bdrms in apt. at Yonge & Davisville. Mandy 483-8363.

YNG/EGL, 1 bdm in 2 bdm apt, cls to sbwy 24 hr sec, 24 hr lndry, hd wd fls, balc, hyd inc, Avail Aug 1, $498, 487-8686 Jason.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bathurst/Wilson lux lrg 1 bdrm bsmt. Sep. entr. a/c 292-0414.

Bathurst/Wilson.1 bdrm bsmt. Clean, no smoking. 787-8779.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

140' gorgeous waterfront lot. 4 miles south of Orillia. Ready for building. Asking $269,000. 905-527-4557 or 905-627-0303.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Luxury exec. lakefront cottage. 7 bdrms Aug 4-21. 2 hrs from Tor. Boat, kyaks etc. $1,800 per week. 391-4274, 705-789-2408.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Collingwood, lux. 3 bdrm cottage, waterfront, $650 Weekly avail weekends. 905-731-4528 or 416-540-8841.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Belle Ewart/Lake Simcoe. Lake front 5 lrg. bdrms. Close to shule. July-Aug. rental or best offer. Call 416-783-7468.

Big Cedar Pt., 3 bdrm. cottage for sale/rent, priv. beach steps away, seconds from Camp Arrowhead, priv., cute, clean. 905-771-8678.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boynton Beach, prestigious c.c., dec furn, 3 br, 2 ba, 2 cg, fam rm, enc patio, villa, golf/tennis, eq. avail. 561-364-5698.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Jerusalem Time Share. Sheraton Four Points, kosher hotel, furn 2 rms, 2 bths, kitchenette, 4 wks., commencing Aug. 24/97. $1,000./wk. U.S. or Sale $29,9K U.S. 905-731-9664.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

LAKE SIMCOE
Rare 2.5 acre retreat, 45 min. from Toronto, south of Barrie. Private drive thru natural woods to 136' prime sandy waterfront. Charming restored loghouse + guest cottage or build your dream estate. Walk to synagogue. VRM $490K - $600K.
REDUCED $100,000. Big Bay Point, Kempenfelt Bay south of Barrie. Exquisite 2 yr. old Shingle Style executive waterfront, 4 bdrms., 3 bths., turreted solarium, majestic f/p open to LR, DR, Kit., screened porch, subtle luxury on 3/4 acre.
Pattie Harper, Sales Rep.
Prudential Andrews Realty Group
416-213-7224/800-254-3659

235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Investors!
If you have $10,000-$25,000 u.s. or more for short term investments you can earn up to 30% daily profits and on some days up to 100% or more, virtually without risk with in about 1 year. For further info call Mr. Solnik 416-781-1337.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Jewish campus services is seeking two dynamic individuals, preferably recent graduates who have an interest in a career in Jewish communal service to do engagement work on University and College campuses in Toronto. Both are contractual positions commencing August 1st. Fax resumes only to Rachel (416)785-1465. Only those selected for interviews will be called.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

MARLA'S DOMESTICS
RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

HOME PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL
- Nannies • Homemakers
- Elderly Companions
- References thoroughly verified
- Proven reliability
- Educated care givers
- Training/workshops/seminars

(416) 656-2352

NEED A NANNY?
APPLE DOMESTICS
- No Fee to Employer
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

(416) 730-0127

Mature lady seeks employment caring for elderly. 748-2183.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs.416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

PRIME BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FOR SALE
Only kosher meat and grocery store in thriving Ottawa community. Long established with strong customer base. Shomer Shabbat required.
Experience in the food industry would be an asset. Willing to train.
Property available for sale.
Inquiries: Fax (613) 722-6304
1630 Amberdale Crescent, Ottawa, Ontario K1H 7B3

SELL IT FASTER!
CALL LISA AT 391-1836 FOR RATES

CJN Classified Ads Work!

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Live-in caregiver for senior couple. Bathurst/Lawrence. Ref. required. Call 905-881-2501.

Nanny part-time weekends only.Refs. req'd. Call 787-5468.

258 HEALTHCARE

RN's, RPN's, seek job in priv. homes, to offer quality nursing care, foot care & palliative care. Call 391-0582.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Anyone remembering **SHEILA HENIG** (Sidny) concert pianist , please call her father Harry Henig 630-6853

270 PERSONALS

COFFEE? ICRF party/you-petite, sandy hair/me-dark hair, light pants shirt/Sean 489-5994.

SPOT WANTS A WALK
Are you a young couple with a dog interested in meeting others for sociable group dog walks in the park. Meets weekly. Call (416) 545-0425.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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A tall guy with a great smile and a warm heart is what I'm looking for. SJF is 28, 5'8", fit, and down to earth and loves the long days of summer with spirit. CJN Box 6939

Cultured independant widow, slim 63 yrs, used to finer things in life, looking for decent gentleman age 60-73. CJN Box 6937.

DJF 37 attractive, affectionate and outgoing. Enjoys dancing, movies, dining, walking. Seeks male 36-46, down to earth, affectionate. Must love kids. Reply Box 6720.

I am in my early 70's retired engineer, 5'8", non-smoker, I like music dining out, theatre. Would like to meet a lady late 60's-early 70's, non-smoker, similar interests. CJN Box 6938.

Single prof. man, 41, wishes to meet attract. sincere lady, 33-40, Marriage? Richard 416-781-0644.

Single, prof. gentleman, 45, 160 lbs., 5 ft. 8 in. seeks female, 35-43, slim, petite, no dependents. Spontaneity & sense of humour a must for a serious relationship. CJN Box 6935.

SJM, 41, seeks a lady with sincerity & style, to be his sole mate, partner, best friend & true love. Life's experiences are so much better when shared with someone special. Don't you agree? CJN Box 6936.

Hello, I'm a 56 yr. old professional Jewish woman, with European background, looking to meet someone, early 50s - early 60s, who's interested in living life to its fullest. I'm slim, extremely attractive & ready to give myself a second chance at romance. Keep in mind that good things are worth working for. Looking forward to your response. Box 6940 CJN.

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285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cyndy & Syd Menashy are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Debrah Karen** to **Jason Allen**, son of Toby & Ken Saltzman. Delighted grandparents are Milton Miller and Rose & Gordon Saltzman. A spring 1998 wedding is planned.

330 OBITUARIES

RABKIN, Jack - on June 12, 1997, late of 10 Torresdale Ave., #309.
GOLDGLAS, Ben - on June 13, 1997, late of 122 Hove St.
GUTTER, Hinda - on June 14, 1997, late of 165 Elm Ridge Rd.
ZALAVINSKY, Bess - on June 14, 1997, late of 37 Stillwater Cres.
BLACK, Lilian- on June 15, 1997, late of 140 Elm Ridge Dr., #618.
SILVERSTEIN, Marlene - on June 15, 1997, late of 480 Queens Quay W., #707 West.
FISCHER, Civia - on June 16, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
FRIEDMAN, Eva - on June 16, 1997, late of 20 Frontenac Ave.
GORDON, Stephen - on June 16, 1997, late of 42 Borrows St.
WEINBERG, Margit - on June 16, 1997, late of 4383 Bathurst St., #1112.
GOODMAN, Sarah - on June 17, 1997, late of 100 Antibes Dr., #103.
KAUFMAN, Morris B. - on June 18, 1997, late of 625 Avenue Rd., #502.
MANDELBAUM, Jerry - on June 18, 1997, late of 25 Cedarcroft Blvd., #210.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

MITCHELL, Harry - on June 15, 1997.
ZELDIN, Gordon - on June 17, 1997, late of 2334 Cypress Bend Dr.
CAINE, FRANCES - on June 18, 1997.
IZSAK, Margaret - on June 18, 1997.
BENSON, Helen - on June 19, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
ISENBERG, Mayer Usher - on June 19, 1997, late of 118 Palm Dr.
REMBACH, Sam - on June 20, 1997.
TWARD, Helen - on June 20, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
FINE, Jennie - on June 21, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KOCHMAN, Sam - on June 21, 1997, late of 59 Evanston Dr.
POZEN, JACK - on June 21, 1997.
ALTMAN, Anne - on June 22, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

Weightlifter finds passion in art

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

ARTS

TORONTO — The artist, someone once wrote, does not see things as they are, but as he is.

That explains why Joel Strauss' paintings come across as powerful, explosive and pulsating with vigor. At the same time, there's a kind of balance and harmony about them.

Strauss, an intense, stout 31-year-old, is a former weightlifter for Canada and Israel who would routinely hoist 300 pounds over his head. Now, he uses a paintbrush to attack a canvas the way a lifter approaches his weights.

Strauss' work reflects a sport that combines brute strength with grace and timing. His color-splashed, pinpoint acrylics throb with vitality and even aggression, but they also have surprisingly fine, delicate qualities.

He calls his physical prowess and artistic temperament a perfect marriage. Or as Strauss puts it, he's "a strong artist."

Painting is a new-found avocation. Strauss is a full-time shiatsu therapist at geriatric centres around Metro. But weightlifting was his first love.

He began the much misunderstood sport at Toronto's Jewish Community Centre in 1978, after learning about it from his father, Maurice, who had competed for Belgium and Canada. Joel made Canada's national team in 1985, competed in that year's junior world championships, and went on to compete at the 1985 Maccabiah Games, placing second in the 90-kg class.

Disillusioned by Canadian lifters' use of steroids, and taken with Israel, Strauss made aliyah in 1987. Lifting for a Tel Aviv club, he broke a 15-year-old record that had belonged to David Berger, the Israeli lifter murdered in the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre. Strauss qualified to compete for Canada at the 1988 Games in Seoul, but a dislocated elbow cut short his career.

He returned to Canada in 1989 and took up what he calls "recreational lifting," which these days means toying around with 100-kg weights. His personal best was 147 kg (323 lbs.) in the snatch (a single-motion lift ended in the squat position) and 165 kg (363 lbs.) in the clean and jerk, the two-stage lift in which the weight is hoisted to the chest and then powered overhead.

Strauss calls the sport "controlled violence." It obviously requires raw power. But lifters also employ nuance and subtlety to get the weights aloft.

He turned to painting to replace the drama and passion he misses, and found the progression natural. He describes his art as "contained rage."

Joel Strauss: Art is 'contained rage'

"I've been blessed with an outlet," Strauss told *The CJN*. "Painting has allowed me to bring the qualities of lifting and art together in a kind of spiritual dance. I want to take superhuman strength and achieve something superhuman as an artist. I still want to move mountains.

"For me, it's not over. My lifting career is more relevant now than ever. This [painting] is a greater strongman act. It's allowed my passion to re-emerge."

Strauss's work has appeared in several juried shows. A selection will be part of a group show opening July 26 at James Allen Fine Arts (1596 Queen St. W.), while a solo exhibit is planned for January at the Academy of Spherical Arts (38 Hanna Ave.).

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Israel Ruby Zsoldos ז"ל
beloved son, brother & grandson
will take place
Sunday, July 6th at 2:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LILLIAN CASS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 13th at 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
KALMAN HUDY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 6th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Husiatyner Klaus Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MANNY SIGAL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 6th, 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., N. of Mayor Mackenzie
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Sports

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Canada gunning for gold at Maccabiah softball

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It was back in December 1995 that Brian Revin fully realized what a good thing he had going.

Revin was in Buenos Aires, Argentina, with two Canadian softball teams competing in the Pan American Maccabi Games when he looked at the lineups for the championship final. He was more than a little pleased to see that, playing in a highly competitive field, the final came down to a matchup between Canada 1 and Canada 2. Needless to say, Canada won the gold medal and gave Revin, manager of both teams, a boost of confidence going into the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

"I think this is our strongest team ever," Revin said recently as he considered the lineup he'll manage at the fastpitch competition in Israel. "The main reason is our depth. I wouldn't be afraid to put anyone in the field or up at the plate."

Canada is the Maccabiah Games' defending gold-medal champion thanks to a victory over their arch-rivals, the United States, in 1993. Canada finally won gold that year after consecutive silver-medal performances in the 1985 and '89 games, losing narrowly both times to the Americans.

These guys are all smiles as they prepare to defend their title at the Maccabiah Games fastpitch competition. Seen here (from left): I.J. Shecter, Jonathan Ehrlich, Brian Revin, Steven Kushnir, Stephen Goldsmith and David Fabian.Missing: Mark Bendahan, Warren Cohen, Phil Gigan, Bob Green, Mark Green, Rick Green, Matthew Levinson, Ira Smith, Michael Solomon, David Strauss and Adam Wolff.

This time around, Revin expects the United States to again be tough, with Argentina also fielding a strong team.

The Canadian squad, for its part, will feature a good blend of youth and experience. About half the team are veterans of 1993 while the rest of the team is new. Of the seven new players, four are graduates of the Maccabi junior program, which has won its share of gold medals in youth competitions.

Sixty guys in Toronto tried out last summer for the 15 places on the team and a second try-out camp was held in Montreal but in the end, the team consists solely of players from Ontario.

"In Quebec," Revin explains, "they don't seem to play fastball. The big difference is the hitting. They're fine defensively, but they can't seem to hit."

Revin also admits to having trouble identifying top Jewish players west of Ontario, but, based on his experience, "I don't think the Jewish kids are playing at a reasonable level out west."

The Canadian team will be led by quality pitchers, Mark Bendahan, David Strauss and Rick Green. Revin said. Bendahan throws for the Toronto Gators while Strauss pitches for the team from Chicken Deli that plays in a Toronto intermediate league. Bobby Green is another members of the Gators, which has competed in the world fastpitch championships.

Steven Kushnir, assistant coach and player with the '97 team, is geared up for the games. It'll be the third Maccabiah for the DH/infielder and he raves about the Maccabiah experience. "Anytime you can play a kid's game in Israel, it's great," he said.

A veteran of the '85 and '93 teams, Kushnir expects to renew friendships with Maccabiah athletes he's tussled with in the past. Not too long ago, he received a phone call from the catcher of the Mexican team who said he couldn't wait to see him again in Israel.

For Phil Gigan, who plays for Chicken Deli in Toronto, this too will be his third trip to Israel. He was on the '89 and '93 teams, he was in Argentina in '95 and in Venezuela in 1988. He believes the '97 edition is the best team yet with "a lot of good young players."

This will be David Fabian's first Maccabiah. He played on the gold medal-winning Toronto team at the 1986 junior games and was part of the championship team in Argentina. His best baseball experience came during that tournament when in the semi-finals, Canada 1 was down 2-1 to the United States with two outs in the last inning and scored two runs to win.

The nine-country round robin Maccabiah Games competition will be held on Kibbutz Gezer, a settlement founded by American Jews.

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Hoops squad best yet

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The Canadian men's basketball team headed to Israel for the Maccabiah Games is arguably its best ever, say Maccabi Canada officials.

So the team could for the first time do better than bronze – Canada's last was in 1989 – in one of the Jewish Olympics' most competitive events.

About 16 countries usually compete in the event.

"I believe it's one of the best teams ever," said national athletic committee chair Bob Luxenberg. "We have speed, we have strength and we have height."

Five of the team members – British Columbia's Seth Adler, Floridian Isaac Kodsi, and Ontarians Nathan Aryev, Dan Becker and Alex Brainis – are vets of '93, when a tough draw combined with jet lag resulted in Canada being shut out of the medal rounds after three games.

The team will be coached by Concordia University's John Dore, who is recognized as one of the best university coaches in Canada. He'll be assisted by veteran Montreal basketball official Johnny Elias.

Luxenberg noted that Maccabiah vet Adler is probably the "top university guard in the country."

Sharing the court will be Quebecer Alex Bougaieff, who lives in Trois-Rivières and stands 6 feet 10 inches tall.

Also new to the team is Dan Birsan, a landed immigrant who has played for Romania's national team.

Rounding out the squad will be: Quebecers Andrew Bier, Joel Perlman and David Steiner; Ari Hunter, of Ontario; and, Adam Eisenstat of British Columbia.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

C	O	B	B		P	E	N		J	E	W	E	S	S
A	C	R	E		A	F	T		A	R	A	R	A	T
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The Inside Back

Kids' parties a real challenge

By JORDAN MAX

Around our house, the most stressful activity next to Pesach is deciding on and planning our children's birthday parties. First of all, most children have busier social calendars than their parents, so booking a date which doesn't conflict with other classmates' parties, various lessons, community events, circuses and concerts is a challenge in itself.

Secondly, the activity has to be something the guests have *never* done before. Gone forever are the parties I seem to recall in my youth where we just naively played pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey, ate cake and ice cream, ran around outside, and, well, I guess that was about it. But I could never understand why all those grown-ups looked so tense. Now I do.

Try some unusual themes

Today's over-programmed, overstimulated children must be clamoring to be adults, because they have seen it and done it all, before they even reach the age of seven. Beyond the usual video parties, indoor playgrounds, singers, clowns, and magicians, there are makeup parties, space shuttle launches, off-Broadway theatre productions and skydiving to name a few. Just make sure you plan it well, or else you'll find yourself in a situation like I did of having half an hour left, no props and a roomful of newly energized post-cake 6-year-olds. Talk about pressure!

So, for those parents struggling to come up with new ideas that today's jaded youngsters haven't yet experienced, may I suggest the following home-based, weatherproof themes that are novel, educational and practical, yet inexpensive. You also won't have to worry about not filling the time.

The Cleaning party: Tell all the guests to come in schmutzik clothes, hand each one a sponge and mop. This can be great fun, useful for you and guaranteed to be different from anything they do at home. Can be applied to Pesach cleaning (my personal favorite), Mom or Dad's car, gardening (especially challenging in February). Just be sure to feed them cake first, then make the most of that energy surge.

The Mini-parliament/UN party: Give the kids a topic to debate or reach consensus and two hours to decide on how to proceed. Unless following Taiwanese parliamentary rules, violence is not allowed. Don't be surprised if the results look a lot like the real House of Commons or the UN. Easily adaptable to shul committees by deciding for example, who should get the third aliyah or what type of herring should be served for kiddush on Shabbat morning.

The Family budgeting party: Sit everybody down and force them to devise a hypothetical family budget to afford mortgage/rent, child care and/or day school tuition, shul dues, tzedakah, food, clothing, toys and games, summer camp and vacation on a not-so-hypothetical income (yours). Remember, no cheating with third incomes. Illustrates that money does not spontaneously pop out of automatic tellers machines when cash is low.

The Day at the Office party: Create a simulated work environment. Hold long, boring meetings, serve endless "coffee" (hot chocolate), make unreasonable demands under impossible timeframes, practice petty politics, cut back wages and announce impending layoffs.

Just choose any one of these ideas and pretty soon the kids will be clamoring for you to teach them that really interesting game you used to play at your parties, like "that donkey thing." They may even be willing to not grow up so fast.

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HOISIN TURKEY MEATBALLS

1 lb. ground turkey	2 tsps. soy sauce
1 egg	1 tsp. sherry
1/4 cup bread crumbs	2 scallions, chopped
3 oz. hoisin sauce	1/4 cup chopped raw cashews

Combine all ingredients in a bowl. Roll meatballs the size of walnuts. Simmer in sauce for 15 minutes.

Sauce	
6 oz. hoisin sauce	1 tblsp. soy sauce
1 cup apple juice	1 tblsp. sesame oil
2 tblsp. sherry	1 tsp. grated fresh ginger

Combine all sauce ingredients in 4 qt. saucepan and simmer 1 minute.

YOU CAN NOW SEND YOUR LETTERS BY
E-MAIL
TorCJN1@aol.com

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

My son is 38 years old. He has a graduate degree and over 10 years of experience. But since he lost his job six years ago, he's been managing a computer store and earning not much more than minimum wage. I'm so upset for him. He often works 60 to 70 hours a week! He could do so much better for himself, but he doesn't want to try. I set him up for counselling and he refused to go. What should I do?

Dear Reader,

Unfortunately, the best thing you can do is leave him alone.

Sometimes, people are unwilling to continually upgrade their skills. We don't know why. Perhaps it's fear or stubbornness. Perhaps they believe they are so knowledgeable that employers should be begging for them. Either way, the job market today is not the same as it has been before and attitudes like this don't get people jobs. To further complicate the situation, because technology is developing at such a fast pace, if a person neglects upgrading their skills, they just can't complete.

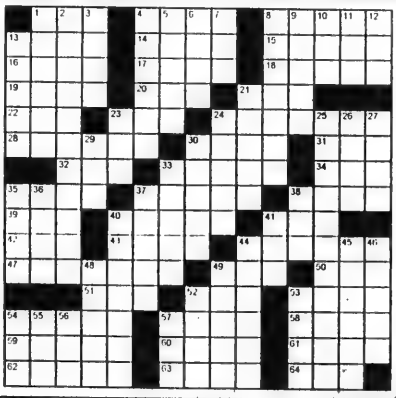
If your son is content where he is, leave him alone. The best you can do is support him in leading the kind of life he has chosen.

If your son says he is unhappy, you might buy him a self-help book, something that might motivate him into examining the direction his life is taking. Or you might consider offering to pay for a self-improvement course in an area that you think he might enjoy and has very little to do with his working experience.

Whatever you do, don't tell him how worried you are about him. Keep up a brave face and try getting yourself interested in some sort of course or new hobby so that your mind will be occupied with something other than your son's situation. Of course, there is also the possibility that your actions may motivate your son to action too!

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Greek letter
4. Emulated Spitz
8. Baal Shem Tov
13. Cardozo and Goodman
14. Johnny Kling's plate
15. Composer Copland
16. Shaw and Shamsky
17. Instrument
18. "Our __", Birmingham
19. Edomite mountain
20. Robinson and Cantor
21. Encountered
22. Sin (Eng)
23. Chazzer house
24. Prayer book
28. Israeli coin
30. Sandal maker
31. Mother (Heb)
32. Baseball Berg
33. Order
34. Plagues
35. Jonathan Pollard's residence
37. Marranos' home
38. Emulated Barry Manilow
39. Jewish Org.
40. Jan Peerce specialty
41. Commandment no no
42. Mt Hermon activity
43. Bowling target
44. Hadad and Medad
47. Imitated the Israelites
49. Arafat's gang
50. Hebrew letter
51. Taxmen
52. Signed a Ketubah
53. Abraham to Ishmael
54. Hebrew letter
57. Circumcision
58. Niels Bohr research
59. Sacrifice residue
60. Nelly Sachs specialty
61. Distort
62. Imitates Moses
63. Emcee Parks
64. Meshuggeneh

Down

1. Bigthan's partner
2. Hatred for Jews
3. Refuniks' home
4. European town
5. Moviemaker Allen
6. Writer Oz
7. Brooks
8. Vehicle for Jody Scheckter
9. Genisis creation
10. Gad to Simeon
11. Ark front?
12. Alenu
13. Hubs for Tsahal
21. Expert (Yid)
23. Prophesize
24. Medes
25. Jewish fraternity (3 wds)
26. Noah's rainbow
27. Chimed
29. ____Nidre
30. Seder water
33. Use your shekels
35. Bautista
36. Torah holders
37. Rosenbergs?
38. Baseball's Gordon
40. Crush
41. Zeigfeld's nickname
44. Simeon to brothers
45. Koppell's job
46. Chasidic feet
48. Gave Tzedakah
49. Sellers or Lorre
52. Zaftig (Eng)?
53. Chess piece
54. Prayer for dew
55. Haifa to Hebron
56. Got ya!!
57. Actor Reiner

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 42.)

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Sat. July 5, 1997

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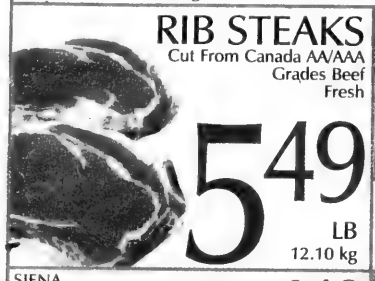

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69 LB

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•Hot Dog •Hamburger, Package of 8
79 EA

SIENA
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Smoked or Cooked
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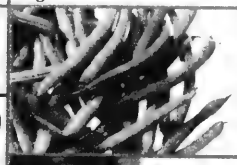

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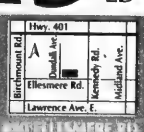

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Good news for Baycrest. Ontario approves $18.9 million funding. *Page 3*

Charges laid against man accused of promoting hatred. *Page 5*

Thornhill teens finish second in chemistry contest. *Page 16*

Arts

Avra Fainer, 10, star of *Annie* is a big fan of Yiddish music. *Page 31*

Health

Israeli scientists develop new way of treating breast tumors. *Page 33*

Sports

Thirteen-year-old Greg Hutner and karate champ Susan Adaskin will attempt to capture gold at Maccabiah Games. *Page 38*

Index

GTA	3
Editorials and Letters	8
Perspectives	9
Opinions	10
The Kirshner File	11
Jewish Life	12
What's New	14
On Campus	18
Coast to Coast	19
Yiddish Corner	21
International	23
Travel, Arts and Business	28
Health	33
Classified	34
Sports	38
Crossword	39
Ask Ella	39

Shabbat: Hukkat
Candlelighting: 8:40
Tammuz 6, 5757
Havdalah: 9:45

Israel fills treasury post

CJN Wire Services

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu earlier this week appointed Yaacov Ne'eman as finance minister to replace Dan Meridor, who resigned his portfolio last month. In the process, Netanyahu resolved a 3-week-old crisis involving the confidence of his cabinet ministers, which at various times threatened to bring down his coalition government.

Ne'eman's appointment came as a surprise to many, especially as Ariel Sharon had been rumored for weeks to be headed to the post.

Ne'eman, a law professor, was originally appointed justice minister in Netanyahu's cabinet. But he resigned last August to face charges of obstructing justice.

After Ne'eman was cleared of all wrongdoing, Netanyahu offered him his old cabinet job, which Ne'eman declined. But at the height of the latest coalition crisis, he agreed to accept the vacant Treasury and finance post.

The most recent cabinet difficulties arose from Foreign Minister David Levy's anger with the revelations that Sharon had secretly met with the Palestinian Authority to discuss the continuation of the peace process. Apparently, the prime minister had known of and had approved of the Sharon meeting without sharing the information with his foreign minister.

As part of the new cabinet arrangements, Netanyahu also announced he would "consult" from "time to time" with Levy, Mordechai and Sharon on diplomatic issues "as needed." The entire peace process, it was announced, is to be handled by Levy. Officials in Netanyahu's office working on the peace process will coordinate all steps and new initiatives directly with the foreign minister.

Reports Monday morning said Levy and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai had joined forces to prevent Sharon, national infrastructure minister, from becoming finance minister and were the key figures who persuaded Ne'eman to enter the cabinet by accepting the finance portfolio.

WAITING FOR THEIR WINGS
Israels first women pilot cadets present arms at the annual Air Force Day ceremonies last week. The young women are scheduled to earn their wings in 1999. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Alleged Nazi named

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An alleged former member of a notorious Lithuanian killing squad is the 12th man facing deportation for failing to divulge his wartime activities.

Mamertas Rolland Maciukas, 73, is alleged to have collaborated with German forces in Lithuania and Byelorussia (now Belarus) in 1941 as a member of the 2nd Auxiliary Police Battalion. The unit was later renamed the 2nd Lithuanian Schutzmannschaft Battalion and afterwards was known as the 12th Schutzmannschaft Battalion.

Continued on page 22

Report scores Canadian forces

Jewish groups urge race relations policies

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish groups are urging the federal government to implement race relations policies and screening mechanisms for racists in the military in the wake of the Somalia commission's report.

The groups also slammed the government for its "dismissive attitude" towards the report and for continuing to "undermine the inquiry."

Both Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada were given standing before the commission on questions pertaining to racism in the military. The commission was created after reports surfaced that a Somali looter was killed "execution style" and that a 16-year-old Somali, Shidane Arone, was tortured and killed in 1993 by soldiers of the Canadian Airborne Regiment (CAR) during peacekeeping duties in Somalia.

The 2,000-page report released last week contains several recommendations addressing the issue of racism in the military that should be adopted "to eliminate racist tendencies," said Keith Landy, national legal counsel for Canadian Jewish Congress.

The report stated "at the time of the deployment, the Canadian Forces had no policies denying enrolment to active racists, prohibiting involvement in racist organizations or participation in their activ-

Continued on page 22

INSIDE

Looking at the rituals of a traditional Tunisian Jewish marriage.
Please see page 9.

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Clashes and death in South Lebanon — please see page 23

The News in Brief

ISRAEL

Suing Parents

JERUSALEM — In an unprecedented ruling in Israel, a district court has ruled that children can sue their parents for physical and emotional damage sustained from neglect. The Tel Aviv court decision came in a civil case filed by two brothers and a sister against their father.

The siblings maintained that they were emotionally disabled after their father sent them to institutions when they were very young, after the suicide of their mother.

Vigil for MiAs

JERUSALEM — Families of three missing Israeli soldiers held a vigil opposite the Knesset last week in an effort to raise awareness of their plight.

Staff Sgt. Zvi Feldman, Sgt. Yehuda Katz and Sgt. Zachary Baumel were captured in June 1982, during a Syrian-Israeli tank battle in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

A string of Israeli political and military leaders visited the vigil, pledging to do what they can to find the missing soldiers.

Weizmann Program

REHOVOT — Winners of their nations' top science competitions are among the participants in the Weizmann Institute of Science's 29th Dr. Bessie F. Lawrence International Summer Science Institute from July 2 to Aug. 1.

The annual summer program brings together top high school graduates from around the world and offers them the opportunity to learn directly from scientists at the Weizmann Institute.

The 29th Summer Science Institute will be attended by 72 students from 17 countries, including five from Canada.

Undercover in Hebron

JERUSALEM — Masked Israeli undercover units took Palestinian demonstrators in Hebron by surprise last week when they began arresting stone-throwers after first mingling with them.

News reports said at least seven rioters were detained by undercover troops, and that the demonstrations died down following the arrests.

Jordanians Nabbed

JERUSALEM — Jordanian police last week arrested a graphic designer who had posted a "no Israelis" sign in his window.

It was the second arrest in as many days of a Jordanian for posting what was termed an anti-Semitic message. The previous day, a shopkeeper was detained for several hours for having a sign in his supermarket stating "No dogs. No Jews."

Abraham Fund

JERUSALEM — The Abraham Fund, an organization established to enhance coexistence, has moved to increase awareness in Israel about issues related to Jewish-Arab coexistence by forming a council of 61 prominent Jews and Arabs who make up the mosaic of Israeli society.

WORLD

Jews in Miami

NEW YORK — The Jewish population of Greater Miami, one of the largest concentrations of Jews in the United States, is steadily declining, according to a recent study.

The study found that the total Jewish population of Florida's Dade County, an area commonly known as Greater Miami, has dropped eight percent over the past three years to 152,500.

The 1994 Jewish Demographic Study of Dade County found 166,000 Jews living in the area.

The county's Jewish population has been in decline since its peak in 1975 at 248,000.

CAJE Conference

PALO ALTO, Calif. — Jewish educators from around North America will be Stanford University in August for the 22nd annual Conference on Alternatives in Jewish Education (CAJE).

This year's CAJE conference will include 50 teens with an interest in Jewish education and 28 college students who are considering a career in Jewish education or communal experience.

Deportation Case

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Justice Department has initiated deportation proceedings against a Philadelphia man who served as an officer and platoon commander in a Nazi-sponsored Lithuanian police unit.

Legal documents filed by the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) allege that Jonas Stelmokas, 80, a retired architect, volunteered for service in the Lithuanian Schutzmannschaft in July 1941 and served until August 1944 when he was transferred to the German air force.

The deportation proceedings follow a U.S. District Court finding that Stelmokas misrepresented his wartime activities when he received a U.S. visa in 1949.

Toronto Board of Rabbis' statement on unity

TORONTO — The Toronto Board of Rabbis — representing a wide spectrum of Jewish beliefs and practices while, at the same time, promoting mutual respect and cooperation between all branches of Judaism — endorses the statement, issued by Jewish organizations in the United States and elsewhere, which affirms our common responsibility to work for unity in the House of Israel.

We, therefore, deplore and repudiate any pronouncement by any group that attempts to disenfranchise branches of Judaism.

We urge the members of the Knesset to desist from debates and decisions concerning Jewish status and related issues, which exacerbate divisions within Jewry.

We appeal to the leaders of all political parties in Israel to accept the reality of a variety of Jewish religious expressions and not allow expediency to threaten the bond between Israel and the Diaspora, essential for Jewish survival.

We appeal to the leaders and members of the Jewish community in Canada to make renewed efforts to work together as one people.

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IMP - Israel Advertising Representatives
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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue
46,711 copies
Average net paid circulation per issue
45,109 copies
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997

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Baycrest gets $18.9 million from Queen's Park

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care got some good news last week from the provincial government: Queen's Park has approved $18.9 million in funding for a major Baycrest project.

The money gives the green light to the development of the Apotex Centre, the Jewish Home for the Aged and the Centre for Cognitive Disorders, touted by Baycrest as a cutting-edge facility for tomorrow's seniors.

Based on the approval of funds, Baycrest has put out tenders for the project and a groundbreaking ceremony is planned. Construction should take about 18 months.

"This news calls for a celebration," Baycrest president and CEO Stephen Herbert enthused in a memo to staff.

Herbert said the funds give "an exciting push" to Baycrest's two-year, $60-million fundraising campaign, which ends next month. Over $50 million has been raised to date.

The project has been in the works for a decade. Dubbed the Apotex Centre after chief benefactor and Apotex chair Barry Sherman, it will replace the current 372-bed Jewish Home for the Aged and add 100 new beds. The addition will be known as the Centre for Cognitive Disorders, and will focus on older adults whose cognitive abilities have been damaged by stroke and other ailments.

Plans call for the home to care for elderly people with progressive illnesses, like Alzheimer disease.

The new funding is a capital grant and separate from last week's announcement by the Ontario government that it will increase spending on nursing homes across the province by $100 million.

Baycrest's reaction to that announcement was lukewarm. The new funding is a good example of Queen's Park giving money with one hand just as it has taken away with the other, said Moshe Greengarten, vice-president of Baycrest's public and community affairs.

"It's a good thing and it will help us somewhat, but all it really does is offset past cuts," Greengarten said.

Ontario Health Minister Jim Wilson announced that the Mike Harris government will "reinvest" $100 million in long-term health care facilities, including nursing homes and homes for the aged.

He said $70 million will go toward nursing and personal care; $20 million to dietary services, housekeeping and maintenance; and $10 million to enhancing "quality of life," including physiotherapy and exercise programs.

The new funds are good news for Jewish seniors, said Greengarten. "The government is beginning to recognize that costs are shifting from hospitals to long-term care.

"But based on a preliminary look, all this does is offset previous funding cuts."

For example, funding reductions by the province have meant that the Jewish Home for the Aged has had its budget slashed by $6 million over five years, or $1.2 million annually.

And Baycrest's hospital has seen its budget cut by $1.8 million over the past two years.

Greengarten feels that overall, Baycrest will probably still be behind where it was prior to the first round of cuts two years ago.

The Health Ministry counters that the new funding will translate into 16 more hours of nursing and personal care a day for every 100 nursing home residents.

And it says the funds will create over 2,000 new jobs in the homes, most of them for nurses, nursing assistants and other health care providers.

Greengarten said the possibility of new staffing isn't a big factor at Baycrest because past cutbacks have resulted in "far larger" staff reductions than the new funding can make up for.

Stephen Schneiderman, executive director of Hillel Lodge/Ottawa Jewish Home for the Aged, welcomed the news from Queen's Park.

"It's a step in the right direction. We're pleased with a recognition that expenses are escalating," Schneiderman said.

But faced with $150,000 in cuts since 1995, any new money will "simply stop the bleeding" at Hillel Lodge, a 48-bed non-profit home for the Jewish aged, he said.

The government also pointed out last week that in the next 20 years, the number of senior citizens in Ontario will increase from the current 1.4 million to 3 million. As well, the average age of a senior entering a nursing home has risen to 85.

Baycrest's own numbers project that by 2011, 25 percent of Metro's Jews will be 65 or over, and the largest growth will be in the over 85 age group.

Last year, the Harris Tories announced $170 million in new spending on home care for seniors. Most community leaders said that was a sign the government wants seniors to stay at home for as long as possible.

CANADIAN TEENAGERS KNOW THEIR IDENTITY

Four Canadians were among the finalists at the International Jewish Identity Competition held last month in Basel, Switzerland. The competition was organized by the Israel Ministry of Education and the International Centre of Jewish Identity at Bar-Ilan University to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Congress in Basel. Approximately 60,000 youngsters aged 11 to 16 from 38 countries in the Diaspora took part in the contest. Nearly 140,000 Israeli youngsters also participated in the contest. Seen in this photo are the four Canadian finalists at a ceremony in the garden of Beit Hanassi in Jerusalem standing beside a bust of the late president, Chaim Herzog. From left, Shira Shiderman and Hyim Bessin, both of Toronto, David Herz of Montreal and Michael Rom of Vancouver. [Isranet photo]

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From the editor's desk

A week's worthy reading

Every week across my desk, I receive newspapers, journals, periodicals and magazines from across the Jewish world.

Of course, in those many papers and periodicals, I come across a great deal of writing that is informative, thoughtful and occasionally even inspiring.

As opportunity allows from time to time, I like to bring small excerpts from even a small sampling of those writings to the attention of *CJN* readers.

Here, for example, are just a few worthy reads from last week's mail.

• In the *Jewish Week of New York* (June 27), Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman comments on parshat *Shelach*. He is an unusual writer in that he combines a rare, gentle writing style with hard-hitting, insightful, substantive thought.

In this column, Hoffman reflects specifically upon the modern-day lessons and applications arising out of the negative and pessimistic report brought back to the people of Israel by 10 of the 12 spies whom Moshe sent to inspect the land of Canaan.

"Individuals require communities, and the basic unit of community is the minyan. But individuals must prevent the community from accepting an "evil report" on the state of the world...

"Individuals have two levels of responsibility. Like Joshua, [one of the two spies who resisted the negative report of the majority,] we must speak up in the face of an "evil report," even if we are all alone in doing so and we think our words will go unheeded. Joshua had an ally, Caleb, and even the two of them were unable to sway the spies. But at least they protested. At its most extreme, think of the Holocaust, which would not have happened if the masses of ordinary Germans had not gone along in silent complicity...

"Judaism does not favor heroes who are loners: ascetic monks, ivory-tower scholars and Wild West-style rugged individualists. It charges instead, 'Do not separate yourself from the community.' [See *The CJN*, From the Editor's Desk, June 26.] And it requires its own form of courage, courage in community, where each of us must act."

• In the *Jerusalem Report* (July 10), the reliable, well-informed Ehud Ya'ari reminds readers that the Iran-watching "experts" in the United States failed to predict the recent election of Muhammad Khatemi as president. However, despite their failure to correctly analyze the unfolding political developments in Iran, they are now urging the American administration to revise its policy of containing Iran and in its place, "extend a hand to Khatemi."

The assessment of Israel's security establishment is contrary to that of the United States.

"Israel...is recommending the opposite. It asks Washington to step up the pressure on Iran in the hope of sharpening the internal crisis there. For Uri Lubrani [who holds the Iran portfolio at the Ministry of Defence] "rapprochement with Iran is akin to appeasement of the Nazis."

"The central point for Israel must be that *the chances of deterring Iran from developing an atomic bomb are better under embargo than in a climate of business-as-usual.* [Our emphasis.] The more investments are allowed to flow in, the more holes in the dam."

• In *Justice*, (December 1966), the Journal of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, Dr. Shmuel Berkovitz, an expert on the history of the holy places in Israel, wrote an essay entitled *The Holy Places in Jerusalem: Legal Aspects*.

At the very outset of his article he deals with the contention that eastern Jerusalem was occupied territory and that as such, Israel had no right to annex it and to apply Israeli law there.

"In this regard, I accept the opinions of E. Lauterpacht, Prof. I. Blum (Israel's past ambassador to the UN), S. Schwebal and M. Gruhin. In their view, upon the termination of the British Mandate, a 'vacuum in sovereignty' was created over Palestine, including Jerusalem, which should have been filled upon Jerusalem turning into an international city in a accordance with the UN Partition Plan (29.11.47). Accordingly, the conquest of east Jerusalem by Jordan in May 1948 was an unlawful act of aggression, which did not confer any rights upon Jordan, as was evidenced by the fact that apart from Pakistan, no country in the world (and no Arab country) officially recognized the lawfulness of Jordan's rule over east Jerusalem.

"As opposed to Jordan, Israel captured east Jerusalem within the framework of a lawful act of self-defense during the Six day War, following the shelling of western Jerusalem by Jordan. (Jordan ignored Israel's pronouncements that the latter had no intention of attacking Jordan and disregarded Israel's requests that Jordan also refrain from attacking her.) Thus, Israel acquired the sovereignty over east Jerusalem in a lawful manner, and in any event, Israel's rights in that part of the city are superior to the rights of Jordan there."

• In the Shabbat supplement to *Ha'aretz* (July 4), the following miscellaneous piece of information is recorded by Aryeh Caspi.

He reported that "$13 trillion (US) was the value of all securities in all the stock exchanges around the world on Jan. 1 of this year. The prices of stocks around the world increased an average of 13 percent. Only in three countries did the value of the stocks decline." (But he did not identify the countries!)

• The front page of the *Jerusalem Post* (editor's note: not the international edition, but rather the regular edition) of July 2 announced: "Montreal wins Battle of Canada." This was a reference to the result of the first inter-league baseball game at Skydome in Toronto between the Expos and the Blue Jays which the Expos won by one run: 2-1. A report of the game was the lead story on the sports page that day.

This editorial decision is undoubtedly a reflection of the facts that the chairman of the Board is F. David Radler of Vancouver, that the president and publisher of the paper is Norman Spector, formerly of Montreal, and perhaps that the features editor is Leora Eren Frucht, formerly *The CJN* correspondent in Israel.

MBD

DISTINGUISHED LEADER

Julia Koschitzky, outgoing chair of Keren Hayesod's World Board of Trustees, recently received the Israel Goldstein Prize for Distinguished Leadership, the highest honor bestowed by Keren Hayesod. Koschitzky has served as chair since 1992. Koschitzky is seen here receiving the award from the director general of Keren Hayesod, Moshe Gur, at a ceremony in the Chagall Hall of the Knesset. On the right is Daniel Liwerant, the incoming chair of the Board of Trustees. Koschitzky is the fourth Canadian to receive the Prize since its inception in 1980. Other Canadian recipients were Phil Granovsky, Gordon Brown and Charles Bronfman. *[Israel]*

Greater Toronto Area

Netanyahu gets top marks for political skills

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Despite a series of recent scandals, Benjamin Netanyahu's credibility is "not as damaged as people would like to believe," says the managing editor of *The Jerusalem Report*.

Although he himself is "not a fan" of the Israeli prime minister, award-winning journalist David Horovitz, a co-founder of the glossy seven-year-old magazine, waxed enthusiastic about the former's political skills.

"Netanyahu is a terrific politician," said Horovitz in an interview at UJA Federation's Toronto offices, where he also met recently with community leaders. "He campaigns incredibly hard, he tours the country and he's wonderful on television."

David Horovitz

Horovitz, a 34-year-old native of London, England, with a degree in International Relations from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, believes Netanyahu will be hard to unseat, but that Ehud Barak is "the most credible figure Labor could have found," giving the party its best chance for a comeback.

The key issues for Israelis are peace and security, he said. "What we really want is security. We don't want to die unnatural deaths. There's no real argument about peace. The argument is over the price."

The forays of Israel's Orthodox and Russian immigrant populations into party politics have saddened Horovitz. "It stains what they stand for."

He painted former refusenik — and former *Report* staffer — Natan Sharansky, Israel's Minister of Trade and Industry, as a poignant case, someone who has been lampooned on a satirical Israeli television show and whose threats to resign over the Bar-On affair, for example, were met with cynicism.

"He was a hero until he went into politics a year ago. He remains the wonderful man he was, but politics has stained him. To call him a laughingstock is not far off the mark."

Netanyahu made unnecessary concessions to the religious right to secure a political coalition, Horovitz believes.

"If he had hung tough, they could not have joined anyone else." The resulting controversy over Israel's proposed conversion bill could have been avoided, he said.

Because Israel has small Reform and Conservative communities, the average Israeli hasn't a clue about the issue, he said. "It's not that they don't care about this crisis. They don't know about it."

Because of pressure from American Reform and Conservative Jewry, the bill has been stopped in its tracks, Horovitz noted. Rather than lament the controversy, he prefers to emphasize what he sees as a strong link between Israel and the Diaspora.

"You can look at it as a positive case of Diaspora Jewry knocking on the door, saying 'Hey guys, wake up.'"

The *Jerusalem Report* covered the issue as early as January, said Horovitz. Although it's sometimes a challenge for the bi-weekly magazine to remain topical, particularly because it takes time to reach overseas subscribers, "we like to think we have time to research things better. We try to get beyond the headlines."

Horovitz said he regrets not having given more attention to the threat posed by Jewish extremists prior to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin in November 1995. Although the *Report* did address the issue about three months earlier, in hindsight, he feels it should have been given more prominence.

A recent issue featured a rare cover story on Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam, and a four-page look at the life of a Conservative rabbi in Israel: *Jewish, Observant and Illegal*. Israeli politics are generally covered in depth, and the magazine's arts and business sections offer an eclectic look at some issues not necessarily familiar to Diaspora Jews.

The *Report*, which has a circulation of about 50,000 (with two-thirds of the readership in North America), offers the "whole gamut of opinion," said Horovitz. "We try to be as straight as we can, to tell it like it is."

Police lay hate charges for anti-Muslim pamphlets

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada's rarely-used hate law was dusted off last week, as a man from rural Ontario was charged with three counts of promoting hatred against an identifiable group.

The charges stem from distribution of two pamphlets and a pre-recorded telephone message that attacked Muslims, said Sgt. Dino Doria of the Metropolitan Toronto Police hate crime unit.

One of the pamphlets, distributed to students at Weston Collegiate High School, repeatedly attacks the Islamic faith in tones usually associated with anti-Jewish propagandists.

The pamphlet suggests Muslims in Toronto "sound peaceful and try to act peaceful, but underneath their false sheep's clothing are raging wolves, seeking whom they may devour and Toronto is definitely on their hit list."

The pamphlet also describes Islam as a "false religion," a "violent religion," and it suggests Muslims in Toronto are no different than "Muslim believers" in Algeria who have committed bloody atrocities.

Doria said only three weeks passed from the time police were alerted to the material to the laying of charges. Police received complaints from spokespersons from the Muslim community who believed the material was "blatant" hate propaganda, he said.

Jewish groups applaud move

Jewish community organizations applauded police for acting quickly to lay charges and they commended Attorney General Charles Harnick for approving the charges. Under Canada's anti-hate laws, consent of the attorney general is necessary before a case can proceed.

"Now that the attorney general has finally gotten his feet wet, a strong message has been sent out to Ernst Zundel that maybe you're next," said Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress.

Zundel is a Nazi apologist who distributes Holocaust-denial material that Congress believes warrants hate promotion charges. Zundel, who has been charged under the now defunct "false news" section of the Criminal Code, has never been charged under the anti-hate law.

Farber said the anti-Muslim material comes squarely under the parameters of the anti-hate law. He suggested that the material "could have been a tinderbox... It could lead to violence."

Karen Mock, director of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights, said the League supports the laying of charges. "It is important to stand together [with the Islamic community] against hate," she said. "The victim impact of this kind of propaganda is not to be underestimated, especially when it is targeted to vulnerable young people."

Charged with promoting hatred is Mark Harding, 44, of the Meaford area of northern Ontario.

Though the flyers bore the name the Christian Standard, Doria said that organization appears to be a one-man show involving only Harding.

"He's not associated with any known group," he said.

The Christian Standard is described on one of the leaflets as "a self-supporting group of Christian soldiers serving God and our Lord Jesus Christ, in Canada and around the world."

CORRECTION

The story, "Israel pavilion set for Carabram" (*CJN*, June 19), conveyed some incorrect information. The school where Carabram will be held, is Heart Lake Secondary School in Brampton and the Har Tikvah Congregation's number for information about the event is 905-846-4922.

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Greater Toronto Area

Racism, inter-group hostility on interfaith agenda

By SIMONE JOSEPH
Student Intern

TORONTO — A Jewish anti-racist educator, an Islamic scholar and a Catholic priest discussed racism and hostility between groups at a recent forum on Interfaith Dialogue on Human Rights.

"Regrettably, in Ontario, religious prejudice still bedevils our society. We have white supremacist groups...There are still people who would desecrate Jewish synagogues and cemeteries," said the evening's moderator Mervin Witter, Ontario regional director of the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

Karen Mock, national director of the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada, began her presentation by describing the following incident: Before she left for the forum, she said, she received a call from a distressed person who had received an anti-Semitic phone call, in the form of a threatening tape-recorded message accusing Jews of being the Antichrist and warning, "We are going to get you."

Mock emphasized that anti-racist and human rights work is about putting yourself in the other person's shoes. She quoted a saying by the prophet Hillel: "Separate not thyself from thy community and do not judge another person until you have been in his place".

She also told of reaching out to Toronto's Arab and Muslim communities at the height of the Gulf War. She awoke on a Friday morning in January, opened the newspaper and read of Muslim and Arab Canadians being called names and being harassed in schools and in the workplace. When she went to work, there were seven calls reporting incidents of attacks on Jewish schools, synagogues, and student unions in North York.

That January morning was significant, Mock said. "At the same time [as] we dispatched people to help in the Jewish institutions, I picked up the phone and reached out to our Muslim and Arab colleagues in anti-racist human rights work and said, 'Let's get together so we can ensure human rights are not violated in this country.'"

A Muslim-Jewish dialogue program was set up, she said, and leaders of the Muslim and Arab communities were invited to the B'nai Brith offices, where they were given guidelines and strategies for protecting their religious institutions.

Mock said she and the League for Human Rights draw on certain principles of the Jewish faith in their work. "The tenets of the Jewish faith that I draw on are equality, justice, welcoming the stranger, tzedakah or charity, tshuvah [repentance], prayer and faith and also a very important concept — that of mitzvah, doing good deeds and fulfilling the commandments."

Father Timothy Macdonald, director of the Office of Ecumenism and Interfaith Affairs of the Roman Catholic Church, emphasized that the roots of Christianity are in faith and charity. He said all people are created in the image of G-d.

"I hope that this meeting will be a kind of figurative planting of olive trees of peace, justice and concord in the city of Toronto," he said.

Prof. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, an Islamic philosopher and thinker, emphasized that Islam is an inclusive, not an exclusive religion.

"Islam is the religion of human rights and peace," he said.

Qadri discussed the situation which arose in 1995 after the Oklahoma bombing. At that time, without investigation or inquiry, the media claimed the person responsible for the bombing was Arab or Muslim, he said.

Qadri also stressed that we are all equal and that no man is superior to another.

Mock told *The CJN* that the major human rights problems facing the Jewish community are racism, anti-Semitism and the lack of will to prosecute Nazi war criminals.

"Whether it's overt slurs or hate propaganda, all of these issues have to get our attention," she said.

To combat racism, Mock advises people to report all violence to the proper authorities. "We should take action. If we're silent, we're just condoning the anti-Semitism and racism," she said.

Klein helps ensure camp runs smooth

Spotlight

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If you've ever called the Toronto office of Camp Shalom, chances are you've spoken to Malka Klein.

As camp administrator, Klein is the first person parents reach when they inquire about the Zionist overnight camp for children up to age 13, affiliated with Canadian Young Judaea.

"I feel that the camp's image depends on me. If parents are satisfied by the way they've been treated on their initial phone call, they'll take the next step. Its too easy to lose people on inquiry calls. I can be on the phone for more than 20 minutes with a mother shopping around for camps for her child."

Klein, who works in the camp's Marlee Avenue office during the year and at its Gravenhurst site in the summer months, is, among other tasks, in charge of camper registration and camp advertising.

"I know parents are busy and I like to go that extra mile. I'll do in-home camp presentations and I often drop off registration forms to parents' homes. I try to be honest about the camp and I try and tell parents if I feel the camp is not right for their child."

Klein understands how difficult it is for some kids to go to overnight camp for the first time and she does her best to match campers.

"If a camper doesn't know anyone going to camp, I'll try to match them with someone so they can get together with them before the summer. As well, I do everything possible to honor campers' requests about sharing cabins with their friends. If it's not possible, I call them before camp begins. I don't want them to have any surprises when they get to camp."

She is also available at the camp bus, in case campers or their parents have any last-minute concerns. "I know those first few minutes of the camp experience are crucial."

Malka Klein

In the summer, Klein "does everything that has to do with the communication between staff and parents. I like to think I have diplomatic genes because my father served in the Israel foreign service. It was from him that I learned how to keep open the lines of communication. Parents are free to call me, confidentially, all summer if they are nervous about their children."

A teacher by profession, Klein says, "I love going to camp — this job was carved in stone for me. Imagine waking up in the morning to go to work, putting on a pair of shorts and walking to an office that overlooks a lake.

"I also get to enjoy a little bit of camp. If they need someone for the staff play, I'm always available and although its mostly the parents and staff I deal with, I do make friends with the campers."

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish woman, Polish Catholic rescuer reunited

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Left photo: Rose Weinberg and Leonarda (Lucy) Martul Budrikiene today. [Barry Shainbaum photo] Right photo: Rose and Leonarda (left), Leonarda's husband and her mother, Josephina, after 1945.

TORONTO — Rose Weinberg and Leonarda (Lucy) Martul Budrikiene disprove the aphorism that blood is thicker than water. They are not related, but their relationship is extraordinarily close and affecting.

Leonarda and her late mother, Josephina, pious Polish Catholics, saved Rose from certain death when she was an infant in the Vilnius (Vilna) ghetto. In Nazi-occupied Lithuania, they opened their hearts and their arms to Rose, a Jewish baby whose parents, Yosef and Hinda Levin, were murdered during the Holocaust.

Rose lived with them in Vilnius for 17 years, through the Nazi and Soviet eras, until she came to Canada to live with her father's sister, Rita Freedman, and her late husband, Harry.

Last month, Rose and Leonarda were reunited. Leonarda, a rough-hewn woman who had never set foot outside Vilnius, suddenly found herself aboard an airplane bound for Toronto to attend the wedding of Rose's son.

Last week, Rose, 56, and Leonarda, 70, who consider themselves sisters, reminisced about the past, recalling the tragic events which unfolded in Vilnius beginning in 1941.

According to Leonarda, Rose was two months old when she was spirited out of the ghetto in the sleeve of a smuggler's coat pocket. Her parents stayed behind with their 5-year-old daughter, Chayele, who would also perish during the war.

The smuggler, who was paid for his services, left Rose in the care of a Christian family outside the ghetto. The arrangement did not work out, and soon Rose was in the hands of Josephina and Leonarda, who had a passing acquaintance with the smuggler.

"Lucy convinced her mother to take me in," said Rose. "She wanted a sister. She was an only child."

With the agreement of her estranged husband, and at the risk of her life, Josephina adopted Rose. Baptized and renamed Vera Martul, Rose was raised as a Catholic and was a regular church-goer, unaware of her Jewish background until much later.

"Lucy and her mother never thought they were doing anything special," recalled Rose. "I was regarded as a member of the family, and Lucy treated me like a sister. To this day, she calls me her 'little sister.'"

Speaking in Russian, one of several languages she is fluent in, Leonarda said, "We always considered her a part of the family. We never stopped helping her."

Toward the end of the war, the smuggler threatened to tell the Germans about Rose if he was not compensated. The Martuls had no money and awaited a knock on the door by the Germans. "We were ready to die," said Rose plaintively.

At this point, to their everlasting relief, the Red Army marched into Vilnius, sending the Germans fleeing and neutralizing the smuggler's threat.

After the war, a distant cousin found Rose, but she remained with the Martuls. Josephina died when Rose was 12, and Leonarda was essentially her guardian after that.

When Rose was 14, Harry and Rita Freedman tracked her down in Vilnius. Yet Rose had no desire to be separated from the Martuls. "I didn't know another life," she explained, although by then, she knew she was Jewish.

During the next few years, the Freedmans sent the Martuls food and clothing parcels and Harry corresponded with Leonarda in Polish.

In 1958, when Rose was 17, the Freedmans brought her to Toronto via Poland. She agreed to leave Vilnius because she thought she could help the Martuls, who were all but impoverished.

Rose adapted well to Canada, learning English and studying at Bloor Collegiate and at a secretarial college. The Freedmans were kind step-parents. "Nothing was too good for me. They gave me back my childhood."

During the intervening years, Rose never lost touch with Leonarda, who had in the meantime married a Soviet Army officer and had four children. Rose herself was wed in 1963. She and her first husband had two children, Eve and Michael.

In the late 1980s, Rose and her second husband, Nathan Weiss, an American businessman with properties in Canada, visited Leonarda in Vilnius.

"We were appalled by the condition of her home," said Rose. "She had no toilet or running water."

To ease Leonarda's plight, Rose left money behind. In 1996, on her third visit to Vilnius, she and Nathan bought Leonarda, by now a widow, a fully-furnished apartment. And Nathan started sending Leonarda a monthly allowance to cover her daily expenses.

Last year, Yad Vashem — the Holocaust memorial and museum in Jerusalem — honored Leonarda and Josephina as Righteous Gentiles. Leonarda then became eligible for a small pension from a U.S. Holocaust survivors' fund.

Leonarda, whom Rose describes as a fair, honest, good-natured and extremely intelligent person, has had a wonderful time in Toronto. But she is going back home on July 16. "It's very nice here," said Leonarda, "but where I was born I want to be."

Rose will miss her, this salt-of-the-earth lady who saved her life one dark day 56 years ago.

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The Canadian Jewish News, a corporation without share capital.
Head Office:
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont. M3B 3K4

Abominable attack

The current political atmosphere between Israel and the Palestinians is a tinderbox crackling with the threatening dry heat and high octane vapors of mutually falling hopes, widening mistrust and constant recriminations. Any spark tossed into this highly-charged atmosphere could ignite a conflagration.

The repugnant act last week of a young Jewish woman who distributed posters in Hebron depicting the prophet Mohammed as a pig with a pen writing the Koran, came perilously close to being that spark. One young Palestinian was killed last week, and scores more Palestinians and Israelis were injured in rioting in the territories, which Israeli officials admitted was the immediate aftermath of the appearance of the insulting leaflet. But we may not yet have seen the full fallout.

Hamas has threatened to avenge what their leader in Nablus, Sheik Jamal Mansour, called the "humiliation" of their prophet. Mansour warned that his organization would soon initiate a deadly campaign of death against Jews reminiscent of the suicide bombings two years ago.

To be sure, the poster was probably a pretext for some of the rioters. Extremists and haters of Jews, like Mansour, do not need new reasons to justify their hatred. Undoubtedly, much of the rioting had been planned prior to the appearance of the poster. And there is irrefutable evidence that the Palestinian Authority has been alternatively inciting the rioters or failing to restrain them.

But there is no denying the outrageous nature of the act by the 25-year-old Israeli. Thankfully, she is in custody and will soon face the full force of the law for her actions. It appears she acted alone.

The leaders of Israel quickly and decisively condemned her actions. Mincing no words, Prime Minister Netanyahu called it "an abominable and despicable attack on Islam." President Ezer Weizman referred to it as contemptible. Both of them telephoned the mayor of Hebron to express their outrage. The Jewish community in Hebron also denounced the poster. The crude caricature represents everything that is reprehensible and frightening in the tinderbox of the peace process. It is reprehensible because it offends the respect that Judaism confers upon Islam. But it is frightening because it so easily lends itself to exploitation by the extremist religious forces intent on converting the clash of competing nationalisms into a clash of competing religions and to thereby destroy any possibilities for peace and coexistence between the two peoples.

Mars musing

It was one of those unique coincidences, a miracle of timing, that inspired a knowing smile. Last weekend, humanity's surrogate explorer, the little, mechanical robot, Sojourner, broadcast signals back to earth *from the planet Mars* some 120 million miles away. We were left with goosebumps when we saw actual photos of the dry, dusty, rock-strewn Martian surface.

But also last weekend, in every Jewish community on this planet, worshippers celebrated the new month of Tammuz with the lyric poetry of the Hallel, two verses of which were somehow particularly relevant to the explorations being carried out that very moment, so far away on Mars. "The heavens are the heavens for God; earth was given over to humankind." It was a timely reminder that however far and however high mankind's curiosity and thirst for knowledge lead, we must go there with a sense of awe and humility, and always for the sake of the betterment of life here on earth.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"In Western Europe, the struggle for existence has been made somewhat lighter for the Jews...The question of food and shelter, the question of the security of life tortures them less. There the misery is moral."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

Dry Bones

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

July 12, 1943 the first summer camp session of Young Judea's Camp Kadimah began in Nova Scotia. It is a Nova Scotia fixture today in Barss Corner. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Keep Pol Pot out of Canada

Ottawa should *not* extradite former Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot from Cambodia to face an international tribunal for crimes against humanity for his role in the murder of millions of Cambodians from 1975 to 1979.

If it does, Ottawa may as well just welcome him with open arms to Canada where, guaranteed our Canadian constitutional rights and freedoms, Pol Pot would be able to live out the rest of his life in relative peace and obscurity, as have the thousands of Nazis and other war criminals before him, without fear of reprisal, prosecution or deportation.

Surely all decent and hard-working, true Canadian citizens, not to mention all of Pol Pot's victims, deserve a lot better than that. Instead, Ottawa should allow another country, one with a legitimate past record of bringing war criminals to justice, the responsibility of extraditing and trying Pol Pot for his crimes.

Sam Schleichkorn
Montreal

Y. Y. Rosenberg first rabbi of Beth Jacob

Re: "Beth Jacob celebrates 100th anniversary" (*CJN*, June 13), the article on the Beth Jacob Synagogue provided some interesting background about both Beth Jacob and the Toronto Jewish community.

May I, however, point out for your readers one important inaccuracy: It was Rabbi Yehuda Yudel Rosenberg who was the first rabbi of Beth Jacob and of the Polish Jewish community.

As Stephen Speisman relates in his book, *The Jews of Toronto: A History to 1937*, it was Rabbi Y. Y. Rosenberg who first served as rabbi of Beth Jacob, and served the community until his departure to Montreal, in 1918.

During his time in Toronto, Rabbi Rosenberg was a co-founder of the Polish Talmud Torah, which became the present Eitz Chaim School, and he served as superintendent of the school.

Best wishes to Beth Jacob on its anniversary.

Baruch Rosenberg, President
Rabbi Y. Y. Rosenberg Memorial Foundation
Toronto

Death penalty for selling land to Jews

The announcement by the justice minister of the Palestinian Authority that the death penalty will be imposed on anyone who is convicted of selling one inch of land to Israel is as retrograde a step as has yet to occur in the peace process.

While the discovery of a dead Arab land dealer in Jerusalem has not officially been linked to that policy, it is certainly incriminating that the mufti of Jerusalem denied the deceased a Muslim burial because, as a Muslim who sold land to Jews, he was considered an infidel. This is hardly the spirit of cooperation that would instil confidence and mutual respect between Arabs and Jews.

If the lawful sale of property to a Jew justifies capital punishment, then it is possible the next step would be something analogous to the infamous Nazi Nuremberg laws prohibiting all contact with Jews. Predictably, there will be no condemnation by organizations such as Amnesty International, nor a resolution of censure by the United Nations.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Archives a precious Jewish resource

In a recent edition of the *Bulletin for the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies* (Spring 1997), Prof. Ira Robinson of Concordia University pointed out that the Jewish community in Canada "is endowed with a healthy number of archives focused specifically on the Canadian Jewish experience... and the Jewish community in particular is rarely conscious of archives and their importance."

In a time when the operational budgets of public institutions are consistently revised, the Canadian Jewish community should become aware of this valuable resource, which is no less than a priceless treasure of accumulated historical items by those that built our community. These collections remain a physical record not only of the establishment and growth of the Jewish people in Canada, but the very essence that will represent and educate future generations. How could we allow its very existence to be placed in jeopardy?

Therefore, it remains the responsibility of each one of us, not only Jews, but all concerned individuals, to take the time to become informed about this resource and actively inquire as to how one can support the continuance and maintenance of these recordings of Canadian Jewish heritage.

Howard Gontovnick
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Ritual, ceremony mark traditional Tunisian wedding

The months of summer are often the months of nuptials. In acknowledgment of that fact, The CJN *thought it would be interesting to examine marriage traditions, many of them no longer practised, among different Jewish communities. In this article, the author describes the customs and rites that accompanied a traditional Tunisian Jewish marriage.*

By CLAUDE COHEN MATLOFSKY

Every traditional Tunisian Jewish marriage started with the efforts of the *khattaba* or *samsara*, (the matchmaker), who was usually well informed about the status of the families in the Jewish community. She would make proposals to prospective "marrying" families that included a precise description of the potential spouse as well as the details of the dowry and trousseau.

If the families, namely the parents, agreed, she had then to convince the potential bride and groom. There was an elaborate scenario in place for this purpose.

The intended bride and her family would wait in a luxurious public place until the future groom and his family passed before them, accompanied by the *samsara*.

If the candidate for bride did not please the young man, he continued on his way. If, on the other hand, he liked what he saw, negotiations would commence immediately, accompanied by the serving of soft drinks. And what if the young bride did not like his looks? She was generally out of luck. No one ever claimed that feminism had a Tunisian Jewish origin!

Once the principal lines of agreement had been reached regarding the marriage, the engagement arrangements were set in motion. These usually consisted of a family reception during which the intended marriage of the youngsters was officially publicly announced.

The young man offered a ring to his fiancée and then notaries delegated by the rabbinic tribunal were called in to write the *kteba* or *ketubah*, the marriage contract. It was written on parchment in Judeo-Arabic.

After the engagement, the period of the *Amouri* began, during which the giving of presents and small favors was considered to be de rigueur. During this time, the young couple began the process of getting to know each other better. However, this process of familiarization always took place in the company of a chaperone chosen from among either the future bride or groom's younger brothers or sisters.

As soon as the bride's trousseau was ready and appropriately furnished and decorated housing was found for the young couple, the marriage itself could proceed.

The marriage was preceded by the henna ceremony, a festive evening of partying and merriment that took place at the residence of the bride's future parents. The ceremony was known as the "henna" because of the custom of having a specialist called the *Hennena* apply some henna (red vegetable dye) to the palms as well as to the balls of the feet of the *aroussa*, the future bride. The henna is an ancient custom and forms part of the marriage traditions in Sephardi communities.

An extremely generous buffet was usually served on that occasion and there was always music provided by an orchestra.

With cries of joy, much laugher and a great deal of singing, the bride was given a basket that was also dyed with henna, containing candies, perfumes, cosmetics, scarves, shoes and jewelry. Very deliberately, before all those assembled, the basket was uncovered and displayed to all present.

The first Saturday following the henna ceremony was called the Saturday of the Hen. The bride's family prepared a hen for eating and sent it as a gift to the groom's family, who would keep half of the chicken and send the other half back to the mother of the bride. She would then cut it into small pieces that were shared with relatives and friends. Given the number of people who expected, or at least felt entitled to receive, a piece of the chicken, the pieces were undoubtedly very small. It was believed that if a single girl was lucky enough to receive a wing of the chicken, she would improve her chances of "flying" into her own marriage.

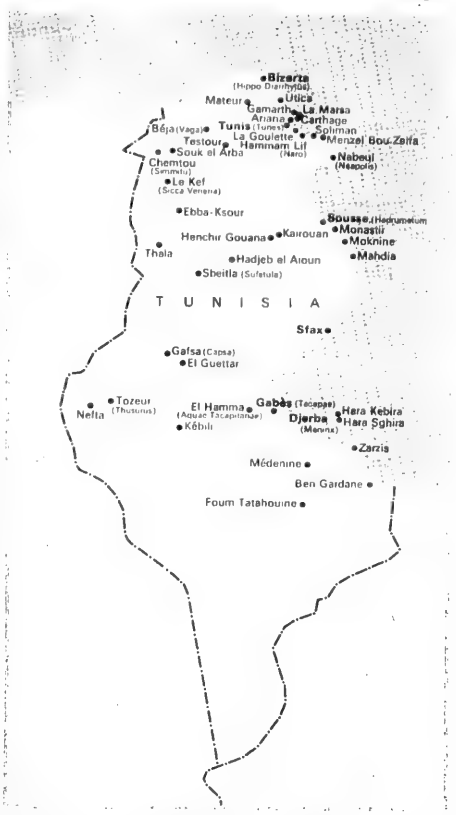
Then came the day of the *Hammam*, where the bride would go to a mikvah for the *thila* ceremony. A servant or a *kharaja* accompanied her, carrying the *sar*, the sheet in which all the clothing was wrapped that the bride was to wear at the conclusion of the *thila*. The *kharaja* was in charge of the intended bride's massage, cleansing and epilation.

Other assistants were in charge of the *stal el hammam*, (a finely decorated water bucket) of the *tas el yed* (basinette) used for a shower and of the *qabitas*, a three shelved box containing *fel*, (shampoo), *jir* (a type of soap) and *dhab maqsour* (epilatory powder). The *thila* was performed in the presence of the mother, sisters and female cousins of the groom.

The actual marriage ceremony took place at the synagogue or at the couple's future residence on the Sunday or Wednesday of the following week. It was usually followed by a reception.

Some time during the three days after the wedding, the contents of the marriage contract were entered into a registry at the community's rabbinical tribunal.

On the following Shabbat, the *sheva brachot*, seven blessings, were read. This marked the *shebaa yem*, a period of seven days, where the couple was invited to live a *dolce farniente*, a period during which the bride's needs were completely taken care of and the groom did not have to work but was allowed to divide his time between the synagogue and his new bride.



A Tunisian Jewish woman from the 19th century is seen in this photo wearing white pantaloons and a velvet kufia hat, the traditional garb of the place and era.
[Photo from The Encyclopedia Judaica]

Finally, and as a crowning event there was the housewarming — Tunisian style — which consisted of a unique ceremony: the cutting of the fish.

A large fish, generally a sea perch or a mullet, was prepared for the couple in accordance with a very detailed and very precise formula.

A piece of steel or wood was placed delicately on top of the fish. Then, the young bride and groom were each given a knife. Customarily however, the groom's knife was of poor quality, while the bride's knife was very fine.

The groom was invited to begin cutting the fish from the head down, and the wife was to start from the tail up. Due to the disparity in the quality of the knives, the young wife was usually more successful at the task than her struggling husband. Seeing this, the guests would exclaim: *"aroussa ghel betou,"* meaning the bride has defeated her husband. The fish was then fried and eaten. Its tail was washed and dried and very often occupied a spot in the newly-married couple's kitchen as an amulet against the evil eye.

One final word is warranted about the status of the woman in her marriage.

The Tunisian Jewish wife benefited from double legal protection: from Mosaic law and from French law, which was applicable during the period of France's colonial rule over Tunisia. That explains why, as opposed to the experience in Europe at the beginning of the century, the number of agunot in Tunisia was almost nil.

Claude Cohen Matlofsky has a doctorate degree in ancient Jewish history. She lives in Toronto.

Opinions

Letter from Kassel, Germany

By Emil Fackenheim in Germany

Some time ago, I promised to explain why I accepted an invitation to teach for a term at Kassel University, when 10 years ago I would have done no such thing. I say "10 years" advisedly.

Then, Kassel University sponsored a Franz Rosenzweig conference, attended by some 70 professors, the proceedings of which became a two volume work, better than anything American Judaism has yet produced.

Rosenzweig (who died in 1929) was born in Kassel. He was the greatest Jewish philosopher German Judaism has produced — just before it was murdered. I got the impression 10 years ago that the 70 professors, who had been betrayed by their own philosopher Martin Heidegger, sought counsel from Rosenzweig, a German Jew who died before the destruction of German Judaism started.

So I am at the best possible place and my experience thus far has been excellent. These young people are completely different than they were 60 years ago. My assistant has read all of Franz Kafka. And since before Hitler the professors and students were among the worst, there is room for optimism on this score.

Which makes it hard for me to tell them what Treblinka was really like. But of course I must, for am I going to talk to the nasty people?

One thing is deeply troubling, though. They want to hear about Israel but seem to assume that peace is just around the corner — not just the students — everybody.

So I try to make a breakthrough with the theologians, but that is no easy job either. In Atlanta, a young professor was introduced to me who said she had learned from me that Christian theology could not be the same after Auschwitz as before.

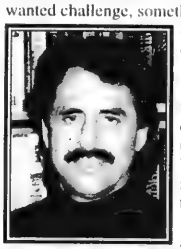
So what was her change? Instead of worrying about her soul, she worries about poverty in South America. I didn't have the heart to blast her, but here in Kassel (where I am getting the same thing) I'll do the blasting.

Poverty in South America hasn't changed because of Auschwitz, but Jews have. The real trouble, here in Kassel, in Atlanta and Toronto too, is that "Christians have trouble with Jewish power." That's the way my Atlanta contact puts it.

I have of course no objection to their worrying about South America, but I just have to tell them that Jews are not a symbol and that if they bring in Auschwitz, they have to mean it. There is a group of them, but I know there are several from whom I'll get support, very profound support.

That's a cheery note, and to conclude on another, if you fled the country in 1939 and came back here you wouldn't recognize it. Still, I'll be glad to get back to Jerusalem.

Watch for the wake up call



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

How many times has each and every one of us dug our head into some safe hole to avoid a problem, an unwanted challenge, something that had to be dealt with, but we didn't have the stomach to face it. And how many times has the inevitable "wake up" call rung. Whether we liked it or not, we then took action.

"Wake Up Call Avoidance" is a real talent of the current Netanyahu government. There have been no peace talks for three months. There has not been even a semi-serious effort to break the logjam imposed by this same government when it started to build the controversial suburb in East Jerusalem that it didn't even want. Violence has been limited to Hebron.

"Wake Up Call Avoidance" creates its own version of dementia, its own perverted logic. That logic raises ridiculous questions:

- There are no car bombs, no widespread violence. Why rush?
- Egypt and Jordan are not cutting off ties, they are not taking real action. So why give up something tangible?
- We don't like this peace process anyway. So, if they don't want to talk, why rush to negotiate?

But sooner or later reality will ring loudly in the prime minister's ear. It can come in many forms. Here are just a few examples:

Wake Up Call One: Widespread demonstrations lead to major clashes between Palestinian police and Israeli troops. The violence rages out of control. Israeli troops invade Palestinian cities. There are many casualties on both sides. Israel faces a guerrilla war in the West Bank and major terror strikes within the country.

Wake Up Call Two: Syria launches a limited invasion into the Golan Heights. Israeli troops repulse the attack but sustain several hundred casualties. The limited war further damages an Israeli economy plagued by uncertainty. While Syria loses the war, it wins the political battle. The Arab world rallies to Damascus' support. Jordan and Egypt withdraw their ambassadors to Israel.

Wake Up Call Three: Yasser Arafat is assassinated by Islamic extremist elements within the Palestinian camp. His successors take a much tougher line and are far more hesitant to risk bold measures for peace, fearing a similar fate. Escalating violence between Palestinians and Israelis replaces any chance of peace talks.

It would be far less costly to take action before the wake up call. But waking up from self-imposed stupor takes a lot of guts, maturity, strength and humility, qualities which are glaringly absent in Israel's leader.

Whether we like it or not, the wake up call will probably ring and then there will be frantic efforts to deal with the crisis. Naturally the blame will be conveniently placed on Israel's enemies and on certain scapegoat intelligence officials who failed to warn the government of the impending calamity.

From their very first meeting, as captured in this photo, the relationship between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Chairman Yasser Arafat has never been warm or trusting. At best, it has been strained and grudging. Many Israelis and Palestinians who worry about the implications arising from the stalemate in the peace process have expressed regret over the cold and untrusting nature of the relationship between the two leaders.

[RNS/Reuters photo]

Who is a Jew?

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The recent flap over the statement by Rabbi David Hollander, leader of a right-wing Orthodox rabbinical group that claims 500 members, is still having its reverberations. The rabbi called a press conference and announced his ruling and that of his colleagues: Reform and Conservative Judaism are not Judaism at all.

If that were so, and Conservative and Reform Jews are not following Judaism but another religion (or maybe religions), one is led to the inevitable conclusion that the adherents of these movements have checked out of Judaism and can no longer be considered Jews.

While more moderate Orthodox voices decried this statement, none was more forceful than that of Rabbi Norman Lamm, the president of Yeshiva University in New York. In an article in *Forward*, entitled *Davvenu*, he said: "While there are profound and logical differences between Orthodoxy in all its various manifestations, we are all part of the one Jewish people. 'Like one person, with one heart.'

"Hence, any assertion that non-Orthodox Jews are not to be considered as Jews is not only false but indefensible in both content and intent. Orthodox Judaism affirms that loyalty to Torah and the Halachah represents the sole authentic expression of the sacred Jewish tradition; it does not, however, in any way impugn the integrity of non-Orthodox Jews.

"It in no way questions the genuineness of the spiritual searching of those who sincerely are working their way in Judaism and have come to conclusions that may not be in consonance with Orthodox teachings. It in no way denies the democratic and human rights of any Jew to worship or not worship as they please.

"At the time of wholesale defection from Judaism, including conversion to other faiths, there are more important tasks for Jewish leadership than an injection of divisiveness into the dialogue amongst concerned Jews as to the future of our people.

"Jews should avoid unnecessary and unhelpful distractions. And the Jewish community should not attribute to Orthodox Jewry as a whole unwelcome and unwholesome rhetoric by a fringe group."

In further comment on this issue, Moshe Kohn (writing for the *Jerusalem Post*) reminds his readers of passages in the Shulchan Aruch: "All [Jewish] families are [ipso facto considered] halachically kosher [for marriage]... but if you are two families... or two individuals... constantly quarrelling... or a contentious arrogant individual, they [themselves] are suspect [as to their Jewish status] and one should keep one's distance from them, for these traits indicate that they may not be [kosher Jews].

"Furthermore, those who are constantly disqualifying others as *mamzerim* (children of forbidden unions and therefore not marriageable to halachically kosher Jews) are themselves under suspicion of being *mamzerim*... because people who are in the habit of disqualifying are only projecting their own defects to others."

If you would like to look up these passages, you will find them in *Even Ha'ezer*, Laws of Procreation 2:2.

The Kirshner File

Schiff fulfills an obligation to silenced voices

When Vera Schiff sat down to compose *Theresienstadt: The Town the Nazis Gave the Jews* (Lugus), she

By Sheldon Kirshner

instinctively understood why her book could serve a purpose.

"I write so that our children will continue to learn something of the Holocaust," writes Schiff, the mother of two sons who lost her entire family during the war.

"We, the vanishing survivors of Nazi concentration camps, have not always fulfilled our obligation toward the millions whose voices were silenced forever," she adds. "We should write down our personal stories as only we knew them."

And in *Theresienstadt*, an uncommonly well-written and sensitively-told memoir, Schiff — a Toronto native — leaves footprints in time.

This slim volume evokes her pampered childhood in Prague, her descent into purgatory, her struggle to survive against all odds, her new life in, and flight from, post-war Europe and finally, her arrival in Israel in the shadows of morning fog.

Born in May 1926, Schiff was the second and last daughter of a refined and fairly assimilated middle-class family which placed its trust in Czech democracy. The idyll was abruptly shattered in March 1939, when the German army marched into Czechoslovakia. "That was the day my adolescence ended," she observes.

Unable to emigrate, the Schiffs were deprived of their rights and their ability to earn a living. The situation went from bad to worse. On May 12, 1942, they were notified that they were to be deported to Theresienstadt. On that ignominious day, Schiff had her first taste of Nazi brutality, when an SS man punched her in the face.

Little did she know what awaited her in the camp itself. She was sexually assaulted by a seemingly kindly guard who had given her a sandwich. She was forced into a complicit act of euthanasia. She found her grandmother, barely breathing, under a pile of bodies. She watched her sister, Eva, die. Then, as if she had not been sufficiently punished, she witnessed the deaths of her parents, who succumbed to the ravages of malnutrition and disease within five months of each other in 1944.

The worst time of the day, she relates, was in the morning. "The moment I opened my eyes I became aware of the surroundings: the desolate barrack hall, the body odors... I used to close my eyes, hoping that all grimness would somehow vanish."

But for Schiff, life in Theresienstadt was not uniformly awful. Amid the deprivations, she was inducted into the joys of adolescent love. One of her boyfriends, Arthur, would become her husband.

Schiff does not believe she could have survived the rigors of Theresienstadt without the help of a prewar Christian neighbor, who supplemented her miserable rations, and of a Jewish doctor, who protected her from being sent to Auschwitz.

Theresienstadt is a book of unforgettable scenes, but one in particular lingers on, the visit of a group of naive inspectors from Denmark and the International Red Cross to the camp. "They never asked probing questions, never attempted to look around and walk in any direction but the one suggested by the German hosts," she writes bitterly. "They never wanted to see the reality of Theresienstadt. They wanted to leave with a clear conscience."

The Nazis made a film about the visit. Entitled *The Leader Gave a Town to the Jews*, it was directed by Kurt Gerron, a German Jew who perished in Auschwitz.

After being liberated, Schiff went back to Prague and resumed her studies. But she was desperately lonely and seemed incapable of returning to what passed for normality. A good many of her fellow survivors, she reports, renounced their faith "for the safe haven of belonging to a national majority."

Schiff, her husband and their infant son left Prague following the 1948 Communist coup. They were convinced, and rightly so, that freedom would be suppressed in Czechoslovakia. They lived in Nahariya for 12 years before immigrating to Canada, where Schiff worked in the health care field.

It took her four years to write *Theresienstadt*, she said in a brief interview. But, judging by the results, it was a worthwhile effort, especially for someone who arrived in Canada without a word of English.

Tolerance versus racism in Brazilian society

In Tel Aviv, a street is named after Oswaldo Aranha. He was the foreign minister of Brazil and the president of the United Nations' General Assembly.

This honor was conferred on Aranha because he actively supported the passage of a seminal UN resolution in 1947 calling for the partition of Palestine. Lest we forget, it paved the way for Israel's emergence as a sovereign state.

But was Aranha really pro-Jewish? In 1937, when fascism was riding high in Europe, the president of Brazil, Getulio Vargas, instructed the Foreign Ministry to issue a secret circular that banned the granting of visas to all persons of "Semitic origin." Aranha, one of his key advisors, backed the proposal. That he did so was symptomatic of the Brazilian elite's ambivalent attitude toward Jews during this period.

Jeffrey Lesser, a history professor at Connecticut College, examines this episode in *Welcoming the Undesirables: Brazil and the Jewish Question* (University of California Press, $18 US). Thoroughly researched, it is a fine, revealing book which exposes the tension between Brazil's image as a tolerant, multiracial society and its underlying racist impulses.

As Lesser observes, the Brazilian elite harbored mixed feelings about Jews. As "non-blacks," they were a privileged component of the social hierarchy. Yet Jews were considered culturally undesirable and carriers of Communism.

By the end of the 19th century, Brazil was home to several thousand Jews, many the descendants of Sephardi and East European immigrants. But Brazil had never been a magnet for Jewish immigration. Even as the 20th century dawned, few European Jews went to Brazil.

But as doors were closed to Jews in the 1920s and 1930s, an increasing number chose to settle in Brazil. In fact, Brazil became the third most important "receiving country" in the Americas after the United States and Argentina. By the early 1930s, 60,000 Jews lived in Brazil.

As a result of this influx and the onset of the Depression, Brazilian nativists targeted Jews. Influenced by events in Germany and Italy, Brazil began to deny visas to Jews beginning in 1935.

Two years later, Secret Circular 1,127 was issued by the Foreign Ministry, causing a 75 per cent drop in Jewish immigration over the next year. This was followed in 1938 by two new laws limiting the rights of foreigners. Zionism was thus banned and the Jewish National Fund's pushke — the metal collection box which nearly every Jewish household kept — was declared "illegal and dangerous."

Secret Circular 1,127 notwithstanding, the tide of Jewish immigration was not permanently stemmed. In 1939, more than 4,000 Jewish refugees entered Brazil, more than in any other year since 1929.

The marked increase, Lesser writes, was not indicative of a disappearance of anti-Jewish prejudice. Rather, it was a function of pressure exerted on Brazil by the United States and of the realization by certain Brazilian politicians that Jewish immigrants from Germany and Italy could be useful to a growing economy.

According to Lesser, almost 10,000 Jewish refugees slipped through the cracks this way. Nativists protested, and Jewish immigration all but dried up between 1942 and 1945. After World War II, however, it picked up again, underscoring Brazil's historically ambiguous policy toward Jewish immigration.

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The Community Integration Program Staff
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Marsha Slavens and family
on the loss of her beloved father
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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

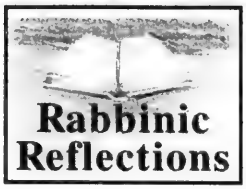
Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.



Rabbinic Reflections

Fulfilment of a *chok* is based on trust

By RABBI MICHAEL WOLFF

Jewish tradition has different names for different categories of law. One type of law is termed a *chok*. A *chok*, according to the commentary of Rashi and Rabbi Yitzchak Zvi Berliner, is a law given without a specific reason. One keeps the law, the *chok*, because G-d has commanded it. It is a law based on faith, done because we believe in the One who asked us to do it.

We read about the epitome of a *chok* in this week's Torah portion fittingly called Chukkat. The Torah portion starts with the words "Zot Chukkat Hatorah," this is the *chok* (the statute) of Torah. It then continues to explain the law of the red heifer, how the ashes of the red heifer can purify someone who is ritually impure as a result of being in contact with death.

This is evidently a law taken on faith, because one finds it hard to understand why the ashes of a red heifer can purify ritual impurity. It is not a logical, common sense sort of commandment. We have other *chukim* in the Torah: kashrut, the pascal lamb and the sabbatical year to name a few. All of these laws have an arbitrariness to them that is not logical.

What I find beautiful about the concept of a *chok*, is the whole notion of belief. I interpret belief to mean trust. We trust in something we cannot scientifically prove. We trust so much that we listen to the command, even if prima facie the command makes no sense to us. This notion of trust, of belief is the basis for good relationships.

Someone asked me recently what is the Jewish concept of unconditional love. I should have answered, although I did not, that the Jewish concept of unconditional love is the fulfilment of a *chok*. Unconditional love is to do an act because of trust, of faith in the one who asks us to do something. We care about that person so much, we will do what they ask without question.

This trust goes farther than obedience based on fear, because fear is a condition causing an action. Remove the fear and there is no obedience. Trust is a confidence in the other that everything will be all right. Trust is the love relationship where one has the confidence that one will not be abandoned, will not be let down.

Thomas Moore, a psychotherapist, writes in his book *Care of the Soul* (Harper Collins, 1992, p. 108) that an individual can often be defined in relation to another. Identity can be found through relationships.

Modern ethicists often talk about the right of autonomy and of individual independence. People seek their identity by expressing themselves, exclusive of relationships. It is an innate right.

I would posit, however, that one's Jewish identity is based on the *chukim*. It is based on the faith, the trust we have in G-d. Every individual establishes this relationship differently. Obviously, we are all different, because we are all individuals. But our identity does not exist in a vacuum. It exists in our relationships.

Rabbi Wolff is the head of Chaplaincy Services for FEDERATION CJA in Montreal.

Diplomatically Speaking
By JEHUDI KINAR

Jewish education is key to continuity

Over the past two decades, the question of Jewish identity in North America has been a concern in the organized Jewish community. Now described as an issue of "Jewish continuity," this problem also exists in other Jewish communities, but it is particularly noticeable in North America because of the size of the Jewish community here.

While the "Jewishness" of Israeli society may sometimes be subject for debate, it is obvious that an Israeli child grows up surrounded by, and immersed in, Jewish culture. Israeli public schools teach their students Jewish history, culture and religious traditions.

At the same time, however, there is a whole generation of Jews abroad who have no personal memories of the Holocaust and during whose lifetime the State of Israel has always existed. For these people, Israel has no special significance. This generation is also very often removed from Jewish education and from Israel.

As Jews abroad become more distant from their own communities, so too do they have less and less in common with their contemporaries in Israel. In order to renew and reinforce the ties between Israel and the rest of the Jewish world, the centrality of Israel for Jewish life has to be indisputable. This can only happen by increasing the number of students who receive a Jewish education. Such education must also be more widely available to adults.

Need for continued financial support for Israel

Some Israeli political figures have suggested that Israel no longer needs financial support from Diaspora Jewry. They have suggested that the money sent to Israel could be better used for expanding Jewish education. Although I agree that more emphasis should be put on Jewish education, this does not pre-empt the need for continued financial support for Israel from the Diaspora.

I believe that the UJA/UIA would receive much less in donations were they not sending part of that money to Israel. With less funding, there would also be less money available for Jewish education. By making financial links, children of donors will feel a certain relationship with Israel. Most important of all, of course, are the many opportunities for young people of all ages to visit and spend time in Israel. Numerous studies have shown that such visits are crucial to cementing a strong relationship between Diaspora Jewry and Israel.

Children who grow up in families where there are no ties to or special relationship with Israel are less likely to develop an interest in that country. If Israel is not central in their lives, they will look for other outlets and will find them sometimes only in the general community (cultural life, financial world, sports). Their moving away from Israel, and ipso facto from Jewish life, endangers not only this natural relationship but Jewish continuity as a whole.

If we allow the distance between Diaspora Jewry and Israel to grow, it will become increasingly difficult to bridge the gap. For the sake of Jewish continuity in Israel and in the Diaspora, we must ensure that the links between our communities remain strong. I believe that education, for both children and adults, can play a crucial role in cementing not only Jewish identity in the Diaspora, but also the binding ties between Jews in the Diaspora and their counterparts in Israel.

Jehudi Kinar is the Consul General of Israel for Toronto and Western Canada.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Doctor provokes awe at wonder of life

***The Wisdom of the Body*, by Sherwin Nuland (Knopf Publishing).**

When Dr. Sherwin Nuland strolled leisurely into New Haven's Saint Raphael Hospital to begin his unhurried regular evening rounds, he was met with a startling message from an overhead speaker: "Go immediately to the operating room —immediately — any general surgeon!"

Rushing to the operating room, Nuland engaged in a desperate hand-to-hand combat with death. Expertly, his gown and clothing covered with blood, he managed to repair Marge Hansen's aneurysm of the splenic artery. Slowly he brought her from death's door to the joy and splendor of life renewed.

Recalling this and similar experiences, he writes, "Since the members of our species first became defined by our distinct genetic characteristics, we have called upon those reserves in as-yet-incomprehensible ways, in order to struggle against the looming threats that are everywhere the constant accompaniments to our existence on this planet. Marge Hansen was saved by that of the human spirit which was in her and in those OR personnel who refused to allow her life to end."

The author's earlier book *How Do We Die?* (1994), was an eloquent, thought provoking, realistic portrayal of the body's decline and the valiant efforts by doctors to postpone the inevitable. *The Wisdom of the Body*, on the other hand, is a paean to the miracle of life and a description of the astonishing body functions and structures that make it possible. In 12 lucid and lively chapters that are, in effect, mini-lectures on the anatomy and physiology, the challenged reader is informed about medical and scientific matters as diverse as the nature of cell biology, the process of reproduction and birth, cardio-vascular function and the technical and social aspects of heart transplants.

Author brings arresting metaphor, imagination to his work

The serious, and sometimes involved, material is relieved by absorbing case histories which include the acute feelings and reactions of both doctor and patient. Nuland is a clinician filled with concern and compassion for his patients, and the reader joins him in spirit as he assists with the birth of his third child or when he informs a grateful, pregnant patient that she is in remission from an aggressive breast cancer.

Nuland is a splendid writer who brings arresting metaphor and imagination to his work. About the cell, he says, "At any given instant, in any given cell, millions of molecular interactions are taking place …The atmosphere of chaotic busyness is comparable to the cacophonous disorder of tumultuous factory whose every straining machine and shouting worker is situated in the same room, all united in the dynamism of furious, churning intensity that is required to guarantee, under circumstances of constant, instantaneous change, the stability of a single product. That product is life."

Where the promptings of sexual desire are concerned, he suggests that "sexual reproduction is apparently too direct for us — we have taken on this enormous bundle of baggage we call sexuality. The first small stirrings of sensual thought inevitably lead to an uproar of responses, taking us finally to regions of mental reconnaissance unknown to any other creature, and demanding choices that determine the pattern of an individual's life — and through him and millions like him, the pattern of a culture."

Surprisingly, Nuland speculates on the origin of our spiritual nature, which is not the product of the evolutionary process and which manifests itself in such attributes as altruism, the quest for beauty, compassion and sensibility. He concludes, agnostically, that God does not have to be involved. "The human spirit is…the generated product of our innate biology, encompassing the molecular behavior of our cellular structure. Nothing more need be sought. There is no need to invoke either a higher power or magic."

This is a rewarding book that leaves the reader, like the author, in awe of the wonders of the body and the glories of the human courage and endurance.

Web travel sites focus on Canada

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

If you're planning to travel a bit closer to home, you'll find Web sites for the major Jewish communities such as Montreal **[http://inmtl.total.net/]**, Vancouver **[http://www.interchg.ubc.ca/jfgv/]** and Toronto's excellent Jewish Toronto Web site **[http://www.feduja.org]**.

And while you're travelling through the large communities, don't forget about smaller ones like Regina and Saskatoon **[http://www.gpfn.sk.ca/religion/judaism/]**. (Residents of small Jewish Communities may be interested in an Internet mailing list moderated by Rabbi Stephen Forstein of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Olam Katan — Small World — **[http://www.ideasign.com/~olamkatan/]** looks at such issues as meeting Jewish needs in a non-urban setting, finding kosher food and raising Jewish children in a rural setting.)

With all this travelling, you must be getting hungry. The Kosher Restaurant Database **[http://www.shamash.org/kosher/krestquery. html]** lists almost 1,000 kosher restaurants around the world. Care to dine at Tuscon's Oy Vey Cafe?

I've only been able to scratch the surface of the world's Jewish communities. For a list of hundreds of other sites, I recommend the Ultimate Jewish/Israel Link Launchers's Local Jewish Communities site **[http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~jsu/local.html]**, the JCNavigate: Communities page **[http://www.jcn18.com/jhot3.htm]** and Digital Genizah's Judaism Worldwide **[http://uscj.org/metny/middletown/torah.htm#WORLDWIDE]**.

And if you have more questions or some news to share about Jewish travel, then join the e-mail list run by *Jewish Traveler* magazine. You can find out how to join the list at **[http://www.jewishtraveler.com/]** and find archives of past questions and answers at **[gopher://shamash.org:70/hh/lists/travel]**.

Of course, our travels throughout the Jewish world cannot be complete until we tour Israel. So... next column in Jerusalem! (And the rest of the country, too.)

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, July 21, is deadline for July 31 issue, and Monday, July 28, is deadline for Aug. 7. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, July 12

CAMP ARROWHEAD

Calling Camp Arrowhead alumni! Celebrate the camp's 41st anniversary — swimming, sailing, canoe, arts and crafts, skiing activities, entertainment by Paramount Entertainment featuring The Simpletones. Runs to 11 p.m. Located in Innisfil, Ont., 491-5859.

Monday, July 14

GREAT JEWISH WOMEN

The Judith Dan Memorial Lecture, Profiles of Hopes and Courage: Biblical Perspectives of Great Jewish Women, guest lecturer **Ora Lee Kanner**, 8 p.m, Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill.

Wednesday, July 16

SONGS OF BROADWAY

Israel Cancer Research Fund presents The Songs of Broadway Revisited, featuring singers **Joni Miller** and **Manny Veinish** and comedian **Lou Eisen**, 8 p.m., Glenn Gould Studio, CBC Building, 250 Front St. W. For tickets 487-5246.

And What Else Is New

ONEG SHABBAT CONCERT

Temple Sinai's Our Musical Legacy presents An Oneg Shabbat Summer Concert featuring Canadian actor/singer **Beth Anne Cole** in a program of Yiddish songs, selections from her musical theatre roles and some of her own compositions, Friday, July 18, following services which begin 8:15 p.m.

THE KOSHER TABLE

The Kosher Table, a Glatt kosher restaurant, is now open at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. Operated by Levy's Catering, it offers delicious food at incredibly low prices. Summer hours, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. In addition, bookings for bar/bat mitzvahs are being taken by this new in-house caterer.

Also, while you're at the centre, check out Yaffa's Judaica store operated by **Michael Paoli**, stocked with your basic Judaic needs and lots of extras.

JEWISH HEALING PROJECT

The Toronto Jewish Healing Project is running another group for people who are ill and interested in learning to cope by finding spiritual resources within Judaism that bring help and comfort. Eight week session at Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St., Wednesdays, noon to 1:30 p.m., Aug. 6-Sept. 24. Leaders are **Rabbi Ron Weiss** and psychologist **Elaine Cooper.** Previous participants are invited to join as each group is a new experience. Information/registration **Etta Ginsberg McEwan** 944-3359.

INSTITUTE OF JUDAISM

B'nai Brith Canada 41st annual Institute of Judaism on the theme Human Rights in the Jewish Tradition, with scholar-in-residence **Prof. David Novak**, chair of Jewish Studies, University of Toronto, Aug. 29-31, Maple Lake Resort and Convention Centre, Parry Sound. **Ruth Elias** 226-2050 or **Debbie Cowitz** 633-0115.

DRIVERS NEEDED

Make a difference in someone's life by providing escort and/or transportation to the Bernard Betel Centre, programs at Senior Care, and medical appointments. Joint program of Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living and Senior Care-Community Services to Jewish Elderly. **Barbara** 225-2112 or **Arnold** 635-2860.

BIKE TOURS FOR MS

Raise the minimum pledge level and ride for a cure for Multiple Sclerosis with one of the five Noranda Forest MS Bike Tours, a fully catered, fun-filled bike tour throughout Ontario in August or September. Call the MS Society at 967-3035 or 1-800-268-7582.

HEBREW SCHOOL

B'nai Shalom Hebrew School kindergarten and grades 1-7 at

[Cont'd. on page 15]

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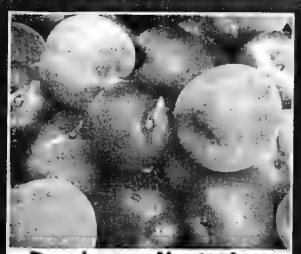
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WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, JULY 6 UNTIL SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 14]

Yorkhill Elementary School, 350 Hilda Ave., Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. School is affiliated with Board of Jewish Education. Also bar/bat mitzvah program free of charge to students.

Carpool assistance. Registration now open for 1997/98. **Joseph Klinger,** principal. 905-731-2797.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors yearly picnic, Sunday, July 20, Earl Bales Park, Area 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bring lunch and chairs. Free bingo, prizes, entertainment, surprises. Everyone welcome. **Goldie Leiberman** 635-2860.

Forest Hill Place picnic-on-the-hill, open house, 645 Castlefield Ave., Wednesday, July 16, 2 p.m. Community welcome. Refreshments, entertainment, folkdancing. Reservations. **Marlene** or **Karen** 785-1511. Admission free.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). July 10, video with **Gabi Berlin**; Sunday, July 13, trip to Owen Sound, 8:45 a.m., members $32, non-members $35; July 17, video *Lord of the Dance*, Irish dancers. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dance July 13, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; Catskills Raleigh Hotel July 21-27; Art Gallery of Ontario, 1-5 p.m., July 29, members $5, non-members $8; Thornhill Square Mall, Aug. 11, 10 a.m., members $2, non-members $8; barbecue party Aug. 17; Royal Ontario Museum, Aug. 19, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., members $5, non-members $8; New Dixie mall, Aug. 26, 10 a.m., members $5, non-members $8; Casino Rama Sept. 17; Haliburton, Sept. 22-23, $185; Washington and Atlantic City Oct. 26-31. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Kingston 1000 Island cruise July 15; Ottawa, seven kosher meals, Aug. 17-20. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) series, Issues of the Recent Federal Election: Myths and Facts, with **Sidney Soban**, Mondays, 10 a.m., July 14-Aug. 25. members $1.50, non-members $3. **Bookie Kwart.**

Israeli Etrog Club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Programs include movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-alongs, dances, bingo. July 16 is a movie. **Anna.**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Rooftop '97 is in full swing! If you want to have a great time, join the Rooftop Party Thursday, July 17, 7-11 p.m. Wear your summer attire. $12 includes barbecue. Food served 7-9 p.m.

Summer Flea Market community fundraising event Sunday, July 20, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Chairs and circular tables $30 each or two for $50. Some backdrops also available. To reserve tables or for information, **Alison Lee**.

Yoga on the roof Tuesdays 7:30-8:30 p.m. through Sept. 9. Instructor **Lisa Sarner**. Mats provided but bring a towel. Members $4, non-members $8 payable at door per class. In case of rain, you move indoors. For information, fitness coordinator **Maureen McIlveen**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Early Childhood Services: Toddler and Preschool daycare spaces available in September. Curriculum includes swim, fun centre gym, Judaic themes, crafts. ext.248.

ABOUT PEOPLE

David Brown

Jeffrey Kaufman

ISRAEL BONDS CO-CHAIRS

Life insurance professional **David Brown** and attorney **Jeffrey Kaufman** have been named co-chairs of the Israel Bonds Ontario Board.

Brown's commitment to the Jewish community earned him Toronto's Leadership Development Award in 1989. His involvement includes United Jewish Appeal, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, Toronto Friends of Laniado Hospital, Associated Hebrew Day Schools, Canada-Israel Gesher Foundation and Jerusalem College of Technology. He was a board member of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, where he was active in the Israel Bonds High Holy Days campaign.

Kaufman is the vice-chair of the Entertainment and Media law group and a steering committee member of the Family Issues law group. He also has extensive experience in community affairs — he serves as director of DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) and as chair of the Israel Bonds Legal Division.

Rounding out the team are **Renee Bernbaum,** Women's Division; **Roz Davidson,** Community Liaison; **Varda Feiner**, Builder's Division; **David Rosenbaum,** Lawyers; **Mike Rosenberg,** Societies; **Allan Rutman,** Accountants; **Mitch Korman/Gary Morris,** New Leadership.

BAYCREST FOUNDATION

Toronto lawyer **Leonard Fine** is the new chair of the Baycrest Centre Foundation, the fundraising arm of Baycrest Centre. An active member of the community, Fine has served as a canvasser for the Jewish National Fund and United Jewish Appeal (UJA), twice as head of the UJA's Lawyer's Division, as a volunteer fundraiser at Baycrest and as a key part of the foundation's strategic planning process. He also serves on the operations committee of Management Advisory Services , an affiliate of the Volunteer Centre of Metropolitan Toronto. Fine succeeds **Harold Lederman,** who has been foundation chair for the past two years.

NEW APPOINTEES

Bloor JCC welcomes on board **Cheryl Wetstein** as the new Downtown Jewish Community Council coordinator. She is the past chair of the Downtown Jewish Community School.

As well, on deck is the originator of the Jewish Bachelor Auction, former director of the Jerusalem Foundation and Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim Hospital in Jerusalem, **Renee Wortzman**, as the new manager of Fund Development.

BIALIK CELEBRATES 'ZIONISM 100'

The highlight of the school year for Bialik Hebrew Day School was a multi-media production tracing the history of the Zionist movement from Herzl to the creation of the State of Israel. Over 200 students from grades 4 to 8 participated in four performances before sold-out audiences.

FUNDRAISER FOR MACCABI CANADA

These students officiated at the launch of the United Synagogue Day School Bathurst Campus Middle School fundraiser for Maccabi Canada. The student council organized a Skate-a-thon at The Rinx, and ice skaters and roller bladers sought sponsorship donations from friends and relatives. Proceeds were directed to Maccabi Canada, which sponsors young athletes to the Maccabi Games in Israel. From left: Arieh Singer, Elijah Antflick, Brian Bacal, Dani Lipkin and Mira Shuman

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Greater Toronto Area

Thornhill teens finish second in chemistry contest

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL — Two Thornhill teens have tied for second place in the Chem 13 News Examination, a chemistry contest sponsored by the University of Waterloo (UWO) and the University of Toronto.

Ryan Korda, 18, and Ryan Lindo, 17, OAC students at Vaughan Secondary School, each scored 37.5 out of a possible 40 marks, in the process qualifying for summer scholarships at the UWO. Over 4,400 students wrote the 40-question, multiple-choice exam.

Korda said he and his teacher are still debating one of the two questions he got wrong.

The hardest question, according to Korda, concerned the outcome of placing a piece of zinc in a copper nitrate solution, but in addition to testing purely scientific knowledge, the contest also included a few items relating to science history.

The two friends, with averages in the mid-90s, will return to high school next year for one last semester. This summer, Lindo will work as a day camp counsellor and Korda is planning to tutor Math.

Both Ryans are considering pursuing careers in medicine, although Korda, a graduate of Associated Hebrew Schools, said after receiving the contest results, "Now, I think maybe I'll be a chemist."

Either way, he'll be following in the footsteps of his father, Andrew, a Toronto family physician who received a perfect score in province-wide departmental chemistry exams as a Grade 13 student at Bathurst Heights Secondary School in the 1960s.

"Ryan was always interested in nature and the sciences," said a proud Korda senior.

The two teens were among those recognized at a recent York Region Board of Education meeting for their contest results.

The students' teacher, Dr. Stavros Naxakis, was confident the pair would do well.

"He told us we'd get in the top five percent," recalled Lindo, who attended Associated prior to entering Brownridge Public School in Grade 3.

"He really pushed and coached us," added Korda. "He positively reinforced us."

Naxakis, the school's assistant head of science, offered extra lessons to all interested students before the contest. The sessions were particularly helpful to students like Korda, who had not yet completed OAC Chemistry. For Lindo, who took the course in first semester, Naxakis' lessons served as a refresher course.

"They're very intelligent students, and they were very motivated to win," Naxakis said of Korda and Lindo.

The latter, who not only plays guitar and sings in a rock band but also finished first in his school in OAC biology, is a "multi-talented person [who] does well in everything," said Naxakis.

Korda, he declared, "is an amazing student. He wants to understand everything."

Chemistry whizzes Ryan Lindo, left, and Ryan Korda display Lindo's Chem 13 News Exam t-shirt. [Frances Kraft photo]

UJA mission back from Baku

TORONTO — A delegation of 40 Canadians recently caught a glimpse of life in one of the former Soviet Union's oldest Jewish communities, in the small village of Kuba.

On a recent visit to Azerbaijan, the Canadians were in Baku to participate in the Jewish Agency's June assembly, along with hundreds of other English-speaking delegates from around the world. Other international Jewish Agency delegates met in Kiev, Odessa, Tbilisi and Minsk.

Although most of Azerbaijan's 25,000 Jews live in the eastern city of Baku, some 5,000 Persian-speaking Jews, known as Mountain Jews, reside in Kuba, the oldest Jewish community in the area.

"The Jews of Kuba live as self-sufficiently today as they did in the 13th century," said past UJA Federation campaign chair David Goldstein. "It was absolutely fascinating to behold Jewish life in such a remote and isolated place."

In Baku, the Canadian delegation visited a Jewish Agency-run summer camp and an ulpan where young students learn Hebrew in preparation for aliyah to Israel. They met with leaders of the local Jewish community, toured Baku's old city, including a centuries-old synagogue, and met with Jewish parents who sent their children to study on Jewish Agency programs in Israel.

UJA Federation campaign vice-chair David Engel and the Jewish Agency's representative in Kuba, Azerbaijan, visit with some of the Jewish community's youngest members.

Since 1989, the Jewish Agency has brought close to 30,000 Jews from Azerbaijan to Israel.

"Witnessing firsthand the commitment of the Jewish Agency workers to the Jews remaining in the former Soviet Union was tremendously gratifying," Goldstein said. "You can see the difference they're making in the faces of the children."

In Israel, participants met new immigrants at a Jewish Agency absorption centre, visited UJA Federation funded Partnership 2000 urban renewal projects and took part in an open meeting of the Jewish Agency's Board of Governors strategic planning committee.

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Conservative synagogue in North York (1000+ member families) is seeking an executive to oversee the day to day business operations and to initiate and execute all fund raising programmes at the synagogue.

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A background in successful development and execution of fundraising programmes is an essential prerequisite for this position.

The applicant must be able to demonstrate strong leadership and communications skills and be familiar with Judaism and the Jewish community. Effective interaction with the lay leadership of the synagogue in coordinating religious and volunteer programmes is an essential job function.

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Greater Toronto Area

Stroke Recovery Group members celebrate life

By SIMONE JOSEPH
Student Intern

TORONTO — Close to 100 people dined, danced and did the hokey pokey recently at the seventh annual dinner of the Bathurst Jewish Centre's (BJC) Stroke Recovery Group.

Several members of the group, who had not been participating in the group's regular exercise classes because of poor health, attended the banquet at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

"They were away for months, but they made a special effort to be here tonight," says group coordinator Irene Lastman.

The stroke recovery group began around 1980, says Lastman. At that time, the group participated mainly in exercise activities. Then, seven years ago, Lastman introduced entertainment and socialization.

After having a stroke, many people think their social life is over, Lastman says. Many members attend the group because a doctor or child advised them to, but then they often find out that they enjoy participating in the group.

They discover there's "still something to laugh and sing about. You'd be surprised the enjoyment and pleasure they [derive] from the group," she says.

About six years ago, a woman whose husband had recently suffered a stroke told Lastman that her family was having a simchah and her husband was reluctant to attend, because he was having trouble eating, he was unable to walk or dance, he was embarrassed about being in a wheelchair and he felt that the social part of his life was over. The woman asked Lastman for advice.

Lastman invited the couple to one of the group's annual dinners and she says the man's wife was "crying tears of joy" when she saw her husband dancing with the help of a volunteer.

"That is the first time I've seen him get up, dance and smile since he had the stroke," the woman later told Lastman. The woman's husband did eventually attend the family's simchah.

Lastman herself suffered a stroke 15 years ago.

"Whenever there was an outing, I was embarrassed to go out, but I found out [it's] important to participate in social activities," she says.

Often, people who have suffered a stroke are embarrassed to be seen in public.

"It doesn't disturb me that someone has to eat with one hand and have someone cut food for them. [But] many of these people have very limited social lives," says Don Colt, a member of the group for over 10 years.

Colt also says that frequently, people in the general public feel embarrassed in the company of someone who has suffered from a stroke.

"A lot of people feel uncomfortable with people who are disabled, maybe because it [reminds them of] their own vulnerability," he says.

Colt suffered a stroke in 1984, resulting in his arm, leg and face being paralyzed. He says that the group greatly assisted him in recovering.

"Now I have a near-normal life in terms of physical rehabilitation, social development and social skills. It's helped me [in] terms of having a positive mental attitude," he says.

A question many stroke recovery people face after they return home, is what can they do to keep stimulated? The BJC's stroke recovery group offers exercise classes, "coffee time," bingo, gambling, swimming and outings, in addition to the dinner.

"The companionship keeps you interested. It's too easy after you've had a stroke to stay home and watch TV. It's hard to stay stimulated...[Being part of the group] means you have to get up and get out of the house," says Bill Mahon, a four-year member of the group who suffered a stroke in 1992.

Each year, group members look forward to the annual dinner, says volunteer Ben Swartz.

"They're sort of locked in their houses...You can see how exuberant they are. They love getting out to any event we have...doing something normal other than being locked in their wheelchair in their house," he says.

At this year's dinner, the group was entertained by a live band and surprise guests Louis Danto (Beth Emeth's cantor) and accompanist Charles Heller (director of the synagogue's choir).

Suzanne Agasee, a former volunteer for the group, got members involved in doing the hokey pokey.

The night ended with the dancing of the horah. Lastman says at least four people have already made reservations for next year's banquet.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART FUNDRAISER

United Synagogue Day School Bathurst branch Grade 5 students with physical education teacher Larry Ney (rear left) and Julie Powell (rear right), coordinator of the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser. She's holding the class publication, *Math Madness*, a volume of math problems dedicated to children who took part in the event.

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On Campus

JCS creates opportunities for present, future interns

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a summer intern at Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto, economics student Eric Malka, 19, is working to create opportunities for other university students to work as interns.

He and Ari Shapiro, 22, JCS' other summer intern, are working on a total of four projects: the creation of a membership card that would offer benefits such as retail discounts, a formal career mentoring project, an orientation day "partner fair" to run at local campuses (to introduce students to various ways of becoming involved Jewishly), and a database of alumni of Hillel and other local Jewish campus groups .

Shapiro, a recent graduate of Ryerson Polytechnic University's Business Management program who is working on the latter two projects, has been scouring archival documents, including old convocation programs and back issues of *The CJN*, in search of former students. Old copies of *Torontonensis*, a U of T yearbook last published in 1966, have yielded names of some students who were involved with B'nai Brith Hillel, as it used to be known.

In compiling the list of alumni, JCS is "laying down serious foundations that hopefully will benefit future students," said JCS director Zac Kaye.

Eric Malka

Ari Shapiro

So far there are about 200 names from the University of Toronto and a quarter as many from York University, said Shapiro. When interviewed last week, he was about to make inquiries about his own alma mater, where he served as president of Ryerson Hillel and to which he will return this fall for further study.

It is expected the project will tie in with the mentoring program on which Malka is working.

With advice from Jewish Vocational Service, which runs a similar program for immigrants, Malka is putting in place some of the elements necessary for a successful student mentoring program. The program received a continuity grant from UJA Federation.

Shapiro said he "would have appreciated" a co-op program at Ryerson.

It is hoped that students will gain useful experience and find career direction by participating in the JCS mentoring program once it is set up, said Malka.

Perhaps some of the alumni will be able to mentor current students, the interns suggested. Shapiro expects the "established" alumni will be in a position to share "time, effort and resources" with today's students.

For Malka and Shapiro, both graduates of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, this year marks the first time they are not working at a summer camp.

"It's a serious job," said Malka, who didn't realize at first how much responsibility he would have. When a friend told him JCS was seeking a summer student, he expected the work would involve more routine office tasks.

'It's a great experience'

"It's a great experience," he said. He hopes that the students who benefit from his work this summer will likewise reap something of value from the mentoring program.

His other project (the JCS membership card) is not exactly a new idea to him, although charging a membership fee is a first in Toronto.

At the University of Western Ontario, where Malka spent his first year (he is transferring to York University), he received a membership card when he paid to join Western's Jewish Student Union.

The Toronto version would set students back a nominal amount (likely $10 to $12) and would offer discounts at JCS events, kosher restaurants and retail outlets in the Toronto area.

As marketing and membership coordinator, Malka is contacting local businesspeople to request their involvement.

"It's a win-win situation," said Kaye of Malka and Shapiro's 13-week tenure at JCS, made possible by the federal government's summer jobs program. "It helps the students and it helps us."

Jewish campus professionals take part in new Hillel program

By VIVA PRESS
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — Forty North American Jewish campus professionals — including three from Canada, Yakov Feig from Halifax, Gabriel Meranda from London and Allysia Horowitz from Edmonton — recently participated in a new program organized by Hillel in Israel.

The aim of the three-week session was to strengthen Jewish identity through different Israel experiences and professional development, so that the participants could bring back new ideas to the students at the various campuses in Canada and the United States.

The professionals attended different programs offered to students —they studied at Pardes, Aish HaTorah, Hebrew University, Hebrew Union College and the Jewish Theological Seminary.

They also explored student programs, attended seminars on topics related to Jewish identity, professional development and problems on campus, and learned different ways of teaching about Israel and the Holocaust on campus.

Yakov Feig

"You realize every student you send to Israel needs an experience tailored to his/her needs," said Feig, the programmer responsible for the largest geographical area of students in Canada. "Now that I've participated in some of these programs and have got a feel for what they're about, I can better help design a program for each student."

He said he also picked up programs that are successful on other campuses and he will try to implement some of them this September on the various campuses in the Maritimes.

"I'd like to try the Beit Midrash style of learning, in chavrutahs," he said. "It's a one-on-one style of learning that we could integrate into our weekly Torah sessions."

The group also met with Israeli speakers and politicians including Anat Hoffman, who spoke about feminist issues in Israel, Labor MK Yossi Beilin, Rabbi Riskin from the Efrat community on the other side of the Green line, and Avrum Burg.

"The conference was definitely worth it," Feig said. "Where else can I get professional development in a place that's inspiring?"

The group developed the idea of a program exchange whereby they have made a list of people who are experts in a certain area. For example, there are six professional experts on teaching about the Holocaust who can help other professionals design programs for their areas.

This conference also showed the differences between campuses.

"There seems to be a bigger sense of community on the Canadian campuses," Feig said. While there are some religious differences, "there's a stronger sense of togetherness in Canada, whereas the Americans are really into pluralism issues."

Because the Hillel conference was such a success this year, it will take place in Israel again next year.

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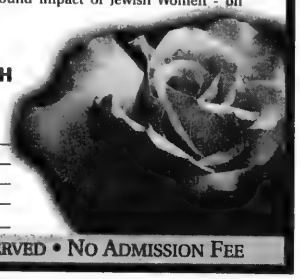

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From coast to coast

Closing arguments made in Collins case

By BAILA LAZARUS
Western Jewish Bulletin

VANCOUVER — Doug Collins' writing should be considered harmful, not merely offensive, because it vilifies members of a group on the basis of their religion, a British Columbia human rights tribunal heard in closing arguments.

Gregory Walsh, legal counsel for the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), reiterated its position that a column by *North Shore News* columnist Doug Collins should be considered hate speech and a violation of the British Columbia Human Rights Act.

Complainants, respondents and interveners in the case submitted final arguments June 23 to 27.

CJC launched a complaint with the B.C. Council of Human Rights against Collins because of a column he wrote in March, 1994.

In the piece, Collins maintained that the experience of Jews during the Holocaust is "the most effective propaganda exercise ever," referred to the film *Schindler's List* as "Swindler's List" and said the figure of six million Jews killed during the Holocaust was "nonsense." CJC is asking for a cease and desist order against the columnist.

The *North Shore News*, represented by David Sutherland, dismissed Congress's argument that the column is likely to expose Jews to hatred or contempt. He added that freedom of expression, guaranteed by the Canadian constitution, allows such opinion pieces to be published without legal repercussions.

Walsh argued that, although freedom of speech is guaranteed by the Canadian constitution, the right has no supremacy over other rights which are also guaranteed.

"This case is important because it engages all of our fundamental rights; not just free speech," he said. "It goes to the values that underlie all the rights stated in the constitution — the right of the individual to dignity and self worth, to freedom of religion, to equality, to a peaceful coexistence and to a multicultural society."

Roger McConchie, counsel for the B.C. Press Council, maintained that freedom of expression, according to the press and other media, has historically been seen as paramount over other freedoms.

McConchie added that the cease and desist order requested by CJC is irrelevant for newspapers, because newspapers do not print the same articles every day.

"Collins does not write, day after day, the *Schindler's List* column," said McConchie. "The complaint is about one column that came out years ago and mentioned *Schindler's List* which is probably on video by now.

"You're not talking about a situation where you can stop something that is ongoing," McConchie continued. "Columnists will be dead if they don't publish new, timely columns day after day."

Walsh stressed that the social context of the column had to be looked at closely when considering whether Collins' column is "likely to expose" Jews to hatred or contempt.

"Jewish people are the targets of hate literature. They have been for ages," Walsh said. He added that this makes Jews more susceptible to the ill sentiments of other. "Any article that stereotypes people according to their religion, and then vilifies all Jews as being dishonest, untrustworthy, motivated by greed and money runs afoul of section 2(1)(b) period."

In a surprise submission, Sutherland suggested that expert testimony that explained how the column opened Jews up to hatred and contempt, should be ignored. Calling the interpretations "argument" and not "evidence," Sutherland said it is very important for newspapers to have a clear line drawn so that they are aware of what published material might violate the B.C. Human Rights Act in the future.

In order to do this, he suggested, the testimony from expert witnesses should be disregarded and the decision objectively determined by the adjudicator of the hearing.

Ultimately, Sutherland claimed, it is going to be people of "ordinary intelligence" who have to determine whether an article that a newspaper is about to publish contravenes the B.C. Human Rights Act and it would not be practical if such people needed "PhDs from another city" to make their decision.

Adjudicator Nitka Iyer called his suggestion a "serious submission" but did not indicate if she would follow his advice.

"In this proceeding I am only concerned with the constitutional validity of [section 2(1)(b)] of the B.C. Human Rights [Act] and the merits of this case," she said. "In other words, I am not concerned with the law the way it ought to be, but the way it is constitutionally required to be.

"In the end, the way I must write my decision and the way I must come to my decision is not as a human being or as a member of this society. My job is to apply the law as I understand it guided by submissions of council."

Iyer is expected to take several months in coming to her decision about the hearing.

Relevant legislation

The central question before the human rights tribunal is whether Doug Collins' column, Hollywood Propaganda, contravenes section 2(1)(b) of the B.C. Human Rights Act and whether section 2(1)(b) is constitutionally valid under section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Section 2(1)(b) of the Human Rights Act states, "No person shall publish, issue or display or cause to be published, issued or displayed any statement, publication, notice, sign, symbol, emblem or other representations that. . . is likely to expose a person or group or class of persons to hatred or contempt because of race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation or age of that person or that group or class of persons."

Section 2(2) states, "Subsection (1) does not apply to a private communication or to a communication intended to be private."

Section 2(b) of the Charter states, "Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms: freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication."

KJCA applies for legal status

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

NELSON, B.C. — The Kootenay Jewish Cultural Association (KJCA), which represents the approximately 70 to 100 Jews who live in the eastern British Columbia region known as the Kootenays, are in the process of applying for status as a legal non-profit society.

The issue was discussed at a recent meeting of the KJCA that attracted 30 to 40 people.

According to to Carol Erickson, who is completing the application (and who along with another local resident, Eileen Bell, placed an ad in a local paper to inform residents of the meeting), the KJCA is an informal group but wants to get offical status "so that we can form an authority to perform marriages and other ceremonies."

Erickson, who came to Nelson from Chicago with her husband 25 years ago, noted that the KJCA also wants to raise money to bring a rabbi to Nelson for the High Holy Days.

Other issues discussed at the meeting included forming Jewish study groups to study Jewish texts and to learn Hebrew (one such group has already been formed); bringing in speakers to lecture on Jewish topics; and celebrating Jewish culture through film, dance and song.

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Hamilton mayor honored at JNF dinner

By MOURA WOLPERT
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — Mayor Robert M. Morrow was recently honored at the Jewish National Fund (JNF) Negev Dinner here.

Over 400 guests paid tribute to Morrow, Hamilton's longest serving mayor, who was praised for his leadership and dedication to the progress and well-being of the city and its citizens.

The guest speaker was New York City's former mayor, Ed Koch, who gave an entertaining account of some of the trials and tribulations of his years as mayor of the Big Apple.

He engaged in some banter with Morrow and with North York Mayor Mel Lastman, who had introduced Koch, comparing notes and observing that whereas in the United States, "we honor our mayors, in Canada you worship them."

On a more serious note, Koch spoke of the importance of Israel to all Jews and the need to support the JNF's current Negev development project to provide land for all the Jews "who need [to come to Israel.] The day will come," he predicted, "when all remaining Jews will want to leave Russia."

Among those who brought greetings were JNF regional chair, Terry Cooke; Tony Valeri, MP for Stoney Creek on behalf of the federal government; Cam Jackson, MPP for Burlington, minister without portfolio responsible for seniors, on behalf of Premier Mike Harris; and Hamilton federation president, Judge George Czutrin. Hamilton West MP Stan Keyes was represented by his wife Cathy.

Israeli consul general Jehudi Kinar expressed hope that Morrow would attend next year's mayors' conference in Israel during the country's 50th anniversary year.

On behalf of JNF Canada, board member Dr. Sharon Hart, past president of Hamilton JNF, spoke about the work of JNF, in particular about Action Plan Negev, the project for which the proceeds of the dinner have been designated.

Following the presentation of a brief video of Bob Morrow in Israel with the JNF Mega Tour of 1992, the mayor recalled some of the highlights of his trip and spoke of what the visit had meant to him.

The Negev Dinner citation was presented by Hamilton JNF co-presidents Hilda Rosen and Claire Waxman. Former president Marvin Rosenshein acted as dinner chair.

Participants experience a 'spiritual high' at Havurah Shabbaton

By WENDY SCHNEIDER
Hamilton Correspondent

HAMILTON — A new movement is making its way from south of the border to the Canadian Jewish scene with an energetic and creative approach to Judaism.

The newly formed National Havurah Community of Canada (NHCC) and its parent organization, the National Havurah Committee, recently held the sixth annual Canadian/American Havurah Shabbaton on Canadian soil for the first time.

One-hundred and twenty participants of all ages from various American and Canadian cities gathered at the Canterbury Hills Retreat Centre in Hamilton for a weekend of study, Jewish renewal and spiritual growth.

The weekend featured Havurah-style worship and study, characterized by singing and dancing, mixed with an assortment of workshops on Jewish prayer, mysticism and storytelling.

According to NHCC president Dr. David Weiss, the Havurah movement began at a grassroots level in the early '70s, its founders sharing a feeling of alienation from formalized religion and a desire for meaningful spiritual experiences.

Some parallels with Chassidism can be found in the attempts by both movements to create a spiritual atmosphere through the chanting of niggunim, singing and dancing. Weiss says, however, that most chassidic groups place emphasis on the rebbe as a mediator, whereas the Havurah movement eschews the notion of one charismatic leader, embracing the concept of shared leadership. Full gender equality and an emphasis on inclusiveness and tolerance of varied expressions of Jewishness are other points of departure, he adds.

"What we intend is to use as many entry points as possible, so that everybody will have the chance to feel they've been spoken to. Some people can be reached through intellectual discussion. Some can be reached through dancing and movement, others through English readings or poetry. Other people will just feel connected through singing songs. The whole purpose is to connect."

Although participants came to the Shabbaton from a variety of backgrounds, there were several common perceptions. Many spoke about the spiritual highs they experienced and were skeptical that a similar experience could be found in their local synagogues. Others were impressed by the friendliness of the people, the warm and inclusive atmosphere and how welcome they were made to feel by veteran participants. Most said that in between national Havurah events they are hard pressed to find a similar experience in their own communities.

Weiss hopes that the NHCC will raise the profile of the Havurah movement through its focus on organizing local events, including the annual Canadian/American Shabbatons, Friday night pot luck services, study sessions and social events in the Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa areas. The committee will also provide advice and counsel for groups wishing to begin havurot, particularly in smaller centres, as well as promoting international Havurah events, such as the National Havurah Committee's week-long annual Summer Institute.

CORRECTION

The name of Holocaust researcher Frank Bialystok was misspelled in an article in last week's edition.

The CJN regrets the error.

Architecture team unveils proposal for Auschwitz

WATERLOO, Ont. — A proposal to reconstruct the state museum at the site of Auschwitz-Birkenau, in existence since the late 1940s, was unveiled recently by a research team involving architecture faculty, students and alumni from the University of Waterloo (UW) and Clark University in Worcester, Md.

The reconstructed state museum would commemorate the deaths of more than 100,000 Poles and over one million Jews at the Nazi concentration camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau.

Recently, UW cultural history and architecture professor Robert Jan van Pelt and Prof. Deborah Dwork, who teaches Holocaust history at Clark University, presented the proposal to Poland's president, Aleksander Kwasniewski, senior government officials, provincial authorities and local authorities in Oswiecim (Auschwitz), among others.

At the meeting, a tentative agreement was reached to jointly develop a master plan for the future of Auschwitz by December 1998.

The strategy proposal was developed by professors, students and alumni of UW's School of Architecture in conjunction with the Centre for Holocaust Study at Clark University.

The UW-Clark proposal was commissioned by Miles Lerman, chair of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council.

Unconventional bar mitzvah in B.C.

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

NELSON, B.C. — A rather unconventional bar mitzvah was recently held in the Kootenay region.

The bar mitzvah was not held in a synagogue, nor was there a rabbi present at the ceremony.

Thomas Bell, the bar mitzvah boy, read a Torah portion in English before a small gathering of friends and family. The Torah was provided by a local resident who helped him find the Torah portion that was closest to his birthday. Blessings were made, challahs were consumed and guests were invited to read stories from their own past about Jewish tradition. Jews and non-Jews alike helped welcome this new Jewish adult into their community.

According to Eileen Bell, Thomas' mother and a former resident of Montreal (whose family still lives in Montreal), "it's very challenging trying to deal with bnei mitzvah in Nelson. Some people just don't do much about it."

But she said that her son wanted to somehow mark the occasion and so she had given a lot of thought to finding a way of commemorating the day, given the limited resources that exist in the Nelson Jewish community.

Nelson has no synagogue, congregation or rabbi and the Kootenay Jewish Cultural Assocation (KJCA), which is the only Jewish organization in the region, is an informal assocation of Jews which has limited resources to facilitate events like bnei mitzvah.

In fact, in order to have a more conventional bar mitzvah, members of the Kootenay Jewish community must travel to Spokane, Wash., or Kelowna. (Each is a three-hour drive from Nelson.) One member of the community has even decided to have her son's upcoming bar mitzvah in Vancouver, which is an eight-hour drive fron Nelson.

Yiddish Corner

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פון ישראל קאַפּיטאַ

שמואל האַלקין, דער בארימטער לידישער דיכטער, האָט זיך גאָנץ לעבן געוויידמעט דער ידישער און רוסישער פּאָעזיע, אין וועלכער ער איז געווען זייער שטאַרק פאַרליבט. וועג מען נעמט זיך שריבן וועגן שמואל האַלקין, דאַרף מען דערמאָנען די גאָנצע עפּאָכע פון דער ידישער קולטור, וואָס האָט צו זיינער צייט געבליט אין דעם געוואַקסענעם סאָוועטן־פאַרבאַנד און אין אַזוי אכזריותדיק פאַרשניטן געוואָרן פון דעם אַנטיסעמיטיזם סטאַלין רעזשים. עס איז נויטיק צו דערמאָנען די פלעיאַדע פון ידיש־סאָוועטישע שריבערס און דיכטערס אין יענער תקופה, פון וועלכער א גרויסער טייל איז געפאַלן וויי קרבנות פון דער רויטער שאָוויניסטישער פאַליטיק.

שמואל האַלקין איז געבוירן געוואָרן אין וויי־רוסישן שטעטל ראָגאַטשאָוו, דעם 5־טן דעצעמבער, 1897. דאָס מיינט, אַז איך יאָר 1997 וועט די ידישע ליטעראַטור־וועלט אָפּציכענען זיך הונדערט־יאָריקן געבורטס־טאָג. זיין פאָטער איז געווען א רב און דער יונגער שמואל האָט באַקומען א טראַדיציאָנעלע ידישע דערציאונג. ער איז געווען גוט באַהאַוונט אין תנ״ך און מען האָט עס געקאָנט זען אין דיכטערישער שאַפונג.

שמואל האַלקין איז אָריין אין דער סאָוועטיש־ידישער דיכטונג מיט א שטילער שטימע, אין קעגנזאַץ צו א רי ידישע דיכטערס, וואָס זיינען אָריין מיט הויכע קולות. ווי א גאָר יונגער בחור האָט ער אָנגעהויבן שרייבן אין העברעאיש, אָבער ער איז שפּעטער איבערגעגאַנגן אויף ידיש. אין 1920 האָט ער דעביוטירט מיט א ידיש לירישן פון אָכט שוורות. אין די ערשטע יאָרן אָבער האָט ער פון פּאָעזיע נישט געקענט זיינע קיין פּרנסה און ער האָט זיך פאַרנומען מיט לייענען אן קאָרעקטירן מאַנוסקריפּטן.

אין די פרימ יאָרן איז זיין טאַלאַנט און זיין דיכטונג נישט ריכטיק אָפּגעשאַצט געוואָרן. די קריטיקערס האָבן אין זיין שפּראַך אן איז זיינע ליטעראַרישע בילדער געזען צופיל פון זיין תנ״כישער דערציאונג. זיי האָבן אין אים נעזען א גרויסן לירישן טאַלאַנט, אָבער האָבן זיך צו אים באַצויגן וויי צו א פרעמדן... נישט פון זייער צייט, נאָר ווי עמעצער פון דער וויטער פארגאַנגענהייט. אזוי האָט זיך מאָקע אויסגעדריקט דער קריטיקער י. דאָברושקין, וועלכער האָט דערקלערט, אז האַלקין „איז געקומען צו דער רעוואָלוציע פון גאָר וויט מיט א פעלערהאַפטער ידושה־אַנלאָדונג״.

עס האָט זיך ערשט שפּעטער אַרויסגעוויזן, ווי פאַלש זייערע אָפּשאַצונגען זיינען געווען. עס איז טאַקע אמת, אז אין האַלקינס שאַפונגען האָט זיך אַרויסגעזען דער תנ״ך, אָבער דאָס האָט אים אסט נעהאָלפן אריינקלאָנג זיין ליד און האָט אים פיל געהאָלפן ביים פאַראַלגעמיינערן לירישן־פילאָזאָפישע זייַנע אינדיווידועלע איבערלעבונגען. שמואל האַלקין איז אָבער געווען טיף־ידיש, טיף־נאַציאָנאַל, פיל מער ווי א סך אנדערע ידישע שרייבערס פון זיין צייט. אין אַלגעמיין איז ער געווען איינער פון די, וואָס האָבן געגלויבט באמונה שלימה, אז דאָס פאָלק ישראל וועט נישט אונטערגיין. ער האָט דעם דאָזיקן גלויבן באשריבן אין אזעלכע וואונדערלעכע שורות: „נישט אַנדערש, אַז געשמעלצט איז אונדזער גלויבן / פון זון — פון יענעם וואונדערלעכן שטאָף, / וואָס האָט פון ליכט זיין הערשאַפט אָנגעהויבן / און לייכטן און לייכטן וועט אונדז ביזן סוף.״

אויב ער איז נישט אלעמאָל אָנערקענט געוואָרן ביי די קריטיקערס, איז שמואל האַלקין געווען שטאַרק באַליבט ביי די ליי־נערס, בי אָנדערע דיכטערס אן בי די אויפקומענדיקע טאַלאַנטן. דאָס איז געווען דערפאַר, ווייל ער איז געווען א גוטער מענטש אן א צוגעלאָזענער. ער האָט פיל געהאָלפן די יונגע שרייבערס. ער איז געווען א זייער פּראָדוקטיווער שרייבער. א חורן זיינע לידער אן פאָעמעס, האָט האַלקין אויך געשאַפן א צאָל דראַמאַטישע ווערק, ווי „שולמיט״, „בר־כוכבא״ אן אַנדערע, וואָס זיינען אויפגעפירט געוואָרן דורך דעם ידישן מלוכה־טעאַטער אין מאָסקווע. ער האָט אויך איבערגעזעצט א צאָל בארימטע ווערק פון דער אינטערנאַציאָנאַלער ליטעראַטור.

אין א לייטערן הארבסט־טאָג אין סעפּטעמבער פון 1960, אַרום 2 נאָכמיטאָג, איז שמואל האַלקין געשטאָרבן אין עלטער פון 63 יאָר. ער האָט זיך אַוועקגעלייגט אויף א וויילע אפרוען אן איז אינגעשלאָפן אויף אייביק. מיט זיין פטירה איז אַוועק אין דער אייביקייט א וואונדערלעכער דיכטער, יד אן מענטש, וועלכער האָט געטרי געדינט דעם פאָלק אן באַרייכערט אונדזער ליטעראַטור־אוצר. צו זיין הונדערסטן געבוירן־יאָר וואָלט געווען געוואונטשן וידער זיך צו באַקענען מיט זיינע קינסטלעכע אן פאָעטישע שאַפונגען.

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From coast to coast

KINGSTON HADASSAH HONORS ETHEL ABRAMSKY

Hadassah-WIZO national president Patricia Alpert (second from left) presents a dedication certificate in the name of Ethel Abramsky to members of Abramsky's family. From left, Bernice Zubata of Toronto, Mort Abramsky of Kingston and Joe Abramsky of Toronto. The occasion was a tribute to end this year's Youth Aliyah/Youth Services campaign of the Queen Esther Chapter of Kingston Hadassah-WIZO. Proceeds will go to name a new music department at Ben Yakir Youth Village in Hadera in honor of the late Ethel Abramsky, a beloved leader in Kingston's Jewish community.

Association gives 'hand-up' help

By BAILA LAZARUS
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — The Hebrew Assistance Association (HAA) reached a milestone recently when it received its 1,000th application.

The benevolent organization, which gives interest-free loans of up to $4,000 to members of the Jewish community, is also celebrating a record $500,000 in assets.

"It's a measure of what we do," said Shirley Barnett, a founder of the current 18-year-old association. The philosophy behind the loans is that it's more constructive to give a 'hand up' rather than a 'hand out' and it's a more dignified way of helping people without compromising their self-esteem.

The HAA provides loans for everything from emergency relief to the purchase of a car or computer in order to help with work. It has approved 650 loans since its inception and has given out 81 loans this year, already surpassing the 80 given out in all of 1996. That brings the total outstanding loans to 217 with an average balance of under $2,000.

The applicant who was number 1,000 is a new immigrant who needs to purchase a car to get to work.

Mannie Druker, president of the loan organization, takes pride in the HAA's accomplishments and underlines the fact it has a bad debt rate of only one per cent. He also points out an ever-growing membership of more than 300 who support the agency through donations and membership fees.

He thinks one of the reasons for the HAA's success is the enjoyment board members and other volunteers get from participating in even the day-to-day operations.

"Nobody wants to get off the board," Mr. Druker said. "The big thing is that it's a volunteer board and we have quite a few people on the board who really enjoy this and who find it satisfying work."

He added that one of the HAA's strengths is its independence. Unlike loan associations in other communities, which are associated with their local Jewish federations, the agency here has no ties. "It's non bureaucratic," said Druker. "There's no politics involved."

But, as successful as the organization is, Druker would like to see HAA reach even more people. "One of the big challenges we have is that the people coming from the former Soviet Union have a remarkable network and they know how to find us," he said.

"But we believe there are others who have either lived here a long time or who were born in Canada, who just don't get to us. Our job is to find those people who could really use our help."

Seniors hear advice on longevity

By MOURA WOLPERT
Special to the CJN

HAMILTON — If we do all the right things such as eating properly, exercising, keeping active and not smoking, chances are we can live years beyond our biological potential says the vice-president of medicine at Toronto's Baycrest Hospital.

Dr. Michael Gordon spoke recently to Shalom Village residents and staff recently at the Shalom Village Founders' Lecture at Adas Israel Synagogue.

The occasion was also in honor of founding executive director Sheila Burman, who retired a year ago but returned to head the current Shalom Village $1.5-million building fund campaign.

Gordon talked about the impact of longevity on the health-care system, changing family structures, new work situations and pension reforms, noting these changes will mean "our responsibilities will have to be reviewed."

He called Shalom Village "very innovative," and Baycrest, he announced, would "adopt some ideas for the new home we're planning to build soon."

Advances in medicine and health care, he observed, have led to people remaining independent longer and needing institutional care at an older age.

He cautioned against expensive medications and surgical treatments to repair the ravages of old age, advising proper care instead. "We have a fetish in this age about how we look."

He also warned of the dangers of taking too many drugs. "It is very, very important," he said, "to check all medications with your doctor periodically to see whether you still need them.

"What we can now look forward to is not a walker, but riding into the sunset on our 10-speed bikes!"

Shalom Village president Leslie Lasky opened the program with a brief talk about the facility and a tribute to Burman, presenting her and her husband David with a brick mounted on wood, "...for making our dream a reality, brick by brick."

Burman then announced the building fund campaign has reached $1.3 million.

Report slams military

[Cont'd. from page 1]

ities, or even excluding active racists from United Nations duties.

"The Canadian Forces lacked — and continues to lack — any procedure apart from the normal chain of command, for complaining about racist conduct."

The report found that by June 1992, the defence department's special investigations unit (SIU) identified 40 soldiers as possibly involved in racist organizations. Six of the 40 were members of the Airborne regiment.

Cpl Matt McKay of CAR's 2 commando had been photographed in 1991 in his Winnipeg barracks giving the Nazi salute. Another member of the Armed Forces attended skinhead rallies and was linked to the violent Aryan Resistance Movement.

The report also noted that after the CAR was deployed to Somalia, the SIU became aware of five other racists including Cpl.Clayton Matchee and Pte. Kyle Brown. Matchee was the soldier who tortured and killed Arone. Matchee suffered permanent brain damage when he attempted to hang himself after he was charged. Brown participated in the assault on Arone.

The report found "a persistent problem of racist behavior among some CAR members" despite a zero-tolerance policy at the Armed Forces' Petawawa base.

"Racial slurs were uttered without any disciplinary response. In September 1991, a Nazi flag and paraphernalia were found hanging on the wall in a 2 Commando barracks used for orders group meetings...Racist conduct and association with racist groups were not a factor in pre-deployment screening by units at the time of the Somalia deployment. The SIU was not asked to provide input on the screening of personnel for overseas missions."

The report found that "racism was recognized by the military as a significant issue only after media reports in the spring of 1993." That led to the development of a policy on racism and the issuing of administrative guidelines that prohibits racist conduct on penalty of possible dismissal.

The commission recommended:
• Development of guidelines to commanders regarding prohibited racist and extremist conduct;
• Monitoring involvement and affiliation of soldiers in racist groups;
• The Canadian Forces and the defence department establish regular liaison with anti-racist groups to obtain assistance in the conduct of appropriate cultural sensitivity training and to assist commanders in identifying signs of racism and involvement in hate groups.

While applauding the report, Landy and spokespersons for B'nai Brith were concerned the government will shelve its recommendations.

"We fear the issues of entrenched racism will be ignored," said Karen Mock, national director of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights. "This is a unique opportunity for the government to implement race relations policies.

Marvin Kurz, the League's legal counsel, said "we are profoundly disappointed with the government for its response, both to the commissioners and the process of inquiry. The government sought to undermine the inquiry through its existence, has never fully supported their work and continues to act in that vein."

Elaine McArdle, a spokesperson for Eggleton's office, said the Department of National Defence has had an anti-racist policy since 1993. Thirty-five percent of the members of the Armed Forces have taken an anti-racism course under the Standard for Harassment and Racism Prevention (SHARP) policy, she said.

Alleged Nazi named

[Cont'd from page 1]

Federal authorities allege Maciukas, who lives in St. Leonard, Que., north of Montreal, participated in atrocities against civilians in Lithuania and Byelorussia. They claim he failed to divulge his service in the unit as well as his recruitment into the German armed forces in 1944.

The 12th Battalion was a killing unit established by the Lithuanian policethat murdered about 50,000 Jews in Byelorussia.

A group of survivors' children recenlty picketed outside the Burlington home of another alleged member of the unit, Joseph Kisielaitis.

Three years ago, former Justice Minister Allan Rock promised legal action would be brought against 12 alleged Nazi war criminals. Maciukas is the last of the 12 to be named. Two of the men, Antanas Kenstavicius and Josef Nemsila, died in the early stages of their cases. Kisielaitis is not one of the 12 men already named.

In other developments, Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit, said lawyers in the unit believe Canada is not in a position to requests the extradition of former Cambodian strongman Pol Pot.

Under the war crimes section in the Criminal Code, suspects must have some connection to Canada before they can be charged. Without that connection, there is no provision for requesting his extradition, he said.

Canada would obtain that jurisdiction if Pol Pot were to arrive in Canada, Vickery added.

Canada had been asked by U.S. officials to consider bringing Pol Pot, believed responsible for the murder of up to two million Cambodians, to trial in Canada.

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IDF officer killed in clash with Hezbollah

Reportedly hit in first burst of fire and later died of his wounds

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — An IDF officer was killed in a clash with Hezbollah gunmen in the northeastern sector of the security zone last Sunday, during a day of heavy fighting in south Lebanon.

There were reports of either mortar shells or Katyusha rockets falling close to the northern border in the western region of the zone last night. It was not clear if any fell in Israeli territory.

Maj. Nadav Milo, 24, of Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu in the Beit She'an Valley, was buried in the kibbutz cemetery last Monday.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, recalling having once spoken with Milo, told a workers' meeting in Bat Yam last night: "We have lost an outstanding officer who ...would have had a great future. I am full of admiration for the commanders and soldiers who are carrying out important and demanding operations in Lebanon against Hezbollah, which is supported by Iran.

"I am seeking and will continue to seek every course that might even partially improve the situation in Lebanon," Mordechai said. "I will make every effort on this matter, and believe me, I have no illusions and I don't care if I'm attacked for this. I have a deep feeling of commitment to the soldiers in Lebanon...and I am duty bound as defence minister to search for any possible solution."

Milo, commander of a paratroop brigade engineers company, was leading a unit on patrol in the Soujud region when they came under close-range fire.

It was not clear whether the Hezbollah squad, apparently composed of three or four gunmen, was laying in ambush or happened to be in the area and spotted the paratroopers first and opened fire.

Milo was reportedly hit in the first burst of fire and later died of his wounds. According to initial inquiries, the rest of the unit returned fire, forcing the gunmen to retreat and thereby preventing further casualties.

The gunmen, however, received support and covering fire from Hezbollah mortar crews north of the zone. The mortars were directed at the troops in the field and the nearby Soujud outpost.

The clash prompted heavy exchanges, with IDF and South Lebanese Army gunners blasting Hezbollah positions north of the zone and especially in the Iqlim al-Toufah region.

IAF warplanes and helicopter gunships also carried out a number of sorties against Hezbollah positions in the Jabal Shaffi area.

An IDF spokesperson said the pilots reported accurate hits on their targets and that all the aircraft returned safely.

Reports from Lebanon said the planes and helicopter gunships carried out as many as 14 separate attacks during the day. There were no immediate reports of any casualties.

According to reports, Hezbollah claimed it had fired an anti-aircraft missile at the planes and helicopters, although there was no confirmation of this from other sources.

The air raids and the heavy shelling were apparently aimed at silencing Hezbollah's mortar fire. Some reports said as many as 20 to 30 gunmen were involved in giving covering fire to the squad in the field.

Reports from Lebanon said three Lebanese civilians, a 7-year-old boy and a man in Jarjoua village, and another in nearby Ein Baswar, were wounded by the IDF shelling.

Security sources in Israel stressed that the IDF has no desire or intention of harming innocent civilians or deliberately shelling villages. Nevertheless, the sources noted that Hezbollah had again used villages north of the zone as cover for its mortar crews.

OC Northern Command Maj. Gen. Amiram Levine warned that the IDF and SLA would return fire in self-defence if Hezbollah continued this practice and that in such circumstances the organization would be responsible for bringing the war into the villages.

The sources noted that Hezbollah had suffered heavy losses recently, with at least six gunmen known to have been killed by IDF troops in the past week.

It was perhaps for that reason that the organization released a videotape last Sunday of its fighters operating in the northeastern sector of south Lebanon, although analysts said it appeared the video had been filmed earlier.

The IDF and SLA had been on full alert for Hezbollah reprisals, although it appears that the troops involved in the clash last Sunday were taken by surprise.

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Personal security better under this gov't – poll

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM — Support for the government's more hard-line policies has dropped since last year, but the public is less fearful of war breaking out, and feels more personally secure, according to a survey conducted on behalf of Tel Aviv University's Tami Steinmetz Centre.

Moreover, continued building in the territories has many more supporters than opponents. Even among those who believe that war might break out if the political deadlock continues, those supporting settlement construction still exceed those who are opposed.

The survey was conducted by Modi'in Ezrahi on June 30, and was comprised of telephone interviews with 505 Jewish adults. The margin of error is about four percent.

Asked as to the chance of war with the Arabs breaking out before long if the peace process remained deadlocked, 32 percent felt that the chance is slight or very slight. Last June, only 21.9 percent felt that confident.

Asked "do you support or oppose a tougher policy by the Israeli government in negotiations with the Palestinians," 56.4 percent supported such a policy and 35.5 percent were opposed. In June 1996, 70.7 percent supported a tougher policy while 18.2 percent opposed it.

Meanwhile, 41.5 percent felt that their own personal security is better than it was under the last government. Last June, only 28.9 percent felt more secure than under the previous government. A similar trend can also be discerned in appraisals of the national security situation: 30.6 percent believe this situation to be better than it was under the last government, whereas one year ago only 21.3 percent felt this way.

The respondents were asked the following: "The Palestinians claim that building in the settlements is the principal factor in the deadlock of negotiations with Israel. What should the Israeli government do?" The results: 40.8 percent replied that it must stop building, but 52.6 percent believe that the building program should continue as planned.

The support for continuing to build, as compared with halting the building, was far greater among those who believe the risks of war are scant — 69.5 percent in this group support continued building as against 37.8 percent opposed.

Even among those who believe the risk of war to be great or very great, there is no majority in support of halting the building: 47.5 percent of this group support a stoppage whereas 49.7 percent favor its continuation.

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Belarus Jews make do with meagre resources

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

MINSK, Belarus — In the heart of Minsk, close to the main government buildings, stands an elegant structure known throughout the city.

Third of a four-part series

With its white stucco facade and classical corinthian columns supporting a large, triangular pediment, it's one of the most recognizable buildings in the Belarussian capital. Currently the home of the National Drama Theatre, in its earlier life it was known as the Choral Synagogue and was the city's largest Jewish house of worship at the turn of the century when the city's 48,000 Jews constituted about half the population of Minsk.

In 1923 the Bolsheviks closed the synagogue and converted it into a workers' club. Miraculously, it survived destruction during the Nazi occupation and today, the Belarussian Union of Jewish Communities and Organizations (BUJCO) is seeking government restitution for a building that was once the pride of the community.

Receiving restitution for Jewish communal buildings appropriated by the communist regime is a key element in the organization's agenda, said Leonid Levin, president of BUJCO.

There were more than 100 synagogues in Minsk before the war and many were expropriated and turned into storage facilities or given over for other uses. The Jewish community in Belarus is impoverished, so receiving some value for the buildings is necessary if the community wishes to finance its badly needed social welfare programs, Levin explained.

One of the country's most admired architects, renowned for creating moving tributes to those killed during World War II, Levin has headed BUJCO since its inception five years ago. The organization serves as a coordinating body for the many local groups that were founded in the wake of the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the independence of Belarus.

A former Soviet republic that lies between Poland and Russia, Belarus is home to an estimated 100,000 Jews, approximately 30,000 of whom reside in Minsk. Although 800,000 Jews were murdered during the Holocaust, significant Jewish populations remain in other Belarus cities, including Vitebsk (6,000 Jews), Baranovichi (2,000), Bobruysk (7,500) and Mogilev (7,000), said Joseph Shuster, Belarus representative of the Joint Distribution Committee.

About 4,000 Jews leave the country each year for Israel, Germany, the United States and Canada, yet the population has remained stable, Levin said. He attributed that to the emergence of Jews who hid their identities and described themselves as Russian on internal identification papers. With the end of state-sponsored anti-Semitism, they are feeling more comfortable proclaiming their identity, Levin said.

"Some percentage of Jews are afraid...It's our Stalinist legacy," Levin said through an interpreter.

Despite that history, "they've remained Jews by their origins. They have a Yiddishe pintele (fragment). When they get some freedom, they're not afraid to feel they're Jews."

About 5,000 Belarussian Jews live below the poverty line and BUJCO supports programs to alleviate their plight. With the assistance of volunteers, BUJCO provides food, clothing, home repair as well as meals on wheels. It also operates social assistance programs in close cooperation with the Joint, Levin said.

The programs are run on a shoestring budget that is so meagre, Levin is embarrassed to reveal it. It's "shameful," he said, only $1,500 US per month provided by the Joint.

But Levin is anything but ungrateful for even that amount. The premises that house BUJCO were obtained by the Joint, he pointed out.

Among the projects pioneered by BUJCO are the scheduling of conferences and festivals to celebrate Jews in the arts; organizing memorials to honor Jews killed in the Holocaust; planning an event dedicated to Jewish poetry and representing the interests of the Jewish community to the Belarus government.

As leader of the Jewish community, Levin sits on the committee of ethnic affairs in the council of ministers, an advisory body. The Belarus government "has a special attitude towards the Jews," he said. "The Jews don't have a political platform...[It] is politically neutral. It supports any party that backs democratic rights for minorities."

Despite its modest numbers and meagre resources, Jewish communities in Belarus have founded 18 Jewish schools as well as two kindergartens, one in Minsk, the other in Mogilev. In addition, there are afternoon schools held in synagogues.

The community also supports Maccabi sports organizations, Hillel, Aish Hatorah and many other independent groups.

Shuster, who has spent the last 1½ years in Belarus, said the Joint has created a network of Chesed organizations to help the poorer members of the far-flung Jewish community. The group has set up shop in Minsk, Mogilev, Gomel, Vitebsk, Grodno and Polotsk with plans for representatives in Bobruysk, Borisov and Baranovichi.

In 1996, the organization distributed 28,777 food packages to 10,2000 needy people. Shuster expects that figure to climb to 35,000 in 1997. Some receive aid bimonthly, others every three, four or six months. About 600 Belarussian Jews receive meals on wheels daily or eat at one of the Joint-operated soup kitchens.

The Joint also operates a home-care program to provide nursing assistance to about 500 Belarussian Jews, with a waiting list of 150, Shuster said.

A native of Vilna, Lithuania who made aliyah 26 years ago, Shuster travels around the country to coordinate various programs that link Jews to the larger community in Minsk.

Much of the Joint's programming is funded through the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, which compensates those who suffered under Nazi occupation. That includes about 80 percent of all Jewish seniors. The Joint's budget for all of Belarus is $1 million US per year, Shuster said.

* * *

In addition to the Joint, the Lubavitch movement has created a strong presence in Belarus. Just before Passover, three students from the organization's Manchester, England yeshivah moved to Belarus for one month to help in the distribution of 10 tonnes of matzah and to conduct public seders in Minsk, Polotsk and Bobruysk, said Dov Shochet, a 21-year-old student originally from Toronto.

The Lubavitch trio also set up a youth club and hosted Friday night meals that included a study program, he said.

Shochet admits his family would have liked to have seen him return for the holiday to Toronto but "this is something we were educated about. I could've gone home to a comfortable house but we're taught to put our personal life aside and give of yourself," he said.

Hebron principal blames IDF for vandalized Korans

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A Hebron school principal revealed last weekend that she found copies of the Koran ripped and strewn over the floor of one of her classrooms, and she blamed IDF soldiers for the vandalism.

The Yaakoubi girls' school, where principal Areifah Abeido discovered the vandalism, has been closed for the past two weeks. It is under the control of the IDF and has been used as a lookout post over Shalala Street, the scene of recent rioting.

Abeido said she telephoned the Palestinian Authority's (PA) Education Ministry and was told to leave things as she found them – shelves overturned, copies of the Koran strewn on the floor, a framed photograph of PA Chairman Yasser Arafat smashed and ripped into pieces and paint splashed on the walls with the initials of Hamas and Fatah.

In an investigation conducted by Israel's district liaison officer Col. Baruch Naggar with his Palestinian counterpart Abu Issa Sweiti and Abeido, it emerged that the door to the room that had been vandalized had been opened with a key.

"The soldiers who used the building did not have a key to that room," said civil administration spokesperson Lt. Peter Lerner.

Abeido disputed this, however, saying "the army had keys to all the rooms."

"The Jews have declared a religious war against the Palestinians and I want to know where is the Muslim world, why is it not defending the Muslims of Hebron?" she asked.

Hebron Mayor Mustafe Natshe said last week that one of the reasons he was sure soldiers must have helped distribute posters of Mohammed portrayed as a pig writing the Koran was the fact that some were placed under the door of the Yaakoubi school, and only the IDF has access to the school.

Despite the new incident, Hebron was relatively calm. There were no immediate clashes between soldiers and rioters.

Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau condemned the desecration at the school, saying, "The bitter experience of the Jewish people teaches that attacks on religious values precedes attacks on human lives. We don't know who was responsible for this criminal act, but the act itself deserves full condemnation, like the image of the pig, which is an abomination to Judaism and Islam."

Comrades evacuate an Israeli soldier on a stretcher last week after he was severely wounded by a pipe bomb thrown by Palestinians during clashes in Hebron. Dozens of Palestinians and a number of Israelis were injured in the rioting which continued through the week and into the weekend. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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The Week in Israel

June 30

• A top Egyptian cleric called for the death of the person who drew the poster depicting the prophet Muhammed as a pig stomping on the Koran. The poster was displayed in a number of storefronts near the Jewish enclave in Hebron. Israeli police arrested a Jewish woman suspected of drawing and distributing the posters.

July 1

• The Knesset's Finance Committee granted priority development status to all Jewish settlements in the territories. This was done at the request of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in accordance with an earlier government decision.

• The media reported that the Palestinian Authority's Web site denies that the Western Wall was ever part of the Temple and says that the Israeli government has turned the Wall into a religious shrine from which it bars most non-Jews.

• Two IDF soldiers were wounded in Hebron when a pipe bomb exploded near them.

July 2

• Reinforcement troops were sent to Hebron as new clashes erupted with Palestinian demonstrators.

• A Palestinian was killed by IDF fire during demonstrations near a settlement in the Gaza strip. The incident occurred when Palestinians ignored orders to stop driving a tractor toward a guarded area of the settlement.

July 3

• A Hamas terrorist convicted of complicity in murdering 12 Israelis escaped from his Palestinian prison. Israeli authorities, however, believe he was freed.

• The Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum chose architect Moshe Safdie to head a project for the expansion and renovation of the museum. The cost is expected to be about $20 million (US).

July 4

• The media reported that some American Jewish businessmen with close links to Netanyahu have recently facilitated the exchange of secret messages between Israel and Syria.

With files from the JTA

Israeli government hits heavy turbulence

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Benjamin Netanyahu is beleaguered. Since June 18, when he manoeuvred the removal of Dan Meridor — the finance minister — from cabinet, his shaky government has run into heavy turbulence, prompting speculation that new elections, not officially due until 2000, will be called sooner rather than later.

Netanyahu, whose one-year administration has been characterized by a succession of crises, both internal and external, is under fire from dissidents in his own Likud party and from coalition partners who can make or break him. His popularity is such that on June 24, he barely survived a no-confidence motion in the Knesset in which 11 members of his coalition abstained or stayed away. He was due to face another such vote on July 7.

The prime minister has come under scathing criticism for his abrasive leadership style and decision-making methods, his string of broken promises and his willingness to partition the West Bank in a settlement with the Palestinians.

By all appearances, Netanyahu has all but lost his moral and political authority. According to a survey published in *Ma'ariv* in late June, 62 percent of Israelis are dissatisfied with his performance, and if an election were to be held today he would be handily defeated by Ehud Barak, the freshly-minted Labor party leader.

Within Likud, Netanyahu has lost the support of Yitzhak Shamir, the onetime prime minister; Moshe Arens, his mentor during the formative years of his career; Ze'ev Begin, the former science minister and son of the ex-premier; backbencher David Re'em, who has launched a campaign to oust Netanyahu; and, of course, Meridor, his old rival.

Communications Minister Limor Livnat has not as yet joined the ranks of the rebels. But in quitting her post as liaison between the cabinet and the Knesset, she has made it abundantly clear that her resignation may be imminent and that Netanyahu may not be able to count on her backing in the future.

Since the Likud holds less than two dozen seats in the Knesset, Netanyahu's government is utterly dependent upon smaller parties like Gesher, The Third Way, Tsomet and Israel Ba'aliya, and from all indications they are in a sour and rebellious frame of mind.

For the moment, the loudest whining emanates from Foreign Minister David Levy's Gesher party. Levy, a petulant man with a monumental ego, has threatened to resign and thus imperil Netanyahu's government. The source of Levy's anger is two-fold. Netanyahu failed to inform him about a recent meeting between National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and Yasser Arafat's deputy Mahmoud Abbas. And Levy feels that his role as chief coordinator of negotiations with the Palestine Authority will be jeopardized if Sharon is appointed finance minister and becomes a member of the inner cabinet. On July 7, Netanyahu solved this tricky problem by appointing Yaakov Neeman — the former justice minister — as finance minister.

Israel Ba'aliya, a Soviet immigrants' party led by Netanyahu's close friend, Natan Sharansky, has evidently lost faith in him, and already has "one leg out of the coalition." Sharansky's confidence in Netanyahu reached a nadir during the recent Bar-On influence peddling scandal, and was exacerbated by Netanyahu's failure, since rectified, to implement commitments on olim absorption.

Netanyahu has also managed to alienate The Third Way, which was appalled by his treatment of Meridor, and is disenchanted with Netanyahu's handling of peace talks with the Palestinians. The Third Way's leader, Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, has threatened to leave the coalition unless Netanyahu resumes negotiations with the Palestine Authority by year's end. The talks have been frozen since the government broke ground for the Har Choma housing project in East Jerusalem in March.

Kahalani, however, appears to believe that Netanyahu's days are numbered. He and Rafael Eitan, head of Tsomet, are gearing up for new elections.

Court body slams alligator wrestling

If the mental picture of a panel of judges watching movies showing alligator wrestling is somewhat strange, the results of the case offer an interesting window into different processes at work in the Israeli legal system.

Residents of Hamat Gader, an outpost near the Syrian and Jordanian borders, run an alligator farm. In order to draw tourists, they have been promoting wrestling matches between men and alligators. An association for the prevention of cruelty to animals sued Hamat Gader in court, claiming that the wrestling matches are illegal and should be shut down.

The case revolved around a law, The Law of Cruelty to Animals (Protection of Animals), which the Knesset passed in January of 1994. Section 2(a) of this law (which was used in the case) forbids torturing animals, acting cruelly towards them or abusing them in any way, and sets a three-year jail term for anyone breaking this section.

Other provisions forbid organizing battles between animals, working them more than their physical condition would permit and poisoning animals with certain compounds. The law allows for civil lawsuits as well (as in this case), grants government supervisors broad powers and even sets up a fund for education in the field. A related law regulates experiments on animals, and forbids them where they are not necessary. Experiments for purely cosmetic purposes or to test cleaning compounds require special permits.

Hamat Gader argued that the wrestling matches could not be construed as torture, cruelty or abuse, and claimed that no damage is done to the alligators.

The Supreme Court recently ruled against Hamat Gader, holding that the law does not require proof of severe cruelty. The court accepted expert testimony which claimed that pulling the animals head and flipping it over, cause it pain and suffering.

On the other hand, Heshin wrote, cruelty to animals for the purpose of entertainment is not justified, and sends a negative educational message. Therefore, the court issued a restraining order preventing the matches.

The case illustrates how courts make policy by interpreting laws: the judges created a standard according to which animals are to be protected from "unnecessary" cruelty, but that where there is a proper purpose, certain activities might no longer be considered illegal.

The Hamat Gader case also underscores another issue: the public tends to associate Jewish law with the Rabbinate's monopoly on marriage and divorce, and the current controversy over the conversion law further alienates Israelis from Jewish sources. It is therefore worth pointing out that the Hebrew name of the law (Tzaar Baalei Haim) is taken from the halachic term forbidding cruelty to animals.

In discussing the case, Professor Nahum Rakover, the Deputy Attorney General responsible for Hebrew Law told me that he has initiated a bill to prevent hunting for pleasure, and quoted from an important responsum of the Noda Lyaakov who ruled that hunting for sport (as opposed to hunting for food) is "not the way of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." Rakover was not sure that the judges were drawing on Jewish sources in their decision, but sees this as an example of how Jewish legal values can be incorporated into the system.

The laws preventing cruelty to animals are new, and the proof of their effectiveness will be in the enforcement. Nonetheless, from a purely legal perspective, it is encouraging to see that where the state is slow to move, the court is open to enforcement of laws by civil litigation. It will also be interesting to see if Jewish values in other areas, such as protecting the environment or health and welfare, can be translated into law without creating a sense of religious coercion.

Jonathan Shiff is an attorney in Israel.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Report: Shahak won't seek fourth year

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — In an unprecedented move, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak will not seek to have his term extended to a full fourth year, Channel 2 reported.

The report attributed Shahak's decision to discontent over his working relationship with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

According to the TV report, Shahak is to inform Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai that he is not interested in extending his term by a full year, when they are to meet later this week to discuss his future with the IDF.

Shahak telephoned Netanyahu to deny the report, Israel Radio reported.

The IDF Spokesperson released a statement saying that, contrary to the Channel 2 report, no meeting has been set in the coming days between Shahak and Mordechai regarding his service.

"The report did not come from the chief of general staff and does not reflect his opinion," the statement said.

Mordechai's spokesperson Avi Benayahu reacted to the report by saying only that the defence minister had not yet concluded the appointments in the general staff.

It would be the first time that a chief of general staff did not seek a fourth year, which has traditionally been granted as a matter of course.

The unattributed television report said Shahak would likely step down on Israel's 50th independence day, seven months short of the end of his fourth year, so that his replacement would be able to put together a 1999 working plan.

In a recent briefing with military reporters, Shahak, 53, said he had not yet made up his mind whether he would extend his term for a fourth year.

But he also said he believed that the aging of the senior command in the IDF was bad for the military.

Immediately after Netanyahu's victory last year, rumors surfaced that Shahak and other top members of the general staff, such as Deputy Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i, 54, would resign if Yitzhak Mordechai was named defence minister.

After his appointment, Mordechai, who had earlier been angered at Vilna'i and Shahak for taking posts he had wanted in the military, made great efforts to diffuse tensions with the general staff and has developed good working relations with them.

The speculation is that despite past grievances, Mordechai will have no choice but to recommend to the government that Vilna'i replace Shahak.

Another possible candidate is OC Planning Branch Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, a former OC Southern Command.

Air force chief: We're losing our qualitative edge

TEL AVIV — OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Eliahu warned last week that Israel is losing its qualitative edge, as advanced weapons find their way to Arab armies in the Middle East.

Although he said more resources are needed, Ben-Eliahu added that the IAF is capable of quickly dealing with a sudden change in events in the region and warned that "it would be unwise to test us.

"This is the essence of the air force's alertness. The air force is a quick animal and is deployed, ready and poised to act according to a short timetable; so whenever there is a turning point, we are ready to give a quick answer," Ben-Eliahu said.

Ben-Eliahu said he had no information on any new acquisitions in the cash-strapped Syrian Air Force, but said other nations in the region were making serious upgrades, including night vision avionics, state-of-the-art technologies, smart weapons, laser-guided missiles and advanced air-to-air missiles.

Ben-Eliahu steadfastly refused to name the states he was referring to, and when asked about Egypt's Western armament program, said that Israel treated Egypt as a peaceful neighbor. It is widely known, too, that Saudi Arabia has also greatly enhanced its air forces with advanced U.S. equipment.

Speaking in his Tel Aviv headquarters, flanked by a map stretching from the Atlantic to Pakistan, Ben-Eliahu said the air force had to be prepared for unexpected changes of events in the region.

"There has been no change in the security doctrine of Israel," Ben-Eliahu said. The IAF has to be able to give an immediate answer to any threat. "I see this as the primary task of the IAF, to be prepared for this. This is part of our deterrence."

Ben-Eliahu was speaking on the occasion of Air Force Day, which is highlighted by a cadet pilot graduation ceremony.

"There was, is and, if we act wisely, will continue to be the relative superiority of the IAF over other air forces. But I have to say there are developments. The region is absorbing new weapons, new Western aircraft and advanced aircraft. The region is integrating its training with Western nations so that the character of its flying and the quality of its training is improving," Ben-Eliahu said.

"We have to overcome these developments. We are doing so, but it is not easy and demands a lot of energy and work and a great deal of resources."

In January, the IAF will start receiving 24 of the advanced F-15I U.S.-made fighter jets. Costing about $100 million each, these will significantly increase the IAF's long-range capability. The IAF is also to acquire 15 Black Hawk helicopters in March, Ben-Eliahu said.

He said that the great influx of surface-to-surface missiles into the Middle East was a threat to Israel, but that an appropriate defence is being erected against them. This includes the Arrow missile and Wall radar, which are to begin integration into the IAF next year.

"It won't be worth their while to use [surface-to-surface missiles] and if, God forbid, they do so, then we'll know how to give the appropriate answer," Ben-Eliahu said.

He added that the recommendations made by the Ivry inquiry into the February transport helicopter collision are being implemented, and that the IDF would continue to ferry troops into Lebanon on helicopters.

–A.O.

LifeStyle

Advertising Feature

Don't Be Alone This Summer ... Singles Registry Busier Than Ever

The Jewish Singles Registry (JSR) is expanding like never before and business couldn't be better. That's the word from Rob Singer, whose organization is now comfortably housed in new spacious quarters at Yonge and Eglinton.

Mr. Singer credits word of mouth advertising as a key to JSR's success. Current members are wasting little time telling their friends how fast and easy it is to connect with other Jewish singles. In Toronto alone, membership is fast approaching the 1,400 member mark.

New members can take solace in the fact that the JSR has an implicit understanding of how hard it is to meet interesting people. Everyone seems to have very busy schedules these days and very little free time. The bar scene is no longer a viable solution, and once you have run out of friends to fix you up, there are very few remaining options available. the J.S.R. concept, on the other hand, tackles all these problems and more.

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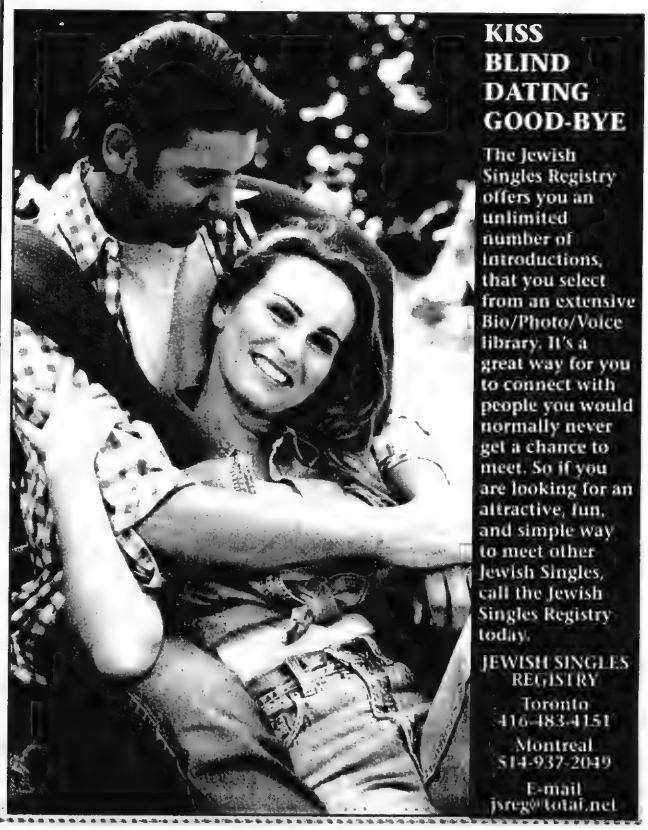
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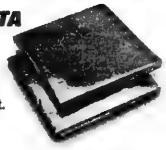

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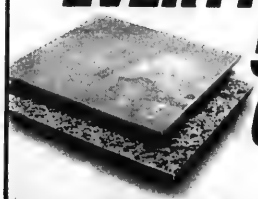

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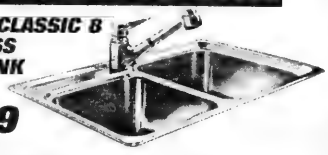

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Travel, Arts & Business

CHAT grad helps to plan fun trips to Israel

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Helping friends plan itineraries for visits to Israel has led to a career change for Ruth-Malca Javasky.

The 40-year-old mother of five, who lives in Ramot, a suburb of Jerusalem, established R.M. Fun & Travel, an event planning and family travel business that specializes in arranging all the details for family tours and special occasions.

"I enjoy [connecting] people to a place suitable for their needs and interests," says Javasky, who was in Toronto recently.

Born in Toronto, Javasky attended United Synagogue Day School. In 1972, her parents, Ben and Carrie Grossman, and their children spent a sabbatical year in Israel. This "gave me a love of Israel and a strong desire to one day return and raise a family there," she says.

When the family returned to Toronto, Javasky completed her high school education at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. She returned to Israel to serve with the Sherut Leumi service at Shaare Zedek Hospital and Kibbutz Shaalavim.

After her service, "with a hope in the back of my mind to one day return to Eretz Yisrael," she returned to Toronto and completed a degree in physical and health education at the University of Toronto.

In 1981, she, her husband David Javasky, an engineer who operates a management consultant business in Tel Aviv, and their baby daughter Rina, made aliyah.

While raising her children, Javasky led exercise classes and worked as a personal trainer. Before opening her business, Javasky worked in the Supreme Court Building in the PR department, where she guided English-speaking tourists. She realized that she was attuned to North American tastes and could provide a service that Israelis could not provide.

"When I began to receive calls from friends asking for advice about planning visits for them and their visiting relatives, I began getting very busy," she says.

Ruth-Malca and David Javasky

She was making arrangements with different hotels throughout the country (with special rates) and planning personalized itineraries for friends.

In 1994, she started the travel business, specializing in vacations for families and for tourists who wish to celebrate a special event in Israel – a bar or bat mitzvah, anniversaries, reunions.

She arranges everything from welcome baskets to religious ceremonies, the photographer and video people, rental of halls both on and off the beaten track, menu planning, floral arrangements, entertainment, hotels, tour guides and any other personal need.

Her latest event planning is for a simchah where the hosts requested "a more biblical experience." She explained that the family wants to be involved with the land. One of the options she is presenting to them is Neot Kedumin, a biblical nature reserve where there are trails that refer to different parts of the Tanach, including the fauna and trees.

"There are many wonderful places and endless possibilities in Israel," she says. "Canada Park, jeep trips, tree planting, camping, there are so many options." But above all, Javasky says, she loves promoting travel in Israel.

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— Lewis Carroll
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Travel, Arts & Business

Surgeon uses medical instruments as paintbrush

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

NORTH YORK — Neurosurgeon Alex Rivlin, who now specializes in hair transplantation, paints portraits and abstracts, oils on canvas, using medical instruments — forceps, syringes, scalpel, surgical clamps — plus such household items as sponges and spatulas, as well as the traditional artists' brushes. A solo exhibition of his works premiered recently at Harry Rosen on Bloor Street West.

No, this is not an exercise in eccentricity. "I work with surgical instruments when I paint because I'm comfortable with them," Rivlin says. He is accustomed to their precision and feels he has more control.

His art, he says, began as a pleasurable outlet for daily pressures and has escalated into a compelling expression of personal feelings and a response to the music he loves.

"I am painting all the time, whenever I can," he says.

He is also an accomplished pianist, writes poetry and has produced an independent cassette. His father was a professor of music at Kishinev University in Moldova, his mother a dancer and singer.

Born in Transylvania, Rivlin studied at First Leningrad Medical School, focusing on surgery. In 1972, he immigrated with his wife and young son to Israel, working as a doctor linked to the military. However, realizing that there was no lack of surgeons in the country, he went to Paris and in 1975, brought his family to Canada.

Alex Rivlin

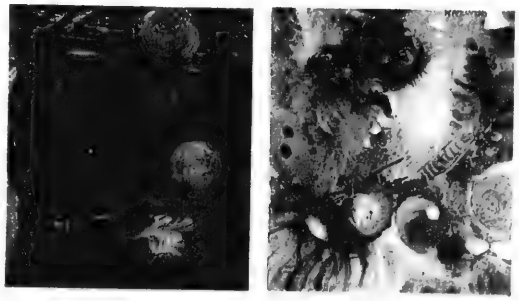
Less than two months after arriving here he was accepted as a Fellow of the Medical Research Council of Canada and completed his residency at St. Michael's and Mt. Sinai Hospitals.

Although experimental neurosurgery was his field, he was attracted to the possibilities of hair transplantation which he sees as 20 percent skill and 80 percent creative ability.

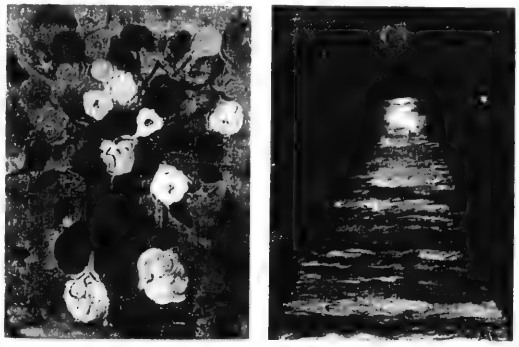
He is increasingly immersed in his painting and the walls of the studio which opens off his clinic are covered with examples of his singular approach to art.

One painting, a kind of signature piece, reveals a bald pate just waiting for the initial stage of a transplant. This was done, says Rivlin, at the end of a long day in the clinic.

Another, decidedly more lyrical, was inspired by Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*. In the foreground, a stream of strong colors corresponds to the marked beat of the opening musical phrases and drifts off to a whisper beneath a misted moon.



Rivlin's work features strong colors and powerful visual representations of mood and feeling.



Music has always influenced the artist's work. Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata* inspired the painting on the right.

Rivlin has done a scholarly portrait of his father, the music professor, and a loving evocation of his mother holding him, her only surviving child. One son died at 19 in the family's escape from the Nazis and two other sons succumbed to the rigors of Siberia.

A striking portrait of a young girl encountered by chance as she passed in the street captures an arresting face.

Rivlin also does mood pieces, abstracts in spring and fall colors, frequently emanating from the classical music he studied in the years when he thought he would be a pianist, before medicine entered his life.

He seems gratified because he restores self-confidence through his surgical process, culturally fulfilled when he composes music and poetry and elated as he paints.

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PA officials interested in investing in Tel Aviv stocks

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Palestinian Authority officials are exploring the possibility of investing in the Tel Aviv stock market.

According to the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, officials have already contacted Israeli brokerage houses, seeking an initial investment of approximately $17 million (U.S.)

It was unclear whether the investors represented Palestinian Authority officials or private business interests in the territories.

Either way, sources involved in the contacts said that all relevant authorities had approved the investments.

Several months ago, *Ha'aretz* reported that the Palestinian Authority maintained an account in a Tel Aviv bank, where funds channeled by Israel to the self-rule authority under the signed economic accords were deposited.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

MEROVITZ STAGES WEDDING IN THE PARK

Singing, dancing, feasting and audience participation mark **Allan Merovitz's** *Wedding In The Park*, performed Thursdays through Sundays from July 10 to Aug. 8 at 7 p.m. in the park on Brunswick Avenue north of Harbord, across from the Narayever Synagogue.

Wedding in the Park includes two members of the **Simcha Klezmer Ensemble**, **Tiina Kiik** on accordion and **Monique Lansdorp** on violin and mandolin. The performance moves inside the synagogue in case of rain.

Tickets are $10 ($7 for students and seniors).

Musicians are invited to jam with the band during the dance portion of the show (8:30 p.m.) For information, call 416-408-1146 or 416-516-4856.

A free performance is offered July 22, 7 p.m., in Dufferin Grove Park on the east side of Dufferin Street south of Bloor.

Visual Arts

The 36th Annual Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition takes place July 11, 12 and 13 at Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto City Hall, with some 525 artists exhibiting. Free admission.

The tradition started in 1960 when Toronto businessman **Murray Koffler** and his wife **Marvelle**, assisted by **Alan Jarvis** and the late **Jack Pollock**, staged the first outdoor show in the courtyard of the former Four Seasons Motor Hotel on Jarvis Street.

In the Spotlight

Manny Zack, a retired senior administrator at McMaster University in Hamilton, found that his blood has always boiled at seeing stage productions of *The Merchant of Venice*, even last year's Stratford production, despite its relatively sympathetic portrayal of the Jewish moneylender Shylock.

"I've seen several versions of the play and I've always been embarrassed and outraged by it, especially when the audience laughs and rejoices when Shylock is humiliated and forced to convert," Zack said. "I find it an anti-Semitic play."

About 20 years ago, Zack's indignation compelled him to write a full-length, three-act play called *Shylock*, which presented Shakespeare's famous Jew from an entirely different perspective. In Zack's view, Shylock is a man who has endured more than he can stand.

After the death of his wife, Shylock's daughter Jessica runs away, converts to Christianity and marries, stealing her father's fortune.

Treated with extreme disdain by Antonio and other businessmen of Venice, Shylock asks for the pound of flesh only as a means to humiliate Antonio.

"It was never anything he seriously meant to collect," said Zack.

In Zack's play, Jessica realizes that her husband married her only for money and that she erred in renouncing her Jewish birthright. The contrite daughter returns to her father, only to realize that he has been driven mad.

Zack's play was staged years ago by a semi-professional theatrical group in Hamilton and has been in his drawer ever since. Now he would like it to be staged again.

"I have great respect for Shakespeare and I do not have the poetic quality of Shakespeare," he admitted. "I think Shakespeare wrote a play that contains the prejudices that he was brought up to believe. I'm trying to show how these characters and events looked from inside the Jewish community."

Ashkenaz '97

Don't forget: While most of the more than 75 events are free, tickets are now on sale for the not to be missed 10 ticketed events that are part of Ashkenaz: a Festival of New Yiddish Culture.

These events include: jazzman **John Zorn's Bar Kokhba** from New York; the North American premiere of *The Dybbuk* adapted by **Teatr Wierszalin**; a performance by the **Epstein Brothers**, the subject of the recent film *A Tickle in the Heart* , and more. Call Harbourfront for info at 973-3000 or tickets 973-4000.

The organizers of Ashkenaz are looking for individuals and organizations to help out with the Ashkenaz Parade – a sort of Jewish Caribana! Call 703-6892.

Youngster enjoys Yiddishe concert

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Beth Anne Cole, the gifted Yiddish singer, has a lot of fans, but none more devoted than Avra Fainer, 10, a musical comedy star in her own right.

Clutching a copy of Cole's cassette, *Song Under the Stair*, Avra was one of the 200 people attending a sold-out Yiddish America Sings concert presented by The Yiddishland Cafe at the Workmen's Circle.

Avra appeared with Cole in the musical *Jane Eyre* at the Royal Alexandra Theatre as a member of the chorus and likes to attend all her concerts.

Avra herself was the star of *Annie*, presented by the Charactor Theatre Troupe of Thornhill at the Yorkwoods Theatre Library and has also appeared in other productions of the Actors Chorus of that troupe.

She is the daughter of Francine and Harvey Fainer of Thornhill and granddaughter of Aron Fainer, president of the Workman's Circle, and Fania Fainer.

Avra wasn't the only youngster at the concert.There were several tables of them enjoying the music.

At the Yiddish America Sings concert, Cole was abetted by Michael Mandel in a program of songs written by Yiddish composers in America, drawn from their European experience. One of them, for example, *A Yiddishe Mama*, by Jack Yellen and Lou Pollack proved so popular that it crossed the Atlantic and was being sung in Warsaw prior to the Nazi regime.

The instrumental numbers by violinist Anne Lederman and accordionist Sasha Luminsky were rousing renditions of folk tunes salvaged from old scores and had the audience clapping hands to the music.

Avra Fainer

Initiated by a grant of $5,000 from the UJA Federation committee on Jewish continuity, the Yiddishland Cafe has so far held eight sold-out concerts, with waiting lists for each.

Coordinator Henia Reinhartz is expecting an even bigger crowd for their next Cafe night, Aug. 17, featuring British Jewish comedian Bernard Mendelovitch. For information phone 416-787-4634 or 416-787-2081.

Film will explore Russian-Jewish odyssey

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A third-generation Canadian physician and a Russian immigrant engineer, both of whose grandparents lived only 100 kilometres apart in White Russia (now Belarus), are planning to make a film together.

Dr. Jack Micay, 48, formerly of Winnipeg, and Yosif Feyginberger, 50, are working on the film, *Beyond the Pale: The Russian-Jewish Odyssey*.

Micay's grandfather, Morris Micanofsky, came to Winnipeg in 1905 from Propoish in the Mogilev region of Belarus, while Feyginberger's grandparents lived in Bobruish in the same region and lived through the epochal Russian revolution.

Both forebears were from small shtetls in the Pale of Settlement, a centre of world Judaism where most Jews were confined at the time. The area had some five million Jews in 1897.

But what a difference in the lives of those who grew up here and those who remained in Russia.

How these two worlds have fared since the exodus of Jews from Russia is at the heart of *Beyond the Pale*. One of the subjects to be touched upon is the relationship between the 30,000-member Russian Jewish community and the mainstream Jewish community in

[Cont'd. on page 32]

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Travel, Arts & Business

Shabbat in a church — where but in New York?

By JOEL CEAUSU
Special to The CJN

NEW YORK CITY — On my first visit to New York City, I felt a rush of delight strolling the streets of Manhattan, knowing that many who walked past me were fellow Jews.

This was particularly gratifying, given that my experience of our community at home in Montreal, is of an often-beleaguered, dwindling and rapidly aging population.

My Jewish experience of New York began when we headed for an old synagogue where friends had recently donated a Torah with great hoopla and celebration.

Shaary Torah is an Orthodox congregation in a crumbling old building on Hampton Avenue in Brooklyn. As you walked up the narrow, creaking stairs of the side entrance, you emerged into a musty room that smelled of fresh paint. Recent attempts at yet to be completed renovations were evident, plaster patches were more abundant than congregants and chairs and small tables were scattered about.

Ten people were there, mostly old men who seemed to bask in the glow of synagogue services, the delightful weather and the appearance of a few young Jewish boys from Montreal. The siddurim showed signs of wear and tear — a testament to use and timeless devotion rather than to neglect. Prayers were said while little kids played outside on the pavement.

After the services, the rabbi sat down and in a thick Brooklyn-accented Yiddish, delighted us with a talmudic parable that had us captivated and chuckling. I walked out feeling a sense of closeness with this shul, even though it was geographically, generationally and spiritually miles away from where I hang my hat.

Our next stop on the Jewish trail took us from one extreme to the other. The Reform congregation of B'nai Jeshurun is housed in St. Paul and St. Andrew's United Methodist Church on West 88th St. in the Upper West side, a few blocks from Central Park.

Our host for the evening explained, albeit somewhat confusedly that the congregation had fallen short of building dollars and/or space, but I'm still unclear as to why the shul is in a church. I sensed that this would be no ordinary Friday night service.

What was most striking is hard to say. Ushered into the balcony by actual ushers, I immediately spotted the large banner suspended from the tall, ornate ceiling, extolling the virtues of "brother and sister together." A thousand or so people filled the building with the hum and buzz of Friday evening banter and laughter. Large stone angels lining the walls caught my eye, as did the small crosses on the back wall, ineffectively hidden by the gargantuan banner.

I've seen men and women praying at shul, but I never saw so many women wearing yarmulkes and davening next to their husbands and fathers.

Organ music and a choir set the tone for the evening. Every prayer was accompanied by upbeat melodies with hundreds of people, men and women, young and old, dancing in the aisles, arm in arm. The prayers and Psalms were read in Hebrew with an almost immediate English translation.

I could deal with the dancing, singing and maybe even the angels, but with my background, the Kaddish sung to organ music and choir vocals made me uncomfortable.

We later got into a heated discussion with our host about the propriety of it all. I came away unsure as to my feelings, but I do applaud the notion of an inclusive denomination, where women and men pray and feel Jewish together. And it's nice to see a thousand or so Jews, generations of families side-by-side, singing and dancing together.

Upon leaving, I noticed that the synagogue services were announced and displayed in the church's original glass case outside the building! Where else but New York?

Another sight that held me awestruck was the Garment Centre, where I came upon a bronze statue on the massive, expansive sidewalk at Seventh Avenue and 39th Street.

There, amid the din, the street noise, the action and the bustle of commerce, sat the Old Man at a sewing machine, face stolid, kippah on his head. Here was a symbol of the Jewish contribution to the city and the world, eloquently and tastefully conceived.

Workers take their breaks at his feet; weary shoppers, strollers and tourists rest beneath his vigilant labor. It was quite remarkable.

A Jewish odyssey

[Cont'd. from page 31]

Toronto.

Micay and Feyginberger met in Toronto by accident, and their mutual interest in film and in the Russian-Jewish odyssey led to their work on *Beyond the Pale*.

"We hope to raise about $200,000 in the community to make the film, a one-hour documentary, to air on a Canadian TV channel, probably in 1998," said Feyginberger.

More information is available from Micay at 416-977-0569.

Micay, who spends more time on filmmaking than in his medical practice, has already won major awards for his work (among other projects, he does science films for teenagers).

Feyginberger, a consultant on power generating technology, made a 13-minute video, *Biography of a Revival*, on the Toronto Russian-Jewish community. The film aired in May 1996.

Micay's father, Nathan, died in 1984, and though blind, ran a successful sporting goods business, Athletes Wear, in Winnipeg. His mother, Fay Park-Micay, who has remarried, lives in Winnipeg.

"My father corresponded with cousins in the Soviet Union during the 1970s and 1980s and tried to bring them to Canada, but the grandfather didn't want to come and later he died. We continue to correspond with the family," said Micay.

Efforts to reunite the far-flung branches of the family succeeded in 1990 when three generations of related Micanofskys came from Russia to settle in Winnipeg.

Micay's grandmother, Rachel Lockshin, has numerous descendants in Toronto. A Lockshin-Micanofsky family reunion in Winnipeg last summer attracted 150, and the next one is planned for Toronto in 1999.

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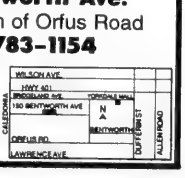

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Israelis develop new way to diagnose tumors

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS —Scientists from Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science have developed a new way of diagnosing breast tumors that could someday replace painful and invasive biopsies.

A team has made significant improvements in the use of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in order to distinguish between benign and malignant tumors, predict the prognosis of breast cancer and judge the effectiveness of therapy.

"The method has been tested on mice in which a human breast tumor has been implanted," said the research team's lead scientist, Hadassa Degani, in an interview in Paris, where she is on sabbatical doing research at the Pasteur Institute. "The information is very detailed and allows total diagnosis."

The method consists of injecting a contrasting agent, or dye, into the patient's bloodstream, and using MRI to monitor how the dye moves into the tumor and is distributed through the tumor tissue.

Monitoring the movement of the contrasting agent allows two criteria to be measured: the vascularity, or porosity, of the blood vessels in the tumor, and the space between the cells.

Because these criteria tend to differ in benign and malignant tumors, monitoring them makes a diagnosis possible.

In fibroadenoma, the most common type of benign breast tumor, blood vessels that feed the tumor are fewer and less porous. Blood vessels in malignant tumors tend to be more numerous and permeable, and the space between the cells smaller.

Using MRI is also more effective than a needle biopsy in that it shows the entire tumor, which would otherwise require radical surgery, Degani said.

"It's not painful, it's not surgery," said Degani, who was trained as a chemist, but began doing breast cancer research in 1985.

"It would definitely help women psychologically if the type of cancer they have can be determined without a long wait for the result."

Degani's team of doctoral students at Weizmann and radiologists from Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical Centre were able to use the method to diagnose breast tumors on 18 women, eight of whom had fibroadenoma and 10 had malignant tumors.

"To what extent it would really reduce the number of biopsies and provide reliable prognosis has yet to be determined," Degani said.

"A statistical study now has to be obtained with clinical trials. My goal now is to find the means to conduct clinical trials.

"My country is small," she said, explaining that a larger sample of people was necessary. Even if we can reduce by one half the number of biopsies, that would be a lot."

Degani said the method can be used on other organs, possibly even for brain tumors, and is being tested on kidney and liver transplants.

Genetic screening reduces incidence of Tay-Sachs

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The incidence in Quebec of Tay-Sachs, a fatal hereditary disease found almost exclusively among Jews of Eastern European descent, has fallen by 90 percent over the last 25 years, an outcome attributed mainly to the Montreal Children's Hospital (MCH) widespread genetic screening program in high schools.

In a recent article in the *American Journal of Human Genetics*, the MCH team reports that, since the program's inception in 1972, only one Ashkenazi child has been born with the disease in Montreal, and that was to a couple who had not been screened.

Three other Tay-Sachs cases have been reported in the province, all among a small French-Canadian community in the Lac St. Jean region, where a mutation is found, and to untested parents.

Montreal is the only city with a systematic screening program in Jewish high schools and public ones with large concentrations of students. The high proportion of Jewish children attending day schools and the concentration of Jews in certain neighborhoods, and thus in certain public schools, has made it easier to reach most of the targeted population.

The MCH recorded similar results in its screening for B-thalassemia, a hereditary disease found chiefly among those of Greek and Italian origin, but also Sephardi Jews.

Between 1972-92, the MCH screened 14,844 senior high school students of Ashkenazi origin, and identified 521 carriers, or 1:28. (The general frequency is given as 1:27 among Ashkenazim.) Participation is entirely voluntary. The MCH figures that 89 percent of the target population over this time took part in the educational component of the program, of whom 67 percent took part in the subsequent screening. The results are given confidentially to the students.

"From demographic data, we deduce that virtually all the carriers identified in the high school screening program remembered their status, had their partner tested if they did not already know they were a carrier couple, and took up the options for reproductive counseling/prenatal diagnosis," the authors state.

They note that today all couples seeking prenatal diagnosis for Tay-Sachs discovered their status in the screening program when in high school, while at the beginning of the program, it was always because there was a family history of the disease.

The program goes to nearly all the schools affiliated with the Association of Jewish Day Schools, and those under the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal, which have high concentrations of Jewish students.

Montreal's screening program is unique in its outreach to senior high school students, 16 years of age. It was introduced shortly after prenatal diagnosis was available in Quebec for Tay-Sachs, with the cooperation of the Jewish community. The programs are reviewed and approved by the school administrations and parent-teacher committees.

The only schools not participating are a few in the ultra-Orthodox communities, which make use of a New York-based screening program. The MCH estimates that it finds 59 percent of carriers in the total number of Ashkenazim in the target age group.

All students at each school are invited to the initial education session, which covers an introduction to genetic principles; an overview of recessive genetic diseases, like Tay-Sachs, as well as B-thalassemia, sickle cell anemia and cystic fibrosis; and an "objective" description of Tay-Sachs.

The following week, the student must decide whether to get tested by taking a blood sample. A form must be signed by both the student and a parent to participate.

The result is reported directly and only to the student in writing, with a signed letter of interpretation. Carriers are contacted later by telephone to offer further explanation.

In the 20-year period the journal article focuses on, 10 carrier couples detected by screening sought prenatal diagnosis. They had 15 pregnancies, all monitored for an affected fetus. Three afflicted fetuses were aborted and 12 healthy babies were born.

The article acknowledges that there have been concerns about genetic screening in high schools, but the findings show that carriers are not stigmatized by the knowledge and find the information helpful.

The article was written by Dr. Charles Scriver, who initiated the screening program, and three other members of the MCH Research Institute.

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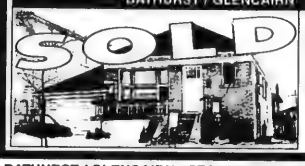

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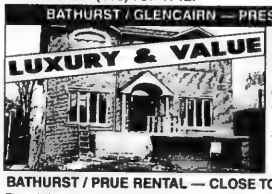

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Custom-built, luxurious upgrades throughout, exquisite finishes, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge rosewood-panelled family room, prestigious location. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712 for details on this very special home!

Forest Hill

Real Estate Inc. Realtor

(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

BATHURST/HEATH – JUST $599K
Gorgeous 5 bdrm. stucco home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

A-1 LOCATION! HAZELTON BLOOR BAY
Open concept 7/rm., gar/pr/dr. Goldie Kay* 226-1987

UPPER FOREST HILL VILLAGE
4 bdrms., 4 baths, den, w/o to garden. G. Mitchell* 488-2875

BATHURST/EGLINTON JUST $499K
Charming Tudor home, 4 bdrms., fin. bsmt. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/EGLINTON
40'x119' prime Up, SOLD le. B. Sokol*/F. Sversky** 488-2875

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/LAWRENCE
Totally renovated 1.5 storey. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

$189,000. EAST YORK-LUMSDEN
3 bdrm., 2 stry., sep. ent. to fin. bsmt., gar. J. Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS NEW RES. $1,898,000.
Stucco on crt., 4 gar., 77'x214' ft., lux. S. Bobkin*/J. Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW RIDGE $1,395,000. EXEC. BUNG.
Large lot 100'x250 SOLD ow. Mark Cowan* 226-1987

BAYVIEW & YORK MILLS $1,295,000.
Gorgeous bungalow all done. Susan Smith* 488-2875

BAYVIEW & YORK MILLS BUILT '92 – $879,000.
4100' Superbly designed fam. & lib. S. Bobkin*/J. Lerner* 226-1987

BAYVIEW/CUMMER LOTS! LOTS! LOTS!
From $325,000. - $368,000. 70'x132'. Janie Lerner* 226-1987

5 BDRM. COTTAGE IN BELLE EWERT
Breathtaking grounds $199,900. Rose Smith* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

ARNOLD AVE. – GORGEOUS 300 FT. LOT
Updated 4 bdrm. on property! Hedda Zaion – 226-1987

ATKINSON & CLARK 3 BR. DETACHED $255K
2-car garage, quiet cres! Hedda Zaion – 226-1987

THORNHILL – 1ST TIME BUYERS $204,900
The price is right! Hurry! Hedda Zaion – 226-1987

RENTAL PROPERTIES

BATHURST/EGLINTON OFFICE SPACE
750 sq. ft. All inclusive rental. R. Fitzerman* 226-1987

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

ALAN NEWTON

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

SPECTACULAR RESIDENCE "OLDE THORNHILL"
100 X 300 ft. lot, 4 car garage, tennis court, swimming pool, all the bells & whistles! Call *Saryl Spector

• • •

"OLDE THORNHILL" 100 X 300 FT. LOT!
$549K! Beautifully treed, great buy, great price! *Saryl Spector

• • •

CUSTOM BUILT HOME ON SPRING GATE
Finished basement, private lot, totally upgraded! *Cila Fleischmann or *Sarah Tamin

• • •

GREEN LANE 5 BDRM HOME
New listing! Large lot, 5 bathrooms, huge living & dining rooms, interlock, extra cupboards ++. Call *Saryl Spector

• • •

SPRING FARM BEAUTY - REDUCED TO SELL!
Fabulous 3+2 bdrm., large kitchen with extra pantry, prof. finished basement, open concept. *Carey Rosenzweig

• • •

BAYVIEW-GREEN LANE - GREAT STARTER!
Stunning 3 bdrm. semi, mod. white kitchen with 2 pantries, finished basement, $239,900! *Neil Bocknek

• • •

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

CLARK & HILDA "THE CONSERVATORY"
Sunny & bright unit, open concept. Call *Sarah Rovet

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES LARGE 3 BEDROOM MUST SELL - VACANT - $209,900
Great location, best view, 2 baths, low maintenance fee, huge kit. & solarium. **Berta Kogan (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES - HUGE 3 BDRM. + BALCONY
$169,900! Hardwood, balcony, 2 baths, 2 prkg. locker, sunny view, motivated! **Berta Kogan (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248

• • •

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(905) 764-7200

BATHURST/SHEPPARD - Condo Apartment $159,000. 2 bdrm. + den, 2 washrooms. Spectacular Ravine view!!
BATHURST/MILNER - Great family home!!! $295,000.00, 2 storey, 4 bdrm. + family room, main fl. powder & laundry rms., finished bsmt.
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HomeLife/Partners Realty Inc.

RUTH HALPERIN

Sales Representative

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Avenue/Lawrence-Hot!Hot!Hot!

a) **556 Cranbrooke Ave. - Reduced $40,000!**
Now $689,000 - Special 4 BR home, gorgeous Snaidero kit., magnificent "Great Room" walks-out to magical garden, too many extras to list!
b) **Oasis in the City - Kimbark/Otter area! - Reduced $40,000!**
Now $389,900 - Wonderful 5 BR., 4 BA., m.f. fam. rm. & powder rm. reno'd kit., ensuite bath, deep beautiful lot, sep. ent. to bsmt., incredible value!
c) **Luxury Condo - Bedford Glen!**
$236,900 - Brand new kit. & brodloom, 2 BR. plus den, 2 BA., all on one level! 2 pkg., ens. ldry. - overlooks glonous gardens!

Hogg's Hollow - Yonge/York Mills!
Dream Home - Private Hideaway!
$699,000 - Exquisite 4 BR., all "done", lush green surroundings, gorgeous "En Provence" garden w/hot tub - must be seen!

Bayview Sheppard - "Healthy" New Home!
$548,800 - Finest quality brand new 4 BR. home on sunny south lot, great treed street, fab. kit. with granite counters, all the "I wants", bright fin. bsmt. with walk-out! Value++!

Leslie/Sheppard - Builder's own home!
$598,000 - Newer 4 BR. home, grand entrance with circular drive, huge rooms, newly fin. apt. in bsmt., m. f. fam. rm. & den, double garage!

RE/MAX Ultimate Realty Inc. Realtor

(416) 487-5131
24 hour pager

HELEN WINER

Sales Representative

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

(905) 764-7200

THORNHILL -4 bedrooms & family room, double garage, finished basement on Spring Gate Blvd. Shows beautifully, **$319,000.**
BATH/CARVILLE -Immaculate 4 bedrooms, hardwood, ceramics, large kitchen, only **$339,900.**
CLARK/HILDA (Conservatory) - 2 bedroom condo, 2 parking spots & locker. + ensuite locker, **$199,000.**
AND A GREAT SELECTION OF OTHER FINE HOMES & CONDOS TO CHOOSE FROM

LARNELL

REAL ESTATE LIMITED

Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

• **BATHURST MANOR** - $189,000. Ind. semi-detached home, c/a, 3 bths (1 on main), fin. bsmt. SOLD Must sell!

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

HK
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• REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR •

Celebrating our 40th Year!

LAKE SIMCOE - YEAR ROUND RETREAT!
$174,900 - 2 sty. 4 bdrms., 3 baths, fireplace, fenced in for privacy, backs onto golf course. Make an offer! **C. Lazer***

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
1818 Bayview Ave! $230,900! Lux. 1095' 2 bdrm, 2 bath. Large terrace overlooks fab. panoramic views! 10+++

YONGE/SHEPPARD - HOME & OFFICE or IN-LAW SUITE
$295K,1.5 sty, steps to Yonge subway, 50'x117' lot. 3-4 pc. w/r, CA, garage, priv. dr., lovely garden. **Gert Kerbel***

BATHURST/WILSON- 4 BEDROOM
Large family home with side entrance to fin. bsmt., 3 bath & double car garage. Call **A. Shulman*** & **A. Axler***

BIG BAY POINT – SANDY BEACH!
Year round masterpiece, 4 bdrms & loft, overlooks fab. view, skylites, 2 fireplaces, $499,000 - Must see! **Carole Lazer***

1ST AD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
596 St. Clements! $599K! Oversized 4+2 bdrm., 4 bath, mn. flr. fam. & lib., O/L's spectacular 50'x125' lot! Fab. loc

CALL CHAIM* FOR AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE
Land value or custom built $350K-$899K up to 4225 sq. ft. **Just Listed -** 1 Otter Cres. - Duplex backs onto ravine. 476 Bedford Park 3200 sq. ft. **Just Reduced** 5 bdrm., 5 bath.

MORE AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE
65 Marmion 2900 sq. ft. - choose layout & finishes $649K
483 Cranbrooke - 45' south lot - 3450 sq. ft. choose finishes
530 Castlefield - choose layout & finishes. **Chaim Talpalar***

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to "Turning Point Charity" supporting Homeless Youth.

(416) 441-2888 www.harveykalles.com

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

YONGE/YORK MILLS FAB. CONDO
2 bedroom, 2 baths, balcony plus world class amenities. Valet parking and security.
MARILYN FELDMAN
229-4454
Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

3000 Bathurst St., 1 bdrm + den, 5 appls, cac, cable, pkg, 24 hr secur, sabbath elev, avail imme.$1000/mo. 905-780-0685

Bath./Baycrest, 2 bdrms, 1 1/2 bths, 2 balcs, a/c, dshwshr, avail. Aug. 1st, $980. 739-8210

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp,spac. condo, furn, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg. balc, pool, pkg, $950. inclusive. 416-444-4813.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Clanton Pk., 1 bdrm, bright bsmt, TTC, own entr, no smkr/pets. 416-633-5406.

Bathurst/Wilson.1 bdrm bsmt. Clean, no smoking. 787-8779.

Bright, sunny 1 bdrm. apt. avail. for rent. Bath./Shepp. Call 635-5031.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bathurst/Finch, in 2 bdrm. apt. Furn. $400. Pkg. 416-258-7736

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Big Cedar Pt., 3 bdrm. cottage for sale/rent, priv. beach steps away, seconds from Camp Arrowhead, priv., cute, clean. 905-771-8678.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boynton Beach, prestigious c.c., dec furn, 3 br, 2 ba, 2 cg, fam rm, enc patio, villa, golf/tennis, eq. avail. 561-364-5698.

WEST PALM BEACH
"LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT"
Luxury condo, consulate, magnificent 3 bdrm., spectacular lake & ocean views, reduced for quick sale, $289,000.
Fran (561) 689-9698.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

West Palm Beach
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT
Large selection of 1,2, and 3 bedroom condos, townhomes and villas.
WE HAVE THEM ALL!
Call or write for further information.
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200 OFFICE SPACE

Office Space for rent. Bathurst/Sheppard. (Day) 633-2797 or (Evg.) 284-0477

217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES

Hair Salon. Great Rent/Potential. Bathurst/Sheppard. (Day) 633-2797, (Evg.) 284-0477.

235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Investors!
If you have $10,000-$25,000 U.S. or more for short term investments you can earn up to 30% daily profits and on some days up to 100% or more, virtually without risk within about 1 year. For further info. call Mr. Solnik, 416-781-1337.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Orthodox Synagogue in London, Ontario, Canada seeks a Rabbi. Beautiful, mid-sized city features mikveh, eruv & community day school. Send cover letter and c.v., including 3 refs. to: Philip Weinstein, Chair, Rabbinic Search Committee, Congregation Beth Tefilah, fax: 519-433-5504.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Bookkeeper/Secretary, exper. individual with strong organ., communication & inter-personal skills for permanent job at Thornhill Reform Synagogue. Knowledge of Word, Excel & AccPac essential. Fax Executive Director at 905-889-2258.

Sec./Rec., req'd. P/T for Israel-based National fundraising organization. Computer skills essential, team player, strong organiz. skills, able to handle multiple tasks. North York location. **Fax résumé: 416-665-8055.**

SALES MANAGER
El Al Israel Airlines is seeking a dynamic **SALES MANAGER**. The successful candidate must be a university graduate with industry experience and management skills. Excellent interpersonal & communication skills. Must be computer literate and be proficient with Microsoft Office and have knowledge of the Hebrew language. Please fax resume to 416-967-1643. (only those selected for interview will be contacted).

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

***Golden Care has qualified & exper. live-in/out help for seniors,HCA's RN's, cleaners. Bonded, refs. Good rates. 416-665-4229.**

Cleaning lady avail. Mon.-Sun. at afford. rates. Call 656-5345.

Cleaning lady with experience and references. 231-3028.

Exper. honest & reliable cleaning lady avail. immed. Call Adriana at 416-245-3402.

Experienced homemaker or HCA looking for work with the elderly. 416-240-8068.

Genuine care for elderly or children. Housesitter, housekeeper, cook, nursing, live-in. Ref. AAA. 635-8212.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

HOME PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL
- Nannies • Homemakers
- Elderly Companions
- References thoroughly verified
- Proven reliability
- Educated care givers
- Training/workshops/seminars

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APPLE DOMESTICS
- No Fee to Employer
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

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DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

MARLA'S DOMESTICS
RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

Companion to an elderly person, refs...exper. 245-7636.

EC Access Employ. Agency
(filipino owned & operated)
Low fee/nanny/housekeeper
Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

Housekeeper employed at present, requires home for herself & 11 yr old daughter. Companionship, light housekeeping and some meal preparation. Exc. References. 416-247-5430

Lady with experience looking for cleaning job. Call 743-7407, or pgr. 381-4792.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee to employer.. **Excellent Placement Agency. 222-4912.**

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs.416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Perfectionist will clean 1 day a week. Reliable. Carla 747-5384.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Mature, very resp. teenager wanted to help care for 2 small children in cottage country, July 27 - Aug. 12. 416-638-1278.

Need Nanny. Loving care & exp. a must. Call 787-3307 after 6pm only.

258 HEALTHCARE

HCA activation therapy & gerintology certif., will take care of the elderly, in-home or inst., live-out, refs. 633-8011, Kate.

259 SENIORS

Mature, reliable lady with many years exp. & exc. refs. seeks job to care for elderly, FT/PT or babysitting. 256-7087

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

SANDRA ROTH (BOTNICK)
Associate Broker
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
782-0598/787-7151

5 "SPECIAL" Reasons to buy in Belle Ewart

Magnificent 104' Lakefront - dbl. lot, 4 bdrm-cottage, concrete breakfront, boathouse – **$469,000**
2 Adjacent Lakefronts - 62.5' each (total 125'), near shul, quiet street, motivated vendor- **$259,000 each**
Indirect Lakefront - Plus 214'. Great 4 bdrm. cottage - **$144,700.**
Across from Lake - 3 bdrm. on 75' lot, well maintained. **$125,000**

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST-WILSON REDUCED
2 storey, 3 bdrm., 2 bths., mod. kit., fin. bsmnt., 55'x125' lot, don't miss!!

FINCH-DUFFERIN - JUST LISTED
2 storey, 3 bdrm., 2 bths., liv. & din. comb., fin. bsmnt. SOLD

WILMINGTON-OVERBROOK
$269,000. 3 bdrm. + den, kit. w/walk-out to yard, liv. & din. comb., 2 bths, dble drive gar., steps to all.

BATHURST-WILSON $248,800
Store & apt., busy location, great potential!

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

BATHURST - ANTIBES
2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, large wrap-around balcony. $148,777. SOLD

BATHURST/MIRANDA
Executive home - a real gem! 4300 sq. ft. sheer beauty.

BAYCREST - BATHURST
Handymans delight. Just listed - 5 bedroom sidesplit, 4 baths, 2 kitchens. SOLD

BAYCREST/CLARK
$225,000 Just listed. 3 bedroom, 3 baths, finished basement, large kitchen, garage, walk to Promenade Mall.

SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

GO NORTH! JUST 55 MINUTES FROM TORONTO! COTTAGES! BELLE EWART!
Two separate side-by-side waterfront cottages, lots totalling 125' x 240', very quiet street, short walk to synagogue, motivated vendors! Buy one or both!

AVENUE ROAD / BROOKE
Newly built 3 bdrm. back-split on generous 45' x 130' lot, self-contained in-law suite, large kitchen. Close to all amenities.

Call **Jacob Florans,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bathurst/Baycrest, lrg. lot, 3 bdrm bungalow, fin. bsmt, w/o deck. **Private.** (416) 782-1984.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Gideon Waichenberg
(416) 520-5700
Re/Max Ventures Realty Corp.

Free List sent to you of **Homes & Condos** available in **North York & Thornhill.**
(Photos & Prices included)

Bath./Finch, Savoy, cornr, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bths, whirlpl, marble,extras galore! 736-8007

ANITA LATNER

SUNRISES/SUNSETS to die for! Rambling 6 bdrm., 3-t/p/., hot-tub, skylts., 2-slip BH., 230' Sparrow Lk Pt. $519K.

UP YOUR SCALE in this custom cedar 4-bdrm + nanny rm. Cathedral ceiling, skylts. Lk. Muskoka $395K.

'YE OLDE LOG' 3-bdrm., BH/deck atop, Lk. Muskoka water-ski bay $249K.

1070' Lk. Muskoka /26 acre estate lot. $395K.

4-BDRM. yr'rnd, grey cedar/ 195' Healey Lk. $229K.

MUSKOKA COTTAGE LINE
705-687-2879

140' gorgeous waterfront lot. 4 miles south of Orillia. Ready for building. Asking $269,000. 905-527-4557 or 905-627-0303.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Jerusalem Time Share. Sheraton Four Points, kosher hotel, furn 2 rms, 2 bths, kitchenette, 4 wks., commencing Aug. 24/97. $1,000./wk. U.S. or Sale $29,9K U.S. 905-731-9664.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

HOODSTOWN SHORES ON LAKE VERNON
Beautiful 1 acre, 200' waterfront lots from $99,900 to $119,000. Gently sloping well treed lots. Year round paved road.
Please call **Veronika V. Seidl,** *Broker*
VVS Realty Ltd., *Broker* **905 - 430-3893**

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

1 match can light a fire! At least 1engagement/mo.Bringing People Together 905-731-5204

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1390** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**. 483-4151

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Attr, tall, athletic, prof. male, 38, seeks female for serious relationship. 633-1728.*

Cultured independant widow, slim 63 yrs, used to finer things in life, looking for decent gentleman age 60-73. CJN Box 6937.

Hello, I'm a 56 yr. old professional Jewish woman with European background, looking to meet someone early 50s - early 60s, who's interested in living life to its fullest. I'm slim, extremely attractive & ready to give myself a second chance at romance. Keep in mind that good things are worth working for. Looking forward to your response. CJN Box 6940.

If U R a JF, under 5'4", happy, fun loving, sincere & traditionally Jewish, then I may be the man for you. I'm a secure, 57 yr. old DJM, seeking the above for friendship & possible relationship. CJN Box 6918.

Portnoy's....SJM, 33, 5'8", 165 lbs., B.A., fit, n/smkr, sushi, cinema, music, coffee, dog loving, sardonic non-vegetarian, considered attr., seeking indep. fit female, for casual dating, friendship, maybe more! Photo apprec. CJN Box 6943.

Single, prof. gentleman, 45, 160 lbs., 5' 8", seeks female, 35-43, slim, petite, no dependents. Spontaneity & sense of humour a must for a serious relationship. CJN Box 6935

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jewish Couples Bowling League. Bowling every other Saturday night (starts September '97) is looking for new couples age 35-50. **Call 905-731-9269**

330 OBITUARIES

SILBERMAN, Elizabeth - on June 2, 1997.
GOLDENBERG, Ottilia - on June 2, 1997.
STANSFIELD, Stephen - on June 27, 1997.

The Simple Alternative®

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
This ad courtesy of "Canada Games Company Limited"

DAVIS, Minerva - on June 18, 1997, late of 10 Lamport Ave., #405.
MALARZUK, Eva - on June 19, 1997, late of 333 Abekor Street, #1.
PACHTMANN, Anna - on June 20, 1997, late of 33 Wilmington Avenue.
DAVIS, Irving - on June 20, 1997, late of 1555 Finch Ave. East, #2107.
KOHL, Abraham - on June 21, 1997, late of 100 Antibes Dr., #1806.
PLESS, Michael - on June 21, 1997, late of 4 Goldfinch Court, #403.
FINKELSTEIN, Anita - on June 21, 1997, late of 25 Cedarcroft Blvd., #301.
GROSSMAN, Larry - on June 22, 1997, late of 649 Spadina Road.
TABACHNICK, Rubin - on June 22, 1997, late of 396 Avenue Road, #314.
GARBER, Myer - on June 22, 1997, late of 100 Antibes Drive.
GREENBERG, Sylvia - on June 24, 1997, late of 1 Canyon Avenue, #801.
SAVA, Hinda - on June 25, 1997, late of 6250 Bathurst Street, #323.
SUSSMAN, Joseph - on June 25, 1997, late of 370 Ridelle Avenue, #504.
ROBINS, Tillie - on June 25, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Avenue, #320.
ZELIKOVITZ, Bill - on June 25, 1997, late of 578 Paris Street.
ZEGMAN, Shimon - on June 25, 1997, late of 222 Torresdale Avenue.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

KOCHEROV, Mary Goldie - on June 23, 1997.
WALL, Jack Arthur - on June 24, 1997, late of 6200 Bathurst St.
KIPPER, Isaac - on June 25, 1997, late of 203 Faywood Blvd.
SOCKET, Morris - on June 25, 1997.
RITTNER, Milo - on June 25, 1997, late of 6030 Bathurst St.
LEVY, Lillian (PRAGER) - on June 26, 1997, late of 48 Forest Hill Rd.
HAAS, Adalbert - on June 26, 1997.
LEAN, Albert - on June 26, 1997, late of 275 Bamburgh Crescent.
EICHLER, (EGRI) Rabbi Akiva - on June 27, 1997, late of 120 Promenade Circle.
SOKOLOWSKI, Lola- on June 27, 1997, late of 60 Carscadden Dr.
SOROKA, Bronia - on June 28, 1997.
HIMEL, Percy - on June 28, 1997, late of 47 Kennard Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

331 MEMORIAM

William Goldfinger ז"ל
age 51
only son of
Irena
and the late
Dr. Ignacy Goldfinger
passed away suddenly in
Miami, Florida
on
May 15, 1997
Heartbroken Mother

338 SHIVA CATERING

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CATERING SERVICE
• DAIRY PLATTERS
• DELI PLATTERS
• TRADITIONAL DINNERS
• LIGHT LUNCHES
CALL US FOR YOUR
FUNERAL, SHIVA or UNVEILING NEEDS
We deliver
(416) 487-4506
Same day service - open7 days
346 Eglinton Ave. W. (at Avenue Rd.)

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Joseph Tabakman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 13th, 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section (DDD)
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

331 MEMORIAM

To commemorate the 14th anniversary of the passing of
Dr. Ignacy Goldfinger ז"ל
a memorial service will take place on
July 13th, 1997 at 1:00 p.m.
at
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Farband Section

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Dr. Adolph *(Al)* Cosiner ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 13th, at 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Sunnyside Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
OLGA *(Oci)* FELLEGI ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 20th at 11:00 .m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst Street, South of Steeles
First Narayever Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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LILLIAN CASS ז"ל — Mt. Sinai Cemetery 11:00 a.m. Shaarei Tefillah Section
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Chenstochover Aid Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Morris Sayles-Salsman ז"ל
beloved father & brother
will take place
Sunday, July 13th at 11:00 a.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
YMHA Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

CLASSIFIED INDEX

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT-TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

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Junior squash star seeks Maccabiah medal

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — At age 13, Greg Hutner is a triple-threat athlete, excelling in everything from soccer to tennis to squash.

Even though tennis is his favorite game and he's won club championships in the sport, he's best at squash. He's so good at it, in fact, he recently won the Canadian Junior National Squash Championship in Edmonton, making him the number one ranked under-14 squash player in the country. On July 14, he'll try to parlay his Canadian experience into a gold medal at the Maccabiah Games in Israel, as part of Canada's 250-athlete team.

What makes Hutner's accomplishment all the more impressive is that he suffers from cystic fibrosis (CF), a condition that impairs the lungs and digestive system. Greg takes about 35 pills a day and uses an inhaler mask for 15 minutes each night to help loosen the mucous in his chest, his father, Ron, said.

Despite his illness, Greg doesn't dwell on it all. He's too busy excelling in sports and focusing on the tasks at hand. One of the skills he's developed that makes him a top squash player is his mental toughness, the ability to slough off setbacks and to look ahead.

"I try to think about the next point," he said. "I realize if I get mad, it won't help me."

Hutner entered the national championships as the number one seed based on victories at the Ottawa and District tournament and at the Toronto and District Junior Open earlier in the season. He was never really challenged in Edmonton, dispatching most opponents rather easily, said Ron, president of the Toronto chapter of the CF Foundation.

His toughest match was against Sean Hanna of Niagara Falls, who Hutner knows from previous Ontario tournaments, but he won that semi-final set three games to one.

"I guess I was really mentally focused. I played really well," he said.

Despite his national ranking, Hutner is modest to a fault. He keeps his victories close to his vest, not even telling classmates at Upper Canada College about them.

If Hutner's not willing to sing his own praises, one of his coaches, Rob Brooks, is. Greg is "quite an exceptional young man," said Brooks, coach at the Fit For Life Pine Valley Racquet Club.

"Squash demands so much discipline. Nothing comes easy. You have to have your technique and the mental aspects of the game under control. Greg has good balance and he just loves to compete," he said.

What sets Hutner apart from other, gifted athletes is his ability to stay in control of his emotions in tight situations. Other athletes are good front runners but begin to unravel when they fall behind. Not Greg, Brooks said. "He enjoys every moment of every event. He enjoys the competition."

In addition to squash and tennis, Greg plays on a select soccer team in North Toronto and he's played basketball and run track at school. His goal is to get an athletic scholarship at an Ivy League school and go on to become a teaching pro.

After the Maccabiah Games, he'll set his sights on the North American Championships in December for youngsters under 16.

Other members of the Maccabiah squash team, coached by Pat Richardson of Toronto, include: Michael Bacher, Eric Baldwin, Phil Samuel, Dan Dorsey and Robert Khan in the senior men category; Hutner and Joshua Schwartz in the junior boy division; and Elka Marcus, Tiffany Foster, Katharine Yaphe and Tays Spencer in the senior women class.

Greg Hutner receives championship trophy and medal

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Karate-ka Canadian women's champion

BY PAUL LUNGEN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Medical science is a wonderful thing, but sometimes even the best doctors get things wrong.

When she was 19, Susan Adaskin was involved in a car accident that seriously damaged her ankle. Doctors who treated her said she'd never get full movement in the ankle and that she'd always walk with a noticeable limp.

It's a good thing their crystal ball was a little cloudy that day, as Adaskin, undeterred by medical opinion, decided to try her hand at a unique form of rehabilitation. She enrolled in a karate program, seeing the martial art as a form of rehabilitation and of protection.

Fourteen years later, Adaskin has proven those doctors wrong — in spades. Not only does she have full movement in her ankle and not walk with a limp, she's turned her interest in the martial arts into the number 1 ranking for a female karate fighter in Canada.

Next week, the second degreee black belt will go for a medal at the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Adaskin, 33, has been a member of the Canadian national karate team for eight years and of the provincial team for 10 years. She won the national championship in 1996 and in 1994 was victorious at the North American Cup. In 1995, she was a member of the Canadian team that won a bronze medal at the Pan American Games and she finished seventh at the world champi onships three years ago.

When she's not representing Canada at international events, she teaches a karate class at the Bathurst Jewish Centre in north Toronto.

Adaskin, a Grade 3 teacher at Lord Roberts P.S. in Scarborough, is excited about the prospect of visiting Israel for the first time. She's already arranged to spend a Shabbat with an Orthodox family and she's looking forward to touring Jerusalem and other parts of the country.

She plans to remain in Israel after the games conclude and visit with Israeli "karate dudes" she's met at previous international competitions. She may even have to scrap with one of the karate-kas (fighters) in the ring.

Adaskin isn't quite sure what level of competition she ought to expect at the Maccabiah; so she's preparing as if it were the world championships. She practices six days a week, morning and night, for a total of about three to four hours a day.

A 128-pound middleweight, Adaskin practises Shotokan karate, a traditional Japanese discipline that is "a full-power technique where you have to be able to control [a blow] on impact so it doesn't cause injury." Light contact on the body is permitted while striking the face is a no-no that results in a penalty. A karate-ka is also penalized for hitting too hard, she said.

Despite the rules designed to limit injuries, Adaskin has had her share of mishaps. She's experienced lots of bruises and "a couple of broken toes, a broken rib. Nothing serious."

If broken bones aren't serious, what is?

Concussions, a dislocated shoulder or stitches are more serious, said Adaskin, a native of Winnipeg. "I have no scars on my face and all my bones are intact," she says with a measure of pride.

Minor injuries are a small price to pay for the benefits she derives from karate, Adaskin says. Not only does it offer her the means for self-protection, "it's more than a sport. It's a philosophy."

A devotee of the sport benefits from improved physical fitness, but also acquires self discipline, derives self-confidence and learns not to overreact to situations, she said.

If you're confronted with a dangerous or uncomfortable situation, you learn "to do only what you need to do for self-defence, without using too much power," she added.

Susan Adaskin's karate technique has made her Canada's top-ranked female fighter.

The Inside Back

Giving Orthodoxy new meaning

By HASKEL LOOKSTEIN

Twenty-five years ago the late Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik commented on the rabbinic statement that the Ten Commandments were expressed in one utterance.

What our sages were suggesting, he said, was that the Jewish people received not 10 individual commandments but a Decalogue — a single, inseparable unit.

This means that we cannot accept the second tablet — the ethics, the morals and the humanity — without accepting the first tablet, the belief in God and His authority over us.

Conversely, we cannot embrace the theology and ritual of the first tablet without committing ourselves to the ethics of the second. In other words, the Ten Commandments are not a smorgasbord from which one can pick and choose as one wishes. They are one, indivisible.

The rabbi then added something, with great prescience: If Orthodoxy wants to win the hearts and minds of American Jews, it will not do so simply by being pious and attentive to ritual, to kashrut and Shabbat.

We will win over the multitudes, Soloveitchik said, only when others see that our religious commitment makes us more ethical, more moral, more humane than other people.

If we fail to do this, he concluded, all the shuls and yeshivot will not help us. How disturbingly true his words have turned out to be.

Synagogues in America are full, yeshivot and day schools are jammed to capacity, and in September thousands will celebrate the completion of a seven-year cycle of daily Talmud study.

And yet, because of the moral and ethical turpitude of a few, we Orthodox Jews are alienating the masses of Americans — Jews and non-Jews.

The term Orthodox and all that it stands for has lately been so besmirched and sullied that when most people hear the word Orthodox, the image that comes to their minds is not "pious" and "God-fearing", but "crooked", "violent," "intolerant," and "coercive."

Hardly a day goes by without the media gloating over another moral scandal involving Orthodox Jews.

Have some of us forgotten that theft is as much a part of the Ten Commandants as Shabbat observance? Is it more important to be scrupulous about the reliability of an eruv in an Orthodox community than about the illegal use of government funds by Orthodox institutions?

And is there any good reason for being more careful about what goes into our mouths than about what comes out of them?

Could anything possibly justify ostensibly religious Jews, themselves coming to pray at the Kotel, spitting at fellow Jews holding an egalitarian service at the back of the Western Wall plaza? Could anything justify Jews calling other Jews heretics and Nazis, yelling "because of you, six million Jews died," "Go back to Rome," "Go back to Germany" and "Filth of Israel"?

The late Yehuda Getz, rabbi of the Kotel, ran to the scene of another riot some years ago, stopped the violence and exclaimed: "This Wall belongs to everybody: men and women, religious and nonreligious, Jews and Gentiles, as it is written "For My house shall be a house of prayer for all peoples."

How sad that his successor, instead of rebuking the haredi mob, asserted that the victims "got what they wanted."

Whenever and wherever haredi mob action manifests itself, it is vital that the community's leaders denounce it firmly and warn their constituents against any repetition.

It is no less essential for all Orthodox mainstream organizations to emphasize, that hateful conduct by one Jew toward another will simply not be tolerated, and stress that respect and restraint are fundamental attributes of the religious personality.

Rabbi Soloveitchik probably never envisioned the baseless hatred that is tearing us apart at present.

But he understood that if Orthodox Jews want to win friends and influence people, they will ultimately do so only by living according to the highest standards of morality, ethics and human decency.

They will only do so when the term Orthodox is a source of pride and inspiration instead of — God forbid — a label that can evoke disgust among others and shame among ourselves.

Haskel Lookstein, spiritual leader of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun and principal of the Ramaz School in Manhattan, is a member of the Orthodox Caucus.

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Mix all ingredients together 1/2 hour before serving. Yield: 8-10 servings.

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

About Life

Dear Ella,

I hate to be a stick in the mud, but I have a real problem when it comes to jokes about different races of people and jokes making fun of people with illnesses or disabilities.

It seems to me that every time I hear a joke, it's either about sex or about a Jew, an Italian or a Polish person, or about a person with Alzheimer disease or AIDS. I'm sure you get the gist.

I don't feel comfortable stopping the joke, especially if it is being told to a group of people; however, it really makes my skin crawl and I leave thinking that if I only had the nerve, I should have said something.

You see Ella, my mother has Alzheimer and it really isn't very funny at all.

Do you have any suggestions as to how I might avoid listening to these jokes?

Not Amused

Dear Not Amused,

I think that if we all stopped to think about some of these jokes, we would realize how distasteful and derogatory they are. They are even damaging. Most people have heard jokes of this nature and have become desensitized to the effect they have on others. Although most people think of themselves as accepting of others, through these jokes they are reinforcing stereotypical impressions that may be very hurtful.

The people telling these jokes are not necessarily bad people. They are simply unaware of the damage and bad feelings these jokes can cause. I'm sure many people who are offended laugh along to avoid confrontation and being thought of as a prude with no sense of humor.

Next time you find yourself listening to of one of these jokes, try saying, "I'm not comfortable with this joke" and walk away. Don't worry about how you are perceived. Believe me, you've given them food for thought.

Remember you can't change the whole world, but you can change the small part of it around you.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

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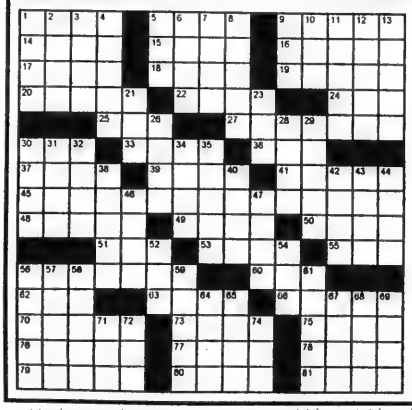

Across

1. Paschal
5. Scientist with 12 Down
9. Table tennis champ
14. Wiesel
15. Richard Tucker solo
16. "Never__" Kahane book
17. Chutzpa (Eng)
18. Pointers
19. Sons to Hannah
20. Nosh
22. Samson's triumphant site
24. Ithamar high priest
25. That one
27. Havdalah burning
30. Imitate Hoffman
33. Biblical fishing gear
36. White Sox Abrams
37. Plague
39. Found in Charoset
41. No Clue
45. Gangster "the Brain"
48. Shofar's sound
49. Al Jolson position
50. Seder manner
51. Offering often
53. Source for Seder shanks
55. Dike
56. Cave dwelling sect?
60. Rosten or Baeck
62. American Mossad
63. Job's trouble
66. Equipment for Chagall
70. Flocks
73. Reason for shiva
75. Identical
76. 100th of a NIS
77. Writer Ferber
78. Tu B'Shevat plantings?
79. Belief in Supreme Being
80. Observe Shabbat
81. Galilee and Dead

Down

1. Dreidel features?
2. Funt or Sherman
3. "__ 18" Uris novel
4. Greps (Eng)
5. Haifa
6. Sabin vaccine
7. Afikoman action
8. Torah commentator
9. Sculptor's style
10. Mature
11. Noah's messenger
12. Scientist with 5 Across
13. "__ Hall" Allen film
21. Oakland A's Holtzman
23. Corp.
26. Prepare clothes for funeral
28. Mama __ Elliott
29. Cohanim?
30. Seventh king
31. Reiner or Sagan
32. Actress Louise
34. Ottoman conqueror
35. Punish biblically
38. "Mr. Moto" star
40. Cholent
42. Joshua's job
43. Needed at Ellis Isle
44. Issachar city
46. Seder manner
47. Jacob grabbed Esau's at birth
52. Shamsky was one
54. Prophesize
56. Shema ender
57. Masada event
58. Avram's wife
59. Pesach dinner
61. Desert cool spots
64. Four to a dreidel
65. Minyans
67. Saks or Macy's event
68. Poet Lazarus
69. Fewer
71. Salk and Sabin
72. Bronfman to friends
74. Used his tuches

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 38.)

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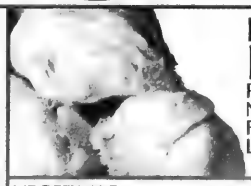

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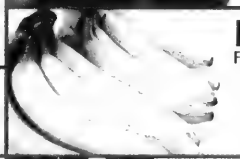

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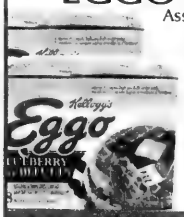

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This Week

15th Maccabiah Games

Tamara Kronis is 'flying' solo as Canada's rowing team representative. **Page 3**

Greater Toronto Area

Mazon Canada is asking for provincial tax rebates to help fight hunger. **Page 6**

A crowd of 2,000 people attend 15th annual Yiddish outdoor concert. **Page 7**

National

Jewish community leaders are angered by delays in proceedings against an alleged war criminal in Quebec. **Page 16**

Israel Day Caravan comes to Niagara Falls. **Page 19**

International

Netanyahu takes first steps to make Israel's economy self-reliant. **Page 23**

Index

15th Maccabiah Games.....3
GTA.....4
Editorials and Letters.....8
Perspectives.....9
Opinions.....10
The Kirshner File.....11
Jewish Life.....12
What's New.....14
Coast to Coast.....16
On Campus.....20
International.....21
Just Between Us.....24
Health.....25
Travel, Arts and Business.....27
Classified.....30
Sports.....34
Crossword.....35
Ask Jesse.....35

Shabbat: Balak
Candlelighting: 8:35
Tammuz 13, 5757
Havdalah: 9:40

NATO expansion welcomed

East European democracy strengthened

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

STRASBOURG, France — Is there a Jewish stake in the expansion of the North American Treaty Organization (NATO)?

Jewish leaders from Eastern and Central Europe see the expansion as a way of anchoring their countries within the West, strengthening overall democratic development and providing a more secure base for a viable Jewish future.

"With membership in NATO and especially with [eventual] membership in the European Union, people will be able to migrate freely, and I think Jews would settle here, and our population would grow," Tomas Kraus, executive director of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic, said in an interview.

Analysis

"We expect that after the enlargement of NATO, we will get new immigration from the former Soviet Union," he said.

Those Jews "are seeking not only political refuge, but higher economic standards," Kraus said. "They'll settle in our country, knowing that it is militarily secure from the Russians and economically stable."

Meeting in Madrid last week, leaders of the NATO countries officially invited the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland to become the first wave of former Soviet bloc states to join the western defence alliance.

Some 4,000 Jews live in the Czech Republic, as many as 100,000 Jews live in Hungary and 10,000 or more live in Poland.

Further eastern expansion of NATO is expected.

The expansion, less than a decade after the collapse of communism, formally erases the Cold War's East-West divide.

It creates a broader, more seamless European landscape and verifies former Eastern-bloc states as members of the European political mainstream.

"It's a sort of confirmation of our identity, of being a part of what we always felt a part of, and were rarely recognized as," Michael Zantovsky, a leading Czech political figure who is of Jewish background, told the Associated Press.

The move has parallel ramifications for Jews.

Since the collapse of communism, a renaissance of Jewish life has taken root in countries throughout the former Soviet bloc states.

Continued on page 22

ONE ON ONE WITH THE RABBI

Former NBA star Kareem Abdul Jabaar receives a gift of a framed wall clock from Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau during a recent visit to Israel. Jabaar met with the rabbi at the urging of a friend who helped liberate the survivors from Buchenwald, where Lau was an inmate during WWII.

[RNS/Reuters photo]

Kim Campbell co-authors play on Holocaust

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Former prime minister Kim Campbell, now Canada's consul general in Los Angeles, has continued to demonstrate her interest in things Jewish by co-writing a musical play, entitled *Noah's Arc*.

As Campbell explains it, the work is an allegory about good, evil and the Holocaust, and raises important moral questions.

The former Tory prime minister contributed ideas and lyrics to the work, and shares credit for it with concert pianist Hershey Felder, a 29-year-old former Montrealer who divides his time between New York and Los Angeles.

While Campbell credits Felder as "the real genius" behind *Noah's Arc*, she calls her contributions those of a "dramaturge," helping to polish lyrics and clarify the overall concept.

Mainly, the concept is a rumination on the Holocaust set against the biblical tale of Noah's ark. The play's title, Campbell explained to *The CJN* in a telephone interview, is "a deliberate choice of spelling to represent the arc of a rainbow and the arc of Noah's transformation in the play."

The musical premiered as a work-in-progress last month at UCLA's Centre for the Performing Arts before a packed house that included such Hollywood heavyweights as director Norman Jewison and Arthur Hiller, president of the Academy of Motion Picture

Continued on page 24

EARLY DEADLINE

Due to Ontario's civic holiday our issue of Aug. 7 will have early ad deadlines. The classified and organizational ad deadline will be Tues., July 29 at noon. The display ad deadline will be Wed., July 30 at noon.

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We are taking a summer break. There will be no July 24 issue.

The News in Brief

CANADA

Guilty of Hate Crime

OSHAWA — Ted Beavis, a 21-year-old Courtice man, last week pleaded guilty to spreading hate literature in Oshawa, Whitby and Clarington.

Beavis was involved in distributing business card-sized leaflets and stickers from the summer of 1994 until he was arrested in October 1996. The material targeted interracial couples and people of a specific race or religion.

Beavis will be sentenced on Nov. 4 on two counts of promoting hatred and one count of conspiracy to promote hatred. A second man, Guy Carlton Mayne, 30, will stand trial in February on several charges of promoting hatred.

Karen Hayesod Posting

TORONTO — Baruch Gur, UJA Federation's emissary from Israel in Toronto, has been appointed as director general of Keren Hayesod, one of world Jewry's major fund-raising organizations. His appointment is effective October 1997.

Gur, who was the architect of Operation Exodus which has brought over 800,000 Jews from the former Soviet Union to Israel since 1989, said he believes Keren Hayesod can provide the glue that holds Jews together worldwide.

Hate on Internet

TORONTO — The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada has been granted full interested party status in the Human Rights Tribunal dealing with the complaint against Ernst Zundel's Internet Web site.

Seudah Shlishit

TORONTO — Close to 700 women last month attended a community-wide seudah shlishit held simultaneously at six different synagogues. The purpose of the event, sponsored by Emunah Women of Toronto, was to bring women together on Shabbat for Torah learning, and to tell them about the organization and its various projects in Israel.

Emunah Women provides day care services for over 10,000 children, residential schools for children from stressful home environments, high schools, trade schools, counselling services and ulpanim for new immigrants.

Participating in this event were Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation, Beth Jacob Synagogue, B'nai Torah Synagogue, Clanton Park Synagogue, Shaarei Tefillah Congregation and Torah Emeth Jewish Centre (Viewmount). Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Synagogue, had the largest attendance — over 200, but attendance exceeded expectations at all six synagogues.

ISRAEL

Housing Scandal

JERUSALEM — Israeli police are probing possible corruption in the sale of subsidized apartments at a Jerusalem housing project.

The claims, raised in an Israel Television report last week, alleged that up to 40 percent of the Shuafat Ridge housing project, which had been built for needy Haredi families, was sold at subsidized prices to people who were not eligible to receive assistance.

WORLD

Kristallnacht Memorial

INNSBRUCK — The ski resort town of Innsbruck in the Austrian Tyrol has erected a Kristallnacht monument thanks to a grassroots initiative by local students.

The monument, a 20-foot-tall, stylized menorah, was unveiled in June. The candles on the monument, which is located in a central Innsbruck square, will be lighted by a laser beam each year on Nov. 9 in commemoration of the Kristallnacht pogroms on that date in 1938.

Neo-Nazi Sentenced

BUDAPEST — The Budapest City Court has sentenced a Hungarian neo-Nazi leader to one year in prison for inciting racial hatred.

The judge ruled that a speech given by Albert Szabo last October to mark the 40th anniversary of the Hungarian anti-Soviet uprising went beyond the limits of freedom of speech.

In the speech, Szabo said, "Hungary will soon be handed over to the caftan-robed and kippah-wearing Zionists."

He also called for the exclusion of Jews from high-profile Hungarian political jobs.

Yeshiva U Commencement

NEW YORK — Thirty-six Canadians were among the more than 2,000 members of the class of 1997 receiving degrees at Yeshiva University's 66th annual commencement, held at Madison Square Garden.

Food Industry Scholarships

CHICAGO — The Kosher Food Distributors Association (KFDA) has awarded three $600 scholarships to Jewish day schools to be used for a student of the school's choice.

The scholarships help advance the study of Jewish life as well as general areas of education.

Among the schools selected were United Synagogue Day Schools in Toronto. The sponsoring KFDA distributor was Barney Barenholtz of Kofman-Barenholtz Foods Ltd.

Jewish Canadians invested in Order of Canada

OTTAWA — Former Canadian Jewish Congress national president Dorothy Reitman was among several Jewish Canadians appointed this month to the Order of Canada.

Governor General Romeo LeBlanc named 70 appointments to the Order, established in 1967 to recognize outstanding achievement and service. Appointments are announced twice a year.

Reitman, who served as CJC president from 1986 to 1989, was named a member of the Order, its second highest rank.

Also named members were volunteer Sigmund Reiser of Willowdale, Ont., and Joseph Zatzman of Halifax, a former mayor of Dartmouth.

Appointed officers of the Order were businessman Harold Seigel of Toronto, physician Samuel Solomon of Westmount, Que., and businessman and philanthropist George Rosengarten of Montreal.

The recipients will be invited to a future ceremony at Rideau Hall, where they will invested into the Order.

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Vol. XXXVIII, No. 13 (2,859)

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue. 46,711 copies
Average net paid circulation per issue. 45,109 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997.

SUBSCRIPTIONS
Canada: $29.95, 1 yr. incl. GST. $54.95, 2 yr. incl. GST.
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Kronis solo woman rower for Canada

By VIVA PRESS
Special to The CJN

'It's scary to be the only one in the boat'

JERUSALEM — Tamara Kronis is representing Canada at the 15th Maccabi Games — as the only one on her team.

When Kronis first saw the ad in *Canada Rowing* magazine calling for rowers to represent Canada this summer in Israel, she thought it would be a great experience.

"I had no idea I'd be the only one on the team," the 23-year-old says.

Instead of rowing in an eight-person boat as she had imagined, Kronis will be sculling by herself.

"I learned to row first, so I'm better at it," she says matter-of-factly. "I like sculling, too, but for competition I like rowing better."

Kronis first started rowing in 1992, her freshman year at Brandeis University in Walthan, Mass., just outside of Boston.

After she was in a car accident in her second year, she returned to her parents' home in Downsview, Ont., to recuperate. Rather than giving up rowing, Kronis joined the rowing team at the University of Toronto (U of T), to which she had transferred for a semester.

"I wasn't able to compete with U of T because of my injuries," she says, "but rowing with the University of Toronto team helped me improve my skills a lot."

When she returned to Brandeis, she learned that the university had cancelled its openweight women's program. That meant the 150-pound Kronis could no longer row for the school.

Rather than lose her skills, however, she began rowing with the Boston community team.

After a year as a competitor with the community club, she became the coach of the high school development program at the club.

Tamara Kronis

"I love coaching," she says smiling. "It's a chance to build a whole boat from the outside, to put all the elements of rowing together and make the team work in unison."

In 1995, Kronis returned to Toronto, this time to attend law school at the U of T, where she is concurrently pursuing a PhD in political science.

She has continued rowing when possible. She rowed at the Bayside rowing club in Toronto last summer and then for a short time in the fall.

Kronis is a little apprehensive about being the sole woman rower representing Canada.

"I'm nervous because it's my first international competition," she says. "It's scary to be the only one in the boat.

"All you have is you," she explains. "There are no excuses for mistakes."

Still, Kronis says she's looking forward to the competition.

Kronis arrived in Israel on May 7 to start her summer job as an intern at the Supreme Court in Jerusalem.

Her routine is vigorous. She works out at least once a day, sometimes getting up at 6 a.m., other times going after work. Her workouts at the Dan Pearl Hotel's gym include 45 minutes on the rowing machine, a two-hour weight-circuit every other day and 45 minutes of cardiovascular activity — jogging, swimming, biking or more rowing.

Between her workouts, she also conducts research for Supreme Court President Aharon Barak.

And every weekend, Kronis heads for Tel Aviv, where she rows at the Tel Aviv club to fine-tune her skills. At the club there, she rows either in a single boat or with the eight-man team.

But on July 16, 17 and 18, at 6 a.m., Kronis won't be rowing with anyone but herself. And each stroke her paddle makes in the Lake Kinneret water will be one for Canada.

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From the editor's desk

'Do not stand idly by'

Last week I excerpted a number of small offerings of writings from some of the many periodicals that I receive each week.

In this column, I shall write about a book which recently came across my desk. Its author is one of the outstanding personalities of modern Jewish life, who combines a tangible, practical love for his Judaism with an equally tangible, practical love for his fellow human beings. Its subject is one of the most painful yet one of the least discussed in Jewish life. I am referring to *The Shame Borne in Silence: Spouse Abuse in The Jewish Community* by Rabbi Abraham J. Twerski, M.D., (Mirkov Publications, Inc., Pittsburgh).

Rabbi Twerski, a psychiatrist, is the founder and medical director of Gateway Rehabilitation Centre, a not-for-profit drug and alcohol treatment system in western Pennsylvania. He is renowned for his work in the addiction treatment and self-esteem restoration field. Gateway is considered by experts to be among the very best drug and alcohol treatment centres in North America.

Rabbi Twerski is a prolific writer; *Shame* is his 22nd book. He is also a prolific doer. His most recent health-related project is the establishment of a rehabilitation centre in Jerusalem, Shaar Hatikvah.

There are very few people, if any, with better credentials to write on the very difficult subject of spousal abuse in the Jewish world.

Like all works that deal with the heartache and the heartbreak of the human condition, this is a distressing book to read. Rabbi Twerski writes with a professional's attention to detail, comprehensive but not lurid. The result is an illuminating candor and a compelling sense of urgency.

One of the chief hallmarks of the manner in which Rabbi Twerski "speaks" to the reader is the way in which he seamlessly stitches Torah and Halachah into the fabric of his medical judgments. This is evident from the very first pages of the book. For example, in his introduction, Rabbi Twerski explains why he undertook to write on the subject of spouse abuse.

"I began to be haunted by the concept of 'Do not stand idly by while your neighbor's blood is being spilled' (Leviticus 19:16), which the Talmud interprets to mean that one has an obligation to divert harm from coming to another person. When staffs of social agencies told me that their efforts to alert the Jewish community to the problem of spouse abuse were being ignored, and that I should address the problem,...I began to feel uneasy at remaining silent. Someone then pointed out to me that the Talmud says that anyone who has the ability to correct a situation and is derelict in doing so, bears the responsibility for whatever results therefrom (Shabbat 54b). I realized that I have no option, and that I must speak out."

Rabbi Twerski deals with the argument often raised by well-meaning individuals that these sorts of problems should not be discussed openly.

"There will be those who will say that such subjects should not be aired publicly, and that to do so is a *chilul HaShem*, a disgrace to the sanctity of Judaism, to even imply that Jewish husbands can be wife batterers. I understand that position, but if I must choose between being reprimanded by those who believe that this problem should be concealed, or a wife who has suffered (along with her children) from an abusive husband and could not receive help because no one believed her, I know where I must make my choice."

Speaking as a health care professional determined to maintain the highest possible standards of caregiving, and not "merely" as a concerned individual, he further explains the underlying justification for publicly airing the problems of spouse abuse in the Jewish community.

"Unless we understand the problems of spouse abuse, we may unwittingly give bad advice to our children, our friends, our clients and our parishioners. This book is intended to provide insights into the problem for actual cases, as well as several observations on Torah values and an overview of what the conditions are in society that must be considered when dealing with spouse abuse."

The rule of life by which Rabbi Twerski lives, both as a private person and as a professional, is: "Do not stand idly by."

It is an approach urged upon us by our religion and our traditions, by conscience and morality and, quite literally, by the crying needs of many of the people with whom we share our community.

For their sake and for ours, we should strive to incorporate that approach into our lives.

An easy way to start is by reading Rabbi Twerski's book. *MBD*

SOUNDS OF SEPHARAD

An evening of song and entertainment, Sounds of Sepharad, was recently celebrated in Toronto to honor the 40th anniversary of the Minyan Sepharad Congregation. A special guest appearance at the event was made by Ralph Benmergui. Seen in the photo (standing from left) are: Salomon Beldeb, director of Or Haemet Boys' Choir, Albert Ohayon, Charly Edery, Cantor Armand Moyal, Cantor Aviv Ouanounou and Cantor Chalom Siboni. Seated in the foreground, in traditional Moroccan garb called gelabiya, are the musicians who performed that evening .

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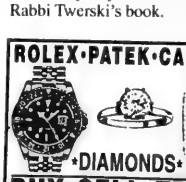

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Greater Toronto Area

Lawyer slams Swiss banks

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An Australian lawyer who has filed successful appeals against banks in Switzerland claims that the Zurich-based Swiss Bankers Association (SBA) is toying with Jews claiming dormant funds.

Henry Burstyner charged in an interview that the SBA, whose mandate is to mediate disputes between Swiss banks and their clients, is essentially engaged in a "public relations exercise" designed to appease world and Jewish opinion.

Burstyner further charged that Hanspeter Hani, the SBA's ombudsman, is powerless to help Jewish petitioners who believe they are heirs to unclaimed dormant assets.

He called Hani, an employee of the Swiss Banking Ombudsman Foundation,"a very honest man with integrity.

"But he has no teeth," added Burstyner, a partner with the firm of Glennen Burstyner & Company in Victoria, Australia.

"He hasn't been given any power, though he implies he has some influence and power. His sole function is to appease and delay."

Moreover, Burstyner said, Hani is neither independent nor neutral.

In his view, the SBA is totally at the mercy of the banks, "which won't disgorge [dormant] funds unless they have to."

Last November, in his first report as ombudsman, Hani said that Swiss banks held $1.6 million in dormant accounts, of which $11,000 could be traced to several Jewish depositors.

The World Jewish Congress, which is leading an international campaign to cajole Swiss banks to settle the claims of Jewish depositors and their descendants and relatives, described it a "pathetic amount."

Last week, Hani released his much-awaited second report on dormant accounts. He said that Swiss banks had uncovered $16.8 million, of which $9.8 million belonged to victims of the Holocaust.

In a critique of the SBA, Burstyner said its role is exceedingly limited. "All it does is to relay claims to the relevant banks. And if a claimant doesn't have concrete information, then Hani's office is damn useless."

Burstyner said the SBA is at a disadvantage in handling petitioners' claims because only about half of the banks in Switzerland are members of its organization.

Burstyner warned prospective claimants who plan to deal with the SBA that they may have to spend as much as $3,000 to pursue a claim to the end.

Criticizing the Swiss banking system, he said that dormant assets should be stored in a special government fund rather than in Swiss banks. And branches of identical Swiss banks should have access to information about each other's accounts.

Relating his own activities on behalf of clients in Australia, Burstyner said he and Swiss lawyers had "retrieved" about 250,000 Swiss francs (approximately $250,000) for the families of two Holocaust survivors in Melbourne and Sydney.

"It took a couple of years and three visits to Switzerland," said Burstyner, who dealt directly with the banks rather than with the SBA.

His clients had documentary evidence to support their claims, he observed.

Currently, he and Swiss colleagues are working for 14 Austrian clients, originally from Europe, who have put in claims for dormant funds.

Burstyner said he intends to doggedly pursue Swiss banks "until they have disgorged all their illicit gains. They should not be allowed to profit from the victims of the Holocaust.

"The more lawyers there are like me in the world to expose the Swiss, the better."

Burstyner has affiliate offices outside Australia: one in London, England, and another in Montreal.

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW ASSOCIATED CAMPUS

From left, adult volunteers Brenda Lass, Ellen Markin, David Brown and Aurelia Ostro join students in breaking ground for the Louis and Leah Posluns Educational Centre, which will replace the Neptune branch of Associated Hebrew Schools. The campus is slated to open for the 1998-'99 academic year.

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Mazon makes pitch for donors' tax rebates

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The founder of Mazon Canada is asking members of the Ontario Jewish community to direct their provincial tax rebates to organizations addressing child poverty and hunger.

Writing in *Mazonews*, the organization's newsletter, Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld said such a contribution to Mazon Canada or the United Way "could help make life more tolerable for the 1.5 million children whose families subsist below the poverty line. Instead of feeling helpless, we want to become partners in a process of providing greater social decency and stability for Canada because these values are in everyone's interest, rich and poor, liberal and conservative, religious and secular."

The pitch comes at a time when Ontario's Conservative government has come under fire for reducing social welfare payments while promising to cut taxes.

The fundraising effort is "a way of addressing an issue that transcends political, social and economic categories in a manner that places the initiative squarely in the laps of those who have the greatest stake in remedying this national tragedy — us...I believe these actions will make a difference. And even if we don't succeed in dramatically changing our society, we could prevent our society from changing us," Rabbi Bielfeld wrote.

Jacqueline Kott-Wolle

To date, the rabbi's congregation at Temple Emanu-El has raised about $10,000, said Jacqueline Kott-Wolle, executive-director of Mazon Canada.

Rabbi Bielfeld's approach is one of many novel ideas developed to help Mazon Canada raise funds to fight hunger.

Over the course of its 10-year history, the organization has racked up success after success. This year it set a new record for spring allocation totals to food banks and other groups fighting hunger.

Kott-Wolle reported that Mazon, which bills itself as "a Jewish response to hunger," allocated $112,000 in the spring of 1997, bringing Mazon's total since its creation in 1987 to $1,112,530. The spring totals represent continuation of a trend, with only one brief blip to mar the way, of regular increases in the funds Mazon distributes. In 1996, Mazon set a new annual record, allocating $228,480.

Among the recipients of Mazon's spring allocations are: Bikur Cholim of Toronto ($4,000); Cranbrook Food Bank Society, British Columbia ($1,250); Dundas County food Bank, Winchester, Ont. ($1,500); and Kosher Senior Wheels to Meals Project, Vancouver, B.C. ($1,750).

Kott-Wolle views its spring totals as a "bittersweet" success. "It reflects a growing need and that the community is responding to the need," she said.

Kott-Wolle, who took over as executive-director in February, said she plans to introduce several new programs to raise funds and increase Mazon's community profile.

Mazon recently established a speaker's bureau consisting of Kott-Wolle, members of the Mazon board and other volunteers who will discuss the issue of child poverty and hunger in Canada.

Kott-Wolle, who owns a small hand-painted ceramics business, is planning a poster contest for teens in Jewish schools. They will be asked to produce a poster illustrating the issues of hunger, poverty and the Jewish value of tzedakah. The "art as politics" poster will be used as part of Mazon's promotional material, she said.

Also on tap is a food fest modeled on the successful food shows developed by Mazon's Montreal branch. Since 1995, kosher caterers in Montreal have hosted a cocktail party during which they showcase their wares to the community. Tickets to the event sell for $50, with a $25 tax receipt being issued. Mazon is recipient of the full amount raised.

The food fest has proven immensely popular, with 800 attending the last event, Kott-Wolle said.

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Outdoor Yiddish concert draws 2,000

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Making an impassioned plea to save the Yiddish language "before it is too late," Ethel Cooper said from $60,000 to $70,000 will be spent in the next year to promote Yiddish culture.

"Yiddish is the foundation of our Askenazi culture," the new chair of the UJA Federation's Yiddish committee, told a crowd of 2,000 attending the 15th annual Yiddish outdoor concert in Earl Bales Park.

The huge audience, lugging lawn chairs and blankets, were treated to a rousing concert celebrating the work of composer Avraham Goldfadden, presented by, among others, singers Stella Walker, Gloria Valentine and Michael Mandel, backed up by the Chutzpah Klezmer Band and piano accompanist Sageev Oore.

The outdoor setting in Earl Bales Park attracted children and grandchildren .

Ethel Cooper, new chair of the UJA Federation Yiddish committee.

They heard such favorites as *Oygn, Ich Zing, Ven du Lachst, Yidl Mitn Fidl* and the irrepressible *Rumania, Rumania*. Later, the ever-popular *Shloimele-Malke, Shvigaro, Farges Mich Nit, Tif vi di Nacht, Grine Kusine, Rhohzhinkes* and *Abi Gezunt* were performed.

Cheers greeted Mayor Mel Lastman's announcement that "there will be no golf in Earl Bales Park. We took the money out of the budget so it's over." (The Metro Parks Commission had wanted to build an 18-hole golf course in the park to raise revenue.)

"You don't need a cottage, you just need Earl Bales Park," Lastman told the audience, which included many seniors who live in nearby apartment buildings.

As usual, Lastman told a joke in his fractured Yiddish, the same one he told two years ago, but it still got a laugh.

The City of North York was a co-sponsor of the concert.

Master of ceremonies David Abramowitz joined in the fun. As the night turned somewhat cold, he appealed, at the microphone, "to whoever is up there, you can turn off the air conditioning."

Cyrel Troster brought greetings from UJA Federation.

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Doleful picture

It was not a new story; that is why it hurt even more. Statistics Canada released a report on poverty in Canada, which disclosed that during a two-year period of study, approximately 2.3 million Canadians lived below a designated low-income cutoff line.

As reported in the *Globe and Mail*, about 16 percent of Canadians were below the low-income cutoff at some point in the two years. Included in these numbers is the jarring and distressing truth that nearly one-quarter, 22 percent, of all Canadian children under the age of six were being raised in poverty at some point in the two years examined, and, that 13 percent of children under the age of six were being raised in poverty for both of those years.

Whatever our differing individual views of government's role in the alleviation of poverty or of the public policies that should be implemented that are most effective towards its remedy, it is beyond debate that the situation is intolerable and unjustifiable in a land and in a society as wealthy as ours.

We must not be indifferent to these statistics. They are alarming numbers. If we were to "paint" by them, they would depict a doleful picture of darkness, despair, self-doubt and stress for millions of our fellow Canadians.

Increasingly, Canadians are not simply waiting for the government to step in. There is the laudatory example of the Temple Emanu-El Congregation in Toronto, which, under the leadership of Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld is spearheading a campaign to persuade individuals to direct provincial tax rebates to organizations that attempt to fight child poverty and hunger. We agree with Rabbi Bielfeld when he recently wrote: "Instead of being helpless, we want to become partners in a process of providing greater social decency and stability for Canada because these values are in everyone's interest, rich and poor, liberal and conservative, religious and secular."

The thoughtful and creative social action initiative of Temple Emanu-El is to be praised. We can each learn a valuable lesson from them. But so should the various levels of government in this country learn that lesson as well. Individual initiative does not replace governmental obligation.

Silence pierced

The attempt last week by NATO forces to arrest four individuals suspected of having committed crimes against humanity during the civil war and break up of the former Yugoslavia is to be commended. The operation resulted in the capture of three of the suspects and the killing of Simo Drljaca, who resisted his captors.

Drljaca, the former police chief of the city of Prijedor, ran the concentration camp at Omarska, where thousands of people were killed, where unspeakable atrocities were committed and where distant echoes of the pitiful screams of human suffering more than a half century earlier slammed against the walls of western silence.

With these arrests that silence has now been pierced.

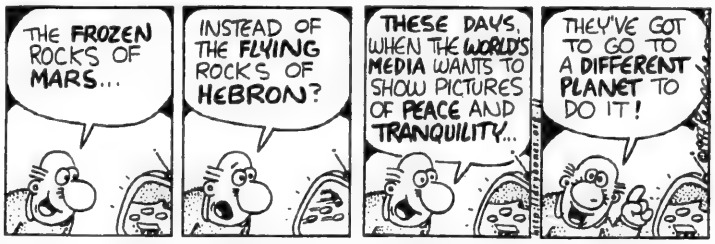
The capture of these men was an act of conscience, an affirmation of the highest value and moral principle of human existence that each and every life is unique and possessed of inherent dignity. Nothing and no one can be allowed to compromise that principle. We await further actions against the suspected war criminals still at large, though now perhaps cowering, in their hiding holes.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"The life of the western Jew is no longer endangered through the enmity of the mob; but bodily wounds are not the only wounds that cause pain, and from which one may bleed to death."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

Dry Bones


THE FROZEN ROCKS OF MARS...
INSTEAD OF THE FLYING ROCKS OF HEBRON?
THESE DAYS, WHEN THE WORLD'S MEDIA WANTS TO SHOW PICTURES OF PEACE AND TRANQUILITY...
THEY'VE GOT TO GO TO A DIFFERENT PLANET TO DO IT!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

July 17, 1858, Alexander Phillips, the first baker of matzot in Victoria, and Francis Joseph Sylvester were the first Jews to arrive in Victoria, B.C. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

The Sassoons and Kadoories in Hong Kong

Re: The Jewish community in Hong Kong (*CJN*, June 26).

Please note that none of the families named in your article are from Persia or Iran. The latter all came in the 17th and early 18th century from Baghdad. For a while, the Sassoons, the Kadoories and their many employees married brides from Baghdad and kept Iraqi traditions. The key positions in their empire were always held by Iraqi Jews brought specifically from Baghdad for the purpose.

Iraq and Iran, although neighbors, don't speak the same language and are as different as let us say, British and German Jews.

I am of Iraqi origin, born in Persia, although I have lived in Montreal for the past 45 years.

Haim Mathalor
Montreal

Jewish population growing on West Island

Re: A new Orthodox congregation is organized in Dollard (*CJN*, June 13, Montreal edition).

There is an increased Jewish population in Pierrefonds, Kirkland, Beaconsfield, LaSalle, Verdun (including Nuns' Island), Lachine, Roxboro, Pointe Claire and Dorval. Each of these areas could support new synagogues, schools and institutions, as well as a new funeral chapel to serve the West Island.

Many Jews are secular, converts to Judaism, Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist, humanist. There is no reason why another congregation cannot be established. Not all individuals of the Jewish faith have cars and some are not able to drive long distances.

Ben Linden
Montreal

Appeal for Holocaust artifacts

The Canadian War Museum is seeking artifacts for its new Holocaust Gallery from Holocaust survivors and their families. Those with items that may be of interest should contact: Mr. Fred Gaffen, Canadian War Museum, 330 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ont., K1A 0M8, or Tel: 819-776-8644, Fax: 819-776-8651.

Fred Gaffen
Curator, Holocaust Gallery

Jews in Switzerland's government

As a citizen of Switzerland, I would like to mention that at present there are three Jews in the Swiss government.

Sheldon Kirshner states in his articles that Francois Loeb is the only Jew in the Swiss government. Besides Loeb, Ruth Dreyfuss has been in the Swiss government for some years and has a good chance to become the first Jewish president of Switzerland.

While we were in Switzerland in the month of June, another Jewish lady, Ursula Koch, was elected as a member of the Swiss government, called Bundesraetin. She won handsomely over her Catholic male opponent through her charisma, as the Swiss newspapers reported.

Eric Jakabb
Toronto

Editors note: Kirshner wrote that Francois Loeb is the only Jewish member of the Federal Parliament.

Threats against Israeli artists

Last month, Irish pop star Sinead O'Connor bowed out of her scheduled Jerusalem appearance due to death threats.

For two years, I have been bringing Israeli acts to perform in Canada. These artists have told me of threats that have not been publicized for fear of copycats.

Israel has a diverse, rich and fascinating cultural scene and attracts talent from around the world to its festivals and performance venues. The appropriate reaction to an artist whose work one dislikes, or opinions one opposes, is to not attend their concerts. It is incumbent on our rabbis, community leaders and everyone with a conscience and a love of art to condemn this new level of intimidation that threatens to destroy Israeli culture and with it unravel the very fabric of Zionism.

Corey Ross
Toronto

No infant on front seat with air bag

The article "Properly installed safety seats save kid's lives" (*CJN, May 8 Montreal edition*), regarding the installation and use of child safety seats, contained erroneous advice which may in fact place infants at risk.

Your readers should be informed that according to a recent Transport Canada flyer, *no child, including those in rear-facing infant seats*, should *ever* be placed in the front seat of a vehicle equipped with a passenger side air bag.

Sara Saber-Freedman
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Visit to father's village a bittersweet experience

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

The last of a four part series

When I was growing up, Rubjevich was a mystical place where young people went to cheder, enjoyed winter sleigh rides, took produce to town in a horse-drawn wagon, raised pigeons that were brought to the shochet for slaughter and ate tzimmes from a large copper pot as a Shabbes midnight snack. Life was good in the tiny Polish village.

At least, that's the way my father, Ben, remembered his early years before World War II. His family was fairly prosperous and they enjoyed a comfortable life, with their own modern house, a barn, a garden and land stretching down to the river.

In 1939, Rubjevich was part of eastern Poland and when the Germans and Soviets split the country that year, my father's village was taken over by the Russians.

By the time fighting broke out between Germany and Russia in June 1941, my father had already been drafted into the Russian army. After adventures too numerous to recount, he eventually joined the partisans in the woods of northern Byelorussia. Half his immediate family – his mother, sister and brother – were killed by the Nazis and most of the town's Jews were rounded up and shot in the woods only a couple of kilometres from his home.

When my father returned to Rubjevich after the war, all that was left of his home, one of the newest and largest in town, was the foundation. Seeing his life in Rubjevich over, my father, left for Germany along with his father and brother. After several years in a displaced persons camp near Munich, he made it to Canada.

He often talked about his hometown and even corresponded with his cousin, Meir Shapiro, the only member of his family who survived the war in Rubjevich. But he never returned and I never thought seriously about visiting there.

But earlier this year, the opportunity to do so arose. And I went.

From Moscow where I had been on assignment, I took an overnight train to Minsk, the capital of Belarus (formerly Byelorussia), where a driver and interpreter, arranged through contacts in the Minsk Jewish community, met me. After greetings were exchanged, we embarked on the hour-long drive to Rubjevich, about 70 km southwest of Minsk.

It was Sunday morning and the roads were fairly deserted. The drive went quickly and easily. I had been warned that the roads in Belarus were poor and pock-marked, if paved at all, and that there might be bandits on the road laying in wait to rob us, if not worse. But the trip passed uneventfully though with plenty of anticipation at what lay ahead.

All I had to guide us at Rubjevich was a hand-drawn map of the village from a book of remembrance the town's Israel-based landsmen had published about 20 years ago, along with two names: Meir Shapiro, my father's cousin and Vladislav Radlinski, my father's neighbor. After Shapiro died several years ago, my father lost contact with his widow, Anna, and with his two sons, my second cousins. But my father believed they were still living in Rubjevich. I had never met them and knew virtually nothing about them.

Simeon Shapiro stands in front of the home his family has lived in since the 1930s.

We pulled in to Rubjevich around 10 in the morning. The road led into an open area, like a square, where people were waiting for a bus. Our interpreter and driver, who had already heard much of my family history, got to work trying to track down my father's old neighbor or my cousins.

As luck would have it, the neighbor's son, Stanislav, was walking through the square at that very moment. Yes, he acknowledged, his father was at home and he'd take us to see him. Hopping into the car, he guided us the 400 metres – halfway across town – to his home. What followed was like something out of a foreign film. I was ushered into the house and a buzz of excitement could be heard and felt as the Radlinskis chatted in Polish or Belarussian. There was food already on the table in preparation for the family's Sunday feast. Then Radlinski entered. Although he was about 10 years younger than my father, he looked about 10 years older. Life in the small town was clearly hard on him.

Although he had never heard of me, he greeted me like a long-lost relative. Over lunch and drinks, Radlinski expounded on the wartime history of the village. He didn't remember much about my father. It was actually his older brother who was my father's friend and who died serving in the same partisan unit as my father. But he did remember my grandfather and one of my father's cousins.

Even in a town as small as Rubjevich the Nazis established a ghetto, Radlinksi said, pointing "over there," out the window, towards my father's house. Then one day, all the Jews remaining in the town were rounded up, taken to the woods and shot, he said, as his children and grandchildren listened raptly.

These storage sheds are all that remain on the site of the Lungen family home in Rubjevich.

After breakfast, his wife took us to see the site of my father's house, which had served as part of the ghetto in the 1940s. It was a grey, slushy day and we picked our way gingerly through the muck. Instead of a house, there stood a cinder-block storage room and behind it, on land that stretched down to a pretty river, there was a corrugated iron shed. No house, no barn, no garden.

When he saw the pictures I had taken, my father shook his head and remarked how little it resembled the place he remembered.

From there we went to the home of Anna Shapiro. The reception there was even warmer than at the Radlinskis. My presence was a complete surprise and at times, Anna became tongue-tied with excitement. Her son, Simeon, on the other hand, was quiet and serious, a Belarussian Gary Cooper. Together with his wife and three teenaged children, they live in the same home Meir Shapiro's father built in the 1930s. At the time, my father said, it was one of the largest and nicest homes in the town.

After the war, Meir had considered leaving the village but changed his mind at the last minute. He married Anna, a non-Jewish, Belarussian women and remained in Rubjevich until he died about 10 years ago.

Vladislav Radlinski (seated) and his family.
[Paul Lungen photos]

Inside their living room, dominated by a picture of the Virgin Mary and a TV set that was always turned on, Anna reminisced. For her, the day was particularly emotional. I was the only relative from her husband's side of the family she'd seen in decades. I was the only relative from her husband's side of the family that her son and grandchildren had ever seen, she said.

Then, shooing us out of the house so she could prepare lunch, she instructed Simeon and Stanislav to take us on a tour of the town. As part of the visit, I was taken to the forest where the Nazis had shot the town's Jews. An impressive matzevah (memorial) rests on the spot. Survivors from Israel had erected the monument some years before.

Soon we returned to the Shapiro household. I excused myself to go to the washroom and was directed to an outhouse in the back yard. On my return, I washed up from a cylindrical water container that hung over the sink. Though Rubjevich had electricity, paved roads and TV, running water had yet to come to the village.

My interpreter, driver and I were treated to an impromptu Sunday meal based on whatever food was about. The table was laid out with sausage, potatoes, p'tcha, smoked Baltic sprats served on rye bread and sliced cucumbers.

As we sat over lunch, a bottle of vodka was brought out to toast the visit. The driver abstained, the interpreter declined, but I, not wishing to create an international incident, agreed to have just one, and then another one, and then perhaps one more for the road and another for the ditch. As I sat drinking with Anna, Simeon and his wife, the mood became more boisterous, the fellowship more hearty. We talked about our mutual relatives, a little about the old days, but frankly, I don't recall much of what we talked about, only that at the end of the day, the mood was bittersweet and that even the interpreter was moved by the reunion.

It was getting late in the day and, we could see the bottom of the bottle. We were still faced with a drive back to Minsk. It was time to say our goodbyes. We hugged and Anna invited me to return in the summer, "when swans glide on the river and the village is lush with greenery."

I thanked her for her hospitality and wished her and her family well. But I knew my visit was probably the last time I'd ever see my Belarussian relatives.

Opinions

Then on Sunday the rabbi retired

The rabbinical couple who has led our congregation for over 30 years will retire and make aliyah this fall. This milestone in our congregational life leads me to contemplate the role of the rabbi, indeed the role of a rabbinical family, in the life of a community.

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

My family was a clerical one. My father and grandfather were ordained ministers and another grandfather was a lay preacher (one who served rural congregations but had no ordination). I was a PK, a preacher's kid, and so I have some feeling for the situation of the rabbinical family.

A rabbinical family comes to a community that often views their lives as surrogates for everything members of the flock are not willing to do.

Kashrut? That's the rabbi's job. Shabbat? The rabbi's kids better not be caught playing baseball or watching TV, even at a neighbor's house.

Holidays? The rabbi's wife is expected to hold a continuing open house for people who have no place to go for a seder or Rosh Hashanah. As for the rabbi's children dating? Every appearance is scrutinized. School attendance and performance? A matter of public interest in the public domain.

Rabbinical families are expected, on the one hand, to lead in matters of spirituality and social conscience; on the other, to appear out of step with the congregation, which assumes its worldly concerns would not interest someone who communicates with God on a regular basis (often on their behalf). We want the rabbi there when we need him or her, but conveniently out of our faces when we are doing something that gives us a twinge of conscience.

Few can make the grade for over 30 years in one congregation, as ours has done. Let me tell you a little about this couple, so you can realize why.

On call, 24 hours a day: People do not time their needs. A child dies tragically; the rabbi is there, day or midnight. A widow has no one to see her pain; the rabbi sits with her daily until she feels she can go on. Jews are sent to prison, a place where they may be conveniently forgotten; our rabbi creates a regular routine for prison visits and special holiday events. These are daily acts of chesed, unsung lovingkindness, that shape a community.

In many ways there is nothing more individualistic than a rabbi, whose word is law. In large part as a result of the work of our rabbi, the rabbis of most congregations now meet regularly as RAV (Rabbinical Association of Vancouver).

Our congregation has been fortunate in having the kind of rabbinical couple that may be going out of style, where both partners are completely dedicated to the education of their community. In younger rabbinical families, the non-rabbinic partner may have his or her own career and want to pursue it without unrewarded responsibilities to a congregation.

In that regard, our community will lose a unique woman, even as Israel gains a valuable resource. She has taught adults for three decades in Bible, Talmud, Jewish living, history and a host of topics that bring beauty to Jewish life. In addition to all this, she has opened her home to thousands of guests from all over the Jewish world. It is from her that many of us learned the importance and beauty of kashrut, Shabbat and the thousand little things that make a Jewish family.

Above all, the humaneness of their Judaism stands in stark contrast to the brutality of the Judaism now advocated by a huge segment of so-called God-fearers in Israel. To our rabbi, every Jew is important, every Jew has a contribution to make to the whole of Jewish life, every Jew has a spark of the divine and can use that spark to illuminate the world. How ironic that this couple is going to an Israel intent on removing the "rabbi" from our rabbi's life.

For both of them, a major contribution has been the creation of the museum housed at our synagogue. Through the artifacts and exhibits of the museum, Jews and the wider community can learn about the lives of Jews throughout the world and across the ages.

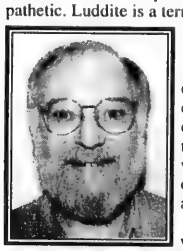
"For the righteous person of a city is her glory, her splendor, and her beauty. When he departs, her glory, her splendor, and her beauty depart with him." (Bereshit Rabbah 68:6)

Two righteous people are leaving us. Our community is immeasurably richer because we have had them among us. We were blessed. They will be missed.

The computer as a Golem

(Final of two parts)

Despite my apprehension about human reliance on Golems, I am not a Luddite, classic, post or neo. Just sympathetic. Luddite is a term commonly used to describe a person who resists technological change. The Luddites were a group of English craftsmen and laborers who were notorious between 1811 and 1816.



By Shel Krakofsky in London

The Luddites were threatened by new and innovative machinery and set out to destroy it. The name derives from one Ned Ludd, who may never have existed. Around 1779, he allegedly smashed two frames of a "stockinger" used to make stockings more efficiently and this, so legend has it, originated the machine breaking craze.

A wave of technological terrorism caught on during the Industrial Revolution. There were Luddites in the cotton and wool trades, in agriculture and deep in the mines of England. Their threatening letters to factory owners were cordially signed, "Yours truly, Ned Ludd." When apprehended, Luddites were deported. Some were also hanged, quite a conventional method of elimination.

In the United States, a chap by the name of Kirkpatrick Sale has founded a group called the "Neo-Luddites." Sale has written a book (presumably in longhand) called *Rebels Against The Future*, which proposes to eradicate all computers.

You may have read about Sale, who broke up an IBM personal computer with a sledgehammer on a stage in New York City. There was a cheering crowd of 1,500. To these people, one computer picture is not worth a thousand nerds.

Technology has invaded our privacy even as we cocoon in front of computers. Marshall McLuhan's ironic, oxymoronic contradiction in terms, the global village, is an electronic term and nothing more. There is indeed a global communications network today, but it certainly isn't bringing people together into any kind of village.

Since the Berlin Wall came down and the Soviet Union disintegrated, small countries have tried to become even smaller. Simmering ethnic and religious differences have percolated to the brim, resulting in blood baths around the globe. There may be the desire for a computerized global village, but in terms of tribal differences, the nations and peoples of the world want to contract, not expand.

The wired global village doesn't offer tranquillity and mutual respect. It actually guarantees discord and maximal disagreement. For evidence, simply look to Africa, the Balkans and Quebec as obvious examples.

Communications technology has created a dense distance, not only between peoples, but also between individuals. Human contact has become indirect and minimal as we isolate ourselves from one another with automated bank machines, voice mail and the other modern paraphernalia of human non-interaction.

We have become xenophobic because we refuse to encounter strangers directly. Even among friends using electronic communication crutches, we suffer from intentional social autism.

It is impossible to seal e-mail with anything. (Remember those lovely and innocent summer letters SWAK!) And if you choose the electronic route, scented letters can neither be sent or received. Fax and e-mail are freeze-dried transmissions.

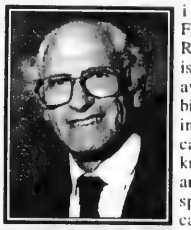
When Gershom Scholem, the late scholar of Jewish mysticism, was asked to dedicate the first sophisticated computer at the Weizmann Institute at Rehovot in 1965, he declared the most appropriate name for it would be Golem Aleph. In his remarks at the ceremony, Scholem said, "So I resign myself and say to the Golem (of Rehovot) and its creator: develop peacefully and don't destroy the world."

For all their useful work, computers and their gimmicky offspring have the frightening capacity to render unnecessary the very people they are meant to serve. And they afflict their data-driven devotees with "information fallout," that striking McLuhan phrase describing the masses of information that can never be absorbed.

So when you next start surfing the Net while another person sits alone or is being replaced by a computer, just remember, there but for the grace of a Golem go you.

Are books on way out?

For the last 35 years, an Israeli magazine has been one of my favorite readings. A quarterly called *Ariel*, it is an Israel review of arts and letters. Published in English, French, German, Russian and Spanish, it is now also available — in a biennial edition — in Arabic (just in case you want to know). One of the articles in the spring issue was called *Click! And Ye Shall Find*, an engaging piece by Shelley Kleiman. It deals with electronic publishing in Israel, and one of the early paragraphs sets the tone:



By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

"Israelis have always treasured an exalted image of themselves as voracious readers. While there are those who dispute this image — recent studies indicate that average Israelis spent half their leisure time in front of a television — Israel's conventional publishing industry is nonetheless one of the world's largest on a per capita basis. Reading levels have not appreciably declined over the past 20 years, despite the appeals of the mass media…Crowds still throng the stalls of the Annual Hebrew Book Week (which a few weeks ago took place in Jerusalem) and large numbers of young, talented writers surface on a regular basis."

The article then goes on to describe the explosion of the electronic media and with it, a revolution in bookmaking. The book of tomorrow, so it appears, will be a CD-ROM, which will make it unnecessary to buy some of the expensive encyclopedias and other source books.

But that, you will say, does not represent a diminution of reading, because instead of reading from pages of a book, one will read the text on a screen. So what's the difference?

The new CDs will be illustrated and also talk to you. They will respond to a click by the finger to questions, and answer them in a visual or written way — no research required, and by and by, reading will be overshadowed by images. No more handling of heavy tomes; no more trips to the library — and where does that leave people like me who spend their life writing books?

I am not quite sure, but I am also not afraid of tomorrow. No doubt the Internet will take over a good deal of it, and if the revolution that is now taking place is indeed as advertised, it will merely show that, 450 years after Gutenberg, the year 2000 will presage another new age in communication.

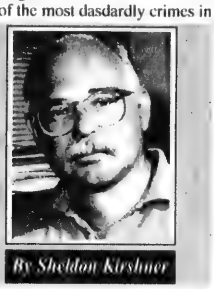
Of course, these prognostications are not undisputed. There are those who say that books as we know them will always be around, and possibly that is true. Fingering the pages of a book while sitting in your armchair is a pleasure that people will be loath to give up. But it is difficult to look into the future, and the only thing I know is that it will probably be different from what I think it will be.

TV has overshadowed radio — but it is radio that stimulates the imagination far more than TV ever does. Meanwhile, if you're interested in reading *Ariel* on the Internet, here is the address: [http://www.israel-fa.gov.il], and if you want to ask about *Ariel* on e-mail, write to: [ask@israel-info.gov.il].

The Kirshner File

Bombings in Argentina remain unsolved

Two years ago, in this column, I observed that Argentina had failed to solve two of the most dasdardly crimes in its history — the bombing of the Israeli embassy on March 17, 1992 and the bombing of a Jewish community centre on July 18, 1994.



By Sheldan Kirshner

The first blast killed 29 people and wounded more than 100. The second, the worst anti-Semitic crime since the Holocaust, snuffed out 86 lives and injured hundreds.

Both attacks took place in Buenos Aires, the cosmopolitan city where the vast majority of Argentina's 200,000 Jews are concentrated.

In the wake of the second deadly explosion, President Carlos Saul Menem pledged he would spare no effort to track down the perpetrator(s). As of this week, however, the police have yet to turn up any useful leads, and the government remains lamentably clueless.

The government's inability to unravel the mysteries has aroused widespread indignation and anger. Ruben Beraja, a Jewish community leader, has criticized Menem for lacking a strategic plan, while Domingo Cavallo, the former finance minister, has expressed incredulity at the slowness of the investigations.

Theories about the possible culprits abound. In one of his earliest statements regarding the bombing of the community centre, Menem laid the blame at the doorstep of foreign terrorists aided and abetted by local accomplices. Juan Jose Galeano, the official who heads a judicial probe into the affair, suggested that Iran was at fault. Of late, he has revised his view, contending that American neo-Nazi groups may be behind the outrage.

Israel, for its part, believes that Hezbollah, a Lebanese group supported by Iran, is responsible for the twin bombings. Roberto Marquevitch, a judge who has opened a parallel probe of the crimes, has pointed an accusing finger at Argentinian neo-Nazis aligned with Hezbollah.

The strangest hypothesis about the Israeli embassy bombing is held by two justices of the Argentine Supreme Court, Adolfo Vazquez and Carlos Fayt. Several months ago, they suggested that Jewish extremists were in fact the perpetrators.

Not surprisingly, their theory has been treated with withering contempt. Carlos Corach, the Argentinian interior minister, dismissed it as "nonsense." The Latin American representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, Sergio Widder, fumed that the court was "trying to turn the victims into victimizers."

It's not the first time the Supreme Court has muddied the waters. Last August, it released a report claiming that the embassy was levelled by a bomb "placed inside the building" rather than by a car bomb, as government investigators and the Israeli ambassador, Yitzhak Aviran, believe.

In a statement, the Israeli Foreign Ministry categorically rejected the report, prompting Menem to order a new study on the 1992 bombing "to settle the issue" once and for all.

Against all odds, Argentine officials insist that the cases will be solved. "We are firmly convinced that no matter how much time has passed, the will to clear this up continues and is firm," said Corach, a Jew, recently.

We will see.

***

Corach faces more problems in the wake of Jewish community suspicions that members of the police were involved in the failed bombing of a Jewish hospital in Buenos Aires last November and in a series of Jewish cemetery desecrations throughout the country since last year.

Bowing to pressure, he established a special commission to study these incidents, which underscore the physical insecurity of Argentina's Jewish community, the largest in Latin America.

Argentina, as American scholar Robert Weisbrot has written, is a nation caught between its democratic traditions and its autocratic and xenophobic impulses. It has compiled a record of welcoming Jewish immigrants from Europe and the Middle East, but anti-Semitic violence and vandalism have proven to be endemic, Weisbrot, author of *The Jews of Argentina,* points out in a brief essay in *The New Republic.*

Swayed by Hitler

Thirty-five years after its publication, Alan Bullock's biography, *Hitler: A Study in Tyranny*, is still the standard work by which others are measured. By comparison, Ernst Hanfstaengl's book, *Hitler, The Missing Years* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, $16.95), is hardly in the same league. Nonetheless, Hanfstaengl's memoirs — which were originally published in 1957 and which have now been released in a paperback edition — are of considerable interest.

Hanfstaengl, the scion of a prominent Munich family, was an intimate of Hitler before and after his rise to power in 1933. At one point, he was Hitler's foreign press secretary. But, disillusioned with the Nazis, he escaped to Switzerland in 1937. From there, he went to Britain and thence to the United States, advising the American government on the inner workings of the Nazi regime.

A Harvard graduate whose mother was a New England patrician, he made the acquaintance of Hitler in 1921, shortly after his return to Germany from New York City, where he had managed the family-owned business. Mesmerized by a speech Hitler had delivered in a Munich beer hall, he threw in his lot with the Nazis.

Hanfstaengl, who describes himself as "an idealistic National Socialist," was swayed by Hitler's oratorical skills. He believed that Hitler was capable of lifting Germany into greatness following its ignominious defeat in World War I. But his hopes were predicated on the shaky assumption that traditional conservatives like himself would be able to "tame" Hitler's "excesses" and remove the radicals who surrounded him. How wrong they were!

"Throughout our long association," he writes, "I tried to imbue him [Hitler] with some of the norms and ideas of civilized existence, only to be thwarted by the ignorant fanatics who were his closest cronies."

In particular, Hanfstaengl objected to Hitler's "blatant" anti-Semitism and the "hazy race mystique" championed by Nazi ideologues like Alfred Rosenberg. But not surprisingly, given his fixation with Hitler, Hanfstaengl was anything but a philo-Semite. Predictably, he subscribed to the belief that German Jews were too powerful and should be cut down to size.

As he puts it: "There was one occasion when Hitler was talking about Jews to a visiting British [politician]...and I was being very careful to emphasize that the Nazis only [sic] demanded the reduction of their representation in the professions to the same proportion as their strength in the population." It's clear, then, that Hanfstaengl was receptive to the idea of restricting the rights of German Jews by means of a *numerus clausus* policy, the hallmark of all anti-Semites.

Hanfstaengl, however, saves much of his condescension for East European Jews who resided in Germany. In his view, they were the "real problem."

As distasteful as Hanfstaengl's subliminal anti-Semitism may be, it should not deter a reader. His pen portrait of Hitler is instructive and his appraisal of Nazi personalities and politics is revealing. As such, *Hitler, The Missing Years* is a worthy historic document.

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Jewish Life

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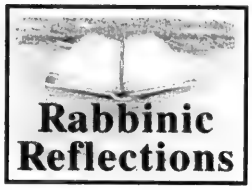

Talmud was designed to stimulate debate

By RABBI YEHIEL W. BEN AYON

In a new posting, a rabbi presided over a minor ruckus every time the congregation was about to recite the Shema Yisrael. Half the congregation felt one should stand for the Shema, but the other half believed it should be recited while the congregation was seated.

Unable to negotiate a compromise, the rabbi asked the religious committee to accompany him to a residence where several seniors lived. Here, he hoped, they would establish once and for all the correct and original custom of the synagogue.

The respective cases were presented before the old timers: To sit or to stand? After listening intently to both sides, they proceeded to reject both as incorrect. The rabbi was now totally puzzled. If the custom was neither to sit nor to stand, then how was it done in the old days?

"Oh, how it was in the old days, you want to know. In the old days, every time the congregation was about to say the Shema an argument broke out. That is how it was."

Difference of opinion and debate have been a part of us for as long as anyone can recall. Our greatest text after the Torah is one of constant argument and debate. It is called the Talmud! It is revered and studied daily. What would otherwise be a dusty and obsolete legal text is infused with intellectual energy and vitality precisely because of the debate within.

Talmudic logic teaches us that two forms of argument exist, one positive, one negative. The classic arguments of the School of Shamai versus the School of Hillel are not only acceptable, we actually welcome them. The biblical account of Korach and his clan are not. They represent division, derision of the Divine and of the binding nature of the Torah's instruction.

When we see division within us, we need a measure of honesty and sophistication to discern between these two. Are the arguments based on ego, personality or power? If so, then we must summon all our efforts to neutralize them. If the debate is dynamic and productive, then we must summon all our efforts to participate and grow through it.

Unity in brotherhood is our unique premium in the history of nations. Ours is the only people that was so before the creation of a national homeland (Israel) or the founding of a faith (Judaism). Today, we again have both. Let us work together and aggressively to protect that unity that preceded them both.

Rabbi Ben Ayon is the spiritual leader of Magen David Sephardic Congregation in Toronto.

Jewish courts regulated business

By RABBI JAY KELMAN

One of the main purposes of a Jewish court system is to regulate undesirable economic practices. Among the economic practices that may require the intervention of a Jewish court is that of "inappropriate" competition in the workplace.

We are all aware that increased competition is in the best interest of the consumer. However, increased competition can also lead to unwanted results such as a firm being driven out of business with its attendant loss of jobs.

How does an economic system that is run according to Jewish law balance the needs of the consumer with those of business people? Can one open a store next door to the competition? The view accepted by Jewish law is that as long as both owners pay their share of local taxes, then the new owners can say, "I do what I want on my property and you do what you want on yours."

Some authorities maintain that the above rules regarding "freedom of entry" only apply if the effect of the new business entry is only to reduce the profit margin of the entrenched business. But if it would drive him out of business completely, price protection for the original owner would be imposed by a Jewish court upon the new business entrant.

However, even the "protectionist" school of thought would agree that no price protection would be warranted if the old store cannot compete as a result of inefficiencies such as poor production methods, lack of computerization or poor service.

This is seen by the fact that the rabbis rule that a store-owner who offers his goods at a discounted price is to be praised; cries of protest by the competition are ignored as they too can offer to match the sale price.

Cries of protest by competition are ignored

A more complex case is one in which the efficient mom and pop shop cannot compete against the huge corporations that can easily undercut the local competition. In such an instance it would appear — according to the protectionist school — that their plea for protection would be granted.

Other authorities maintain that even if a person's livelihood will be destroyed, the court will adopt a laissez-faire attitude. The benefits of increased competition outweigh the harm done to individual business people. Therefore, as long as one pays his fair share of taxes, one can operate his business where and when he pleases.

According to this school of thought, a business person would only be protected against the predatory practice of his competitors because here the intent is to drive the competition out of business. An example of this would be selling goods at below cost. It would appear though, that selling certain items as a "loss leader" would be allowed if the intent is to draw customers into the store who will also purchase other items which are sold for a profit.

It is illuminating to see the approach taken to the Halachah of competition by one of the greatest Jewish leaders of the 20th century, the Chafetz Chaim. After opening up a small grocery shop to help support his family, he quickly realized that patrons were abandoning other stores in order to support this outstanding scholar. He therefore only opened his store a couple of hours a day so as not to harm the competition. When he saw that people planned their shopping for the short time he was open, he closed down his store completely so as not to encroach on the profits of his "competition."

Rabbi Kelman is the associate rabbi of Beth Jacob V'Anshei Dridz Congregation in Toronto.

Jewish Life

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Wiesenthal prompts look at 'forgiveness'

***The Sunflower: On the Possibilities & Limits of Forgiveness*, by Simon Wiesenthal (Random House, $33.50).**

Is it possible to forgive a Nazi murderer? Can such an act even be considered by the inmate of a concentration camp who is himself destined for death? Is the Jewish concept of tshuvah broad enough to include a young German soldier, a member of the SS, who committed unspeakable crimes? Can one offer forgiveness for an entire people? Isn't forgiveness, ultimately, in the hands of God? Is it possible to forgive without forgetting?

These are some of the questions that flow from an incident in the life of Simon Wiesenthal. It happened in Lvov, where he was a concentration camp inmate in 1942. As a member of a labor gang, he was sent to work at a local hospital. Suddenly, a nurse appeared and led him to a hospital bed where a blinded, almost completely bandaged German soldier lay at death's door.

The soldier implored Wiesenthal to listen to his story. He had to unburden himself to a Jew. The immobilized patient then related how he helped to herd helpless Jews into an empty building that was then set on fire. Those who attempted to escape were shot. One image remained burned in his consciousness, that of a family including a little boy with black hair and dark blue eyes whom he ruthlessly murdered. Wiesenthal listened to this recital, which included a whispered plea for forgiveness. He remained thoughtful for a moment and then left the room without answering.

A shorter, edition of this book was published in 1976 and included responses by a number of eminent Jewish and Christian theologians, scholars and writers to the question, "What would you have done?" This new edition includes some of the original answers along with 30 additional ones by such well known personalities as the Dalai Lama, Rabbi Harold Kushner, Cynthia Ozick, Cardinal Franz Konig of Vienna, Harry Wu (Chinese human rights activist), Joseph Telushkin and Deborah Lipstadt.

> *'Once again the Nazi was using the Jew as a tool'*

Taken together, the 46 brief essays offer a storehouse of views and feelings on the complex of guilt and forgiveness. Interestingly, most of the Jewish respondents agree, in one way or another, that Wiesenthal did the right thing — he had no alternative. A majority of the Christian answers suggest that some form of forgiveness should have been offered.

Abraham Heschel writes, "No one can forgive crimes committed by other people. It is therefore preposterous to assume that anybody alive can extend forgiveness for the suffering of any one of the six million people who perished."

The cardinal of Vienna suggests, "Considering your situation at the time and recalling what you went through, an explicit pardon would have surpassed our concept of the human. Nevertheless, you had an opportunity to put forward an act of almost superhuman goodness in the midst of a subhuman and bestial world of atrocities. The fact that you did not take advantage of this opportunity may be what still haunts you as a striving human being."

A different approach to the question is taken by Rabbi Harold Kushner. Forgiveness, he maintains, is something we do for ourselves. It represents a letting go of the sense of grievance and perhaps, more importantly, letting go of the role of victim.

For Primo Levi, the act of the SS soldier was sheer impudence. "Once again, the Nazi was using the Jew as a tool, unaware of the danger and the shock his request must have constituted for the prisoner: his action, examined in depth, is tinged with egoism, since one detects in it an attempt to load onto another one's own anguish."

Since this book was first published, the world has witnessed other mass murders — think of Cambodia, Rwanda and Bosnia. The salient questions this provocative book raises are no less pertinent today than they were three decades ago.

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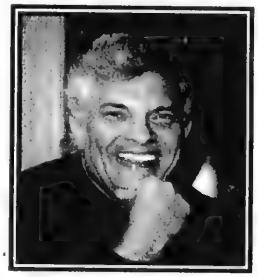


Wasn't that **David Sugar** at the opening of the magnificent **Peter Munk Cardiac Centre** at **The Toronto Hospital, General Division?** Terrific to see its wonderful world-renowned heart surgeon, **Dr. Tirone David,** receive the **1997 Medec Award for Medical Achievement** following his just being awarded the **Order of Canada** designation. **Fergie, the Duchess of York,** was warm and gracious in her personal remarks and **Peter Munk** was beaming.

Some of the recent birthdays I've acknowledged (& now you can too): **Ted Rogers, David Goldstein, Paul Morton, Michael Appleton, David Kelman's big 80th, Herb Binder's big six-oh, Hartley Nathan Q.C., Dora Litwack, Paul Beeston, Honey Martin** (were you surprised?) **Douglas Bassett, Alex Eisen, Art Rockert, Myron Gottlieb, Henry Liss, Sheila Mostyn & Dr. Norton Lithwick.** Congratulations to **Matthew Barrett** on his upcoming nuptials with **Anne-Marie** and congratulations on the engagement of **Flory Lebow** and **Bob Cohen.** That proves good things happen to nice folks!!!

Speaking of **Bank of Montreal,** it was great to finally meet **Nada Ristich, Corporate Donations Manager,** up close and personal.

For my birthday, it was a thrill to be sung happy birthday by **Sheila Engel, Dr. Norton Lithwick** and **Elaine Yaffe** from the 5th floor of **York Finch General Hospital.**

Gino Empry (ace impressario & press release maven) & I agree **Shopsy** should open an uptown location. Are you listening **Lewis Allen?**

Thanks to **Saul Korman (Korry's)** for his support & for welcoming another generation to his great Danforth clothing store . . . **Richard Borins (Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt)** . . . speaking of Osler, congratulations to partner **Joseph Steiner** on his election as president of **U.J.A. Federation of Greater Toronto** of which **Reena** is a beneficiary agency . . . and also to chair **Edgar and Rosemary** (her book **"The Glitter Girls"** is always by my telephone) **Sexton** on the birth of their granddaughter, **Gillian.** Saul's column, now in the **Financial Post,** was the inspiration for mine starting in 1988 and Rosemary's gossip column in the **Globe & Mail** inspired my naming names approach!!!

We're loathe to let go of some of our special people. **Larry Grossman Q.C.** took sports and life and politics seriously and made us do that too. Our four seats at Exhibition Stadium were beside the visitors' dugout, but we could always hear Larry shouting at **Roy Hartsfield** from behind the Jay's dugout, while we both took aim at third base coach **Jackie Moore,** in those heady days of major league baseball in April, 1997. We lived across the street on Montressor . Our twin sons, **Andrew & Matthew** were born during that opening week & Larry heard about it on **CKEY.** I was just reminiscing with **Stan Kugelmass (Blaney, McMurty** - where **Chusid & Friedman** now practice). It's ironic that Larry & I used to play ball against one another on **B'nai Brith** teams and when I was a **B'nai Brith** coordinator of special gifts we got **Murray Chusid** to be Chair of the Foundation, a position he still holds.

Now, just sit back with some no fat Cracker Jacks from **Dalters** and you'll feel like you are back in the old ball park!!!

Congratulations to **Elaine Todres,** president of the **Baycrest Centre Foundation** on **Leo Fine Q.C.** recently being appointed as Chair of the Baycrest Centre Foundation Board of Directors. Be sure to get him to tell you some of his great yiddish stories of early Toronto.

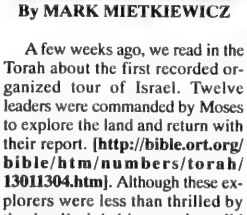
Good luck to **Jacqueline Yaffe** as she embarks on her new career at **Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd.,** the Parks Branch & to **Alysa-Beth Engel** on her art show of Recent Works - acrylic on canvas - at **Ace Bakery,** during July. I love her "Women on a Hammock" which hangs at a lovely home on Ridley Blvd. in the City of North York.

It was fun working with **Thom Gallagher,** Public Affairs, **CIBC.** His family's **Pike's Awning** business was in the next building to my **Wheat Sheaf Tavern** for many years. His dad Harold owned the building next to mine. The **Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce** has taken a lead in supporting the **Toby & Henry Battle Developmental Centre** & Reena's proud to permanently honour CIBC for their generosity by naming the **Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Greenhouse/Gardening Workshop.** The Bank prides itself on its ability to help ordinary Canadians secure their future and realize their hopes and dreams. **Reena Foundation** was created with a similar philosophy, to secure the future and unlock the dreams of mentally and physically challenged Canadians. The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce is a most welcome and fitting addition to Reena's growing list of capital campaign donors.

Why is abbreviation such a long word?

Stuff like the new bells at St. James' Cathedral, Mike Filey & Paul Godfrey, the LIZZIES DINNER, my tour of Beth Tzedec's rogues gallery by JUDY FELD CARR & JULES SURDIN. KOO KOO ROO and Dr. Sheldon Nadal will have to keep 'til next time.

Jerry Borins is the Capital Campaign Director for the Reena Foundation's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre, a highly visible, fully accessible facility located in the City of Vaughan. The Centre will ensure people with developmental handicaps realize their full potential. The $7.7 million campaign will be successfully completed in 1997. Call Jerry at (416) 787-9554 ext. 3074 to discuss your support and the dedication opportunities still available.



Time to travel Israel on the Web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

A few weeks ago, we read in the Torah about the first recorded organized tour of Israel. Twelve leaders were commanded by Moses to explore the land and return with their report. **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/numbers/torah/13011304.htm].** Although these explorers were less than thrilled by the land's inhabitants, they did confirm that this was a wondrous place "flowing with milk and honey." Since then, millions of tourists have followed in their footsteps. And if you are planning a visit to Israel, you can benefit from other travellers' expertise — thanks to the Jewish Highway.

Before leaving, read up about the country. You'll find several good introductions to Israel and its citizens, such as Travelnet's Communities of Israel **[http://www.travelnet.co.il/tnet/israel/general/communit.htm]** and Facts about Israel **[http://www.geocities.com/~israel-touring/fact_index. html].** I also recommend Cullen Murphy's article *Hallowed Ground* in the *Atlantic Monthly* **[http://www2.TheAtlantic.com/atlantic/issues/95dec/israel/israel.htm].**

Don't miss the link at the end of the piece to another *Atlantic* article called *Tel Aviv: Secular City*. You can find other personal essays about Israel or share one of your own at **[http://www.travelnet.co.il/tnet/win/index.htm].**

There are many Web sites where you can start planning your itinerary. The Ministry of Tourism's Infotour is a plain but extremely comprehensive listing of the country's major attractions **[http://www.infotour.co.il/].**

I tested it out by looking for information about ice skating rinks. (You never know when the bug will hit you to lace up some skates.) Well, Canada Centre in the town of Metulla in the Upper Galilee **[http://www.infotour.co.il/itm_opt.cgi?7085+36]** does indeed offer skating as do several other rinks across the country.

Looking for some more basic information? Try Maven's Travel and Tourism **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/ idx167.htm];** Maven's Hotels and Accommodation **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx143.htm];** Bazak's Travelnet **[http://www.travelnet.co.il/];** and JC-Navigate: Travel **[http://www.jcn18.com/JHOT11.HTM].**

That should keep you busy. Next time, we'll look at some pages that will help you organize your money, maps and time and we'll visit some Israeli travel sites that are a bit off the beaten path.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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What's New

By Miriam Hernan

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, July 21, is deadline for July 31 issue and Monday, July 28, is deadline for Aug. 7. Since Monday, Aug. 4, is a Civic Holiday, Tuesday, Aug. 5, is deadline for Aug. 14 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, July 19

MINYAN SERVICES

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, traditional Conservative services conducted by **Rabbi Irving Beigel** 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Synagogue. 480-4421.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan summer Shabbat service every Saturday, 10 a.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. Singles of all ages, families of all varieties and children welcome.

Sunday, July 20

SCALES OF JUSTICE

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood present Crown attorney **Michael Bernstein** speaking on Scales of Justice: Victim's Rights vs. Accused Rights, Is the Public Protected?, 8 p.m. at the synagogue. Guests $2. Coordinators are **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove.**

BOAT CRUISE

Thursday Night Out event 1-6 p.m. BYO bicycle/roller blades. Meet on the *Yankee Lady II* for a boat cruise to the islands. Bike/blade back on the boat for a wine tasting and light snacks. $25. cash bar. Reserve. **Jordana** 927-9818. Partial proceeds from all Thursday Night Out events go to Jewish Family & Child Service to Send a Kid to Camp.

WINGATE BRANCH PICNIC

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, annual picnic, 10 a.m., G. Ross Lord Park, Dufferin north of Finch, opposite main parking area. **Milton Shapiro** 630-3912.

Monday, July 21

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Sunday, July 27

KLEZMER BAND

Klapman's Klezmer Band performs 7:30 p.m. at Mel Lastman Square as part of the Sunday Serenades concerts. Led by **Jordan Klapman**, who also plays the keyboard, the band plays "freiliche" simchah music, traditional Yiddish folksongs and sing-alongs. Singer **Faye Kellerstein** performs and singer/entertainer **Marvin Rosenshein** is emcee.

Monday, July 28

MIND, BODY AND SOUL

Mind, Body and Soul according to Kabbalah free seminar at Bathurst Jewish Centre, 7:30 p.m. 631-9395.

And What Else Is New

ASHKENAZ '97

Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Jewish Culture, comes to Harbourfront Centre Aug. 25-Sept. 1. Enjoy klezmer bands, jazz, theatre, dance, visual arts, children and family events, workshops, films, parade, food and more! Ashkenaz is produced in association with Bloor JCC and Harbourfront Centre. While most of the more than 75 events are free, tickets are now on sale for the 10 ticketed events. For information, Harbourfront, 973-3000. For tickets, Harbourfront box office 973-4000.

JVS VOLUNTEERS

Buddy, can you spare some time? If so, Jewish Vocational Service of Metropolitan Toronto is the place for you to volunteer. JVS is looking for volunteers in a number of positions which include student teachers, data entry operators, office clerks and more. If you are a well organized team player

[Cont'd on page 15]

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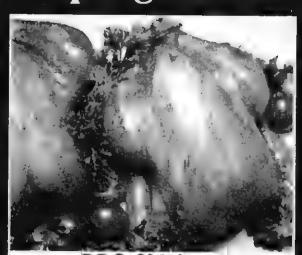
BBQ Chickens
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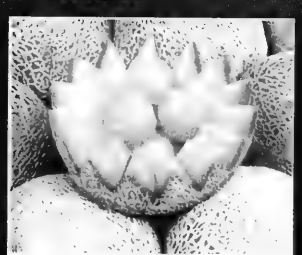
399 lb.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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 14]

with computer skills, call **Joy Levy** 787-1151, ext. 244.

YIDDISH IS YIDDISH

Toronto Jewish Theatre presents a Chaim Avron production, *Yiddish is Yiddish*, an evening of Jewish humor and song with comedian **"Yankele" Bodo** direct from Israel, together with songstress **Jenny Feyerman** and Ted Labow Trio Orchestra, Saturday evening, Sept. 6, Sunday, Sept. 7, 2:15 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. at Leah Posluns Theatre. 222-0234.

SOCIAL SKILLS GROUP

Jewish Family & Child Service and Learning Disabilities of York Region announce a new Program for Teens who have difficulty with relationships. The group, to develop improved social skills and self-esteem, is held at JF&CS office in Promenade Mall, beginning September. Information/registration **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

MAN TO MAN

Man to Man Prostate Cancer Support Group meets the first and third Tuesday of every month, 7-9 p.m., 20 Holly St. Suite 101. 932-8820.

Also, Side by Side support group for women: spouses, family and friends of men with prostate cancer meets the same time at the same place in Suite 302.

PERFORMERS WANTED

A call for singers and dancers who would love to learn Yiddish through drama and music! Children, teenagers and adults are required for solos and chorus. Evening and weekend rehearsals for an October inter-generational variety show. No auditions, no fees, just enthusiasm for stage experience. **Nathan Garnick** 651-1131.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Jewish Family & Child Service Bereavement Group to discuss coping with grief, living alone, changing relationships, begins Aug. 5. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215

FOR SENIORS

LZA Seniors Club has a few tickets left for *Camelot* at Stratford Sept. 3. Tickets available at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. (new time) and Cultural Discussion group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club Ottawa trip Aug. 17-19, seven kosher meals, Renoir exhibit. Oak Creek Boat Farm cruise, entertainment, Aug. 5. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). July 24, movie *The Patriots* by **Josi Binae**; July 29, Tuesday picnic 11 a.m. Earl Bales Park, non-members $2; July 31 lecture by **Aaron Dahary** on Sephardi Jewry. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Association of Jewish Seniors picnic Sunday, July 20, Earl Bales Park, Area 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bring lunch and chairs. Free bingo, prizes, entertainment, surprises. Everyone welcome. **Goldie Lieberman** 635-2860.

Sunrise Group trip to Pines Hotel in the Catskills Aug. 11-15, $595 medical insurance included. **Esther** 223-9165.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dance July 27; Art Gallery of Ontario, July 29; Thornhill Square Mall, Aug. 11; barbecue party Aug. 17; Royal Ontario Museum Aug. 19; New Dixie Mall, Aug. 26; *Jolson* at Royal Alexandra Theatre, Aug. 28; Casino Rama, Sept. 17; Haliburton, Sept. 22-23; Washington and Atlantic City, Oct. 26-31; pre-holiday shopping in Buffalo, Nov. 5. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip to the newly renovated Pines Hotel (Glatt kosher kitchen stamped from New York), July 25-Aug. 3. Medical cancellation, bus, hotel and tax included $1,197 Canadian. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre presents Summer Safety-Preventative with **Mary Linton**, senior first aid instructor, Canadian Red Cross, Thursday, July 17, 1:30 p.m.

Arthritis Society Pain Management Clinic with **Bev Tobe**, registered therapist, Arthritis Society, Thursday, July 17, 1-4:30 p.m. Book appointment with Wellness Desk. Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, July 22, 1:30-3 p.m. **Blanche Wiseman**, social worker with Jewish Family & Child Service, leads an interactive discussion on The Emotional Effects of the Diagnosis of Osteoporosis. Resource person is **Joan Turner.**

Israeli Etrog Club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. July 23 is a lecture. **Anna**.

Sunday movies, 2:15 p.m.: *First Wives Club* July 20, and *I Love You Again* July 27.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band Sunday, July 20, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Wednesday socials 1:30 p.m.: July 23 Love and Magic musical concert with **Linda Pollack,** and July 30 musical show with **George Frank.**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Summer Flea Market community fundraising event Sunday, July 20, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Vendors wanted. **Alison Lee.**

ABOUT PEOPLE

USDS EXECUTIVE

United Synagogue Day School, at its recent annual corporation meeting, elected the following executive to its 1997-98 board of directors: **Eileen Silver**, immediate past president; **Elie Newman**, president; **Michael Flatt**, executive vice-president; **Brian Goldberg**, **David Malach** and **Julia Spritzer**, vice-presidents; **Jeffrey Glatt**, secretary, and **Shelley Levine,** treasurer. **Marsha Urowitz** is president of the Parents' Association.

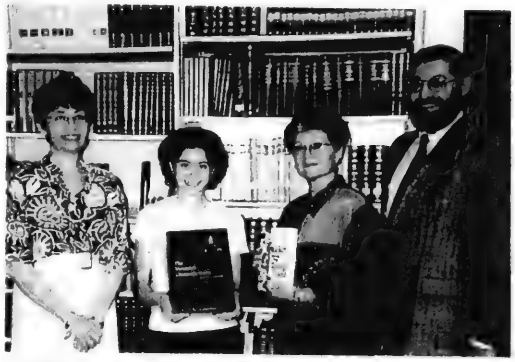
Lucy Cohen is director of education and **Sue Walsh** is the school's administrator.

NCJW INSTALLATION

Roz Fine

Roz Fine was installed as president of National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, at the recent annual Volunteer Recognition Evening and installation of officers. A dedicated Council member, she has held many executive positions within Toronto Section: vice-president of Membership; chair of Branch Liaison Board; and executive vice-president. Under her guidance, the Young Women's Group was formed. Fine has held many positions within Yachad Branch of which she is a member.

Barbara Greenglass, past president, was installed as Board chair and **Sheila Mostyn** as executive vice-president.



STUDENT CONTRIBUTES TO LIBRARY

Associated student Etta Abramson contributed a number of valuable books to the Associated Hebrew Schools' Library to mark the occasion of her bat mitzvah. From left are Judy Cohen, Junior High supervisor; Etta Abramson, junior high student; Nili Ekstein, Hebrew librarian; Jerry Rosenfield, junior high principal.

JF&CS GALA THEATRE NIGHT

Pictured at Jewish Family & Child Service gala theatre night of *Jolson: The Musical* are co-chairs Janice Langer (left) and Garry Foster (right), with Richard and Joanne Cummings, sponsors of the reception held before the theatre. Proceeds enable JF&CS to send additional children to camp, as well as providing support for the Women Abuse Program.

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SPINACH BOURAKAS			VALUEPAC 600 g	$3.99
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SPINACH NUGGETS	200 g	$2.79	VALUEPAC 800 g	$8.29
POTATO NUGGETS	200 g	$2.79	VALUEPAC 800 g	$8.29
CHICKEN NUGGETS	200 g	$2.79	VALUEPAC 800 g	$8.29
VEG. BROCCOLI NUGGETS	200 g	$2.79	VALUEPAC 800 g	$8.29
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Jewish leaders angered by war crimes action delay

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — News that proceedings against an alleged Nazi war criminal from Quebec have been adjourned until Dec. 1 has angered Jewish community leaders.

According to new reports last week, Montreal Rosemount resident Vladimir Katriuk, 75, who was accused in October 1996 of taking part in atrocities against citizens in Belarus and the Ukraine between 1942 and 1944, will not have to face first deportation proceedings against him until December because his lawyer, Orest Rudzik, is preoccupied with another war crimes case in Toronto.

Katriuk, a beekeeper by profession, has denied participating in any atrocities and defended himself as a victim of Communist persecution.

"Fifteen months might not seem like a lot [from the time charges were first filed]," said Bernie Farber, national community relations director for Canadian Jewish Congress.

"But every minute of delay creates more palpable frustration and anger," he said.

Farber acknowledged that the federal government faces a tough balancing act in war crimes cases: weighing the rights of the accused to due process against the necessity to move these cases along as expeditiously as possible given the advanced ages of the accused.

The obvious danger is that with such delays, there is a risk of the accused dying in Canada before the cases are resolved and justice can be seen to be done, Farber said.

Two accused persons, Antanas Kenstavicius and Joseph Nemsila, have already died before their denaturalization proceedings were completed.

"Each delay is a setback," Farber said, "since it gives them more time to stay in Canada.

"These are extraordinary cases, and what has to be found is correct, yet extraordinary, means to resolve them."

Farber also noted that the process has moved quicker in the United States.

Cases there launched by the Office of Special Investigations have taken an average of 15 months to two years to denaturalize and to deport suspects.

In Canada, it can take two years just to strip a suspect of citizenship. It can take another two years to deport.

Such was the case of Nazi war criminal Jacob Lutjens, so far the only successful Canadian deportation case. He was expelled to Holland in 1992, but only after four years of proceedings and appeals.

While expressing frustration over the latest delay, Farber did not impune the good faith of the federal government.

Ottawa, he said, has lived up to its commitment to name 12 suspected Nazi collaborators – the last of the 12 was Montreal resident Memertas Rolland Maciukas last week.

He is facing denaturalization proceedings for alleged participation in the notorious 12th Lithuanian Battalion, which collaborated with the Nazis in the slaughter of Jews and Gypsies in Lithuania and Byelorussia.

Soberman Isenbaum & Colomby

Therese Cornelissen

John Colomby, Managing Partner of Soberman Isenbaum & Colomby, is pleased to announce the appointment of Therese Cornelissen to partnership.

Ms. Cornelissen is a Chartered Accountant, has completed the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants' in-depth tax course and has been with Soberman Isenbaum & Colomby since 1986. Her practice focuses on public companies in both the health care and real estate industries as well as owner-managed businesses. Ms. Cornelissen has experience in Canadian/U.S generally accepted accounting principles and audit issues.

Soberman Isenbaum & Colomby, the largest single-office Canadian public accounting firm, ranks as the seventeenth largest in Canada. The firm offers its clients auditing, accounting, taxation, valuation litigation support and corporate and personal bankruptcy services on a consulting services on a *person to person* basis.

Soberman Isenbaum & Colomby
Chartered Accountants

Former Dartmouth mayor surprised by Order of Canada

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Eight weeks ago, Joseph Zatzman received a registered letter from the Governor General's residence at Rideau Hall.

"I was surprised, stunned and very pleased," says the 84-year old former mayor of Dartmouth, N.S., and a major contributor to the Jewish and general communities of Halifax and environs.

The letter informed Zatzman that he was being named a member of the Order of Canada, but suggested he keep the information secret until a public statement was made in early July.

"I've had many faxes and telephone calls in the last 24 hours," he says, the day after the July 3 announcement was made. "I even had people approach me in the grocery store while I was shopping with my wife, Leah, and I don't even know who they are. Last night, we went out to dinner and the restaurant owner wouldn't let me or my party pay. I asked him how many times I could pull this off," he says with a chuckle.

Zatzman is well-known throughout Nova Scotia. Recognized for his achievements in industry and business, he was a small grocery store operator in Dartmouth in the 1940s but soon entered real estate, acquiring some small apartment buildings. He quickly became a major player in the rental housing business and now owns several large complexes in the Halifax metro area.

He served on Dartmouth city council for 12 years, including four as mayor in the 1960s. It was his foresight that convinced his council to purchase land in suburban Dartmouth, which soon became Burnside Industrial Park.

"I told them, if you won't buy it for the city, I'll buy it personally," he laughs today. Fortunately, his councillors recognized his commitment and listened to him. Burnside is now the largest business park east of Montreal.

He has served on more than 20 volunteer organizations, holds an honorary doctorate from Saint Mary's University in Halifax and recently retired after four years as chairman of the province's Resource Development Board, after 20 years without taking a salary.

Zatzman chaired the Halifax United Jewish Appeal campaign in the 1960s and was co-chair of the building committee of Beth Israel Synagogue when it erected a new facility in the 1950s.

A three-time-a-week golfer, he still goes to his real estate office every day but says, "I've been demoted by my son Michael [who runs the business today].

"I was in Florida and when I came back, I found I'd been demoted from president to chairman of the board."

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From coast to coast

Jewish performers join Vancouver music festival

By DAVID LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — The city's 20th annual folk music festival, July 18 to 20, offers a variety of artists and an eclectic blend of music.

The sounds of the Middle East will be represented by Maza Meze as well as Adel Awad. Awad who was born in Egypt, performs with the local Jewish band Tzimmes.

The folk fest also features several Jewish performers, including veterans Cathy Fink (who will be performing with Marcy Marcer), Bob Snider and Si Kahn.

Fink and Marcer are veterans of the folk music scene who perform a variety of music including bluegrass, country and swing.

Kahn, who was active in the civil rights movements in the 1960s, has been recording folk and bluegrass music for about 20 years.

Snider, from Toronto, began his singing career as a busker in 1987.

Singer/songwriter and keyboardist Bobby Wiseman will be performing at his first Vancouver folk fest along with The Binder Specialists featuring Liz Tecar, Selina Martin and Morgan Doctor.

Wiseman, who was born in the south end of Winnipeg but now lives in Toronto, is the former keyboardist with the Canadian band, Blue Rodeo. (They performed at last year's Bumbershoot festival). He has recorded several tunes which explore Jewish themes.

The song, *Have a Nice Day* which is taken from his 1992 release *City of Wood*, is a tongue-in-cheek tribute to Doug Christie, the lawyer who defended Canadian Holocaust deniers Ernst Zundel and Jim Keegstra. *How Round the Earth*, a song taken from the same recording, describes an anti-Semitic incident he experienced in Winnipeg.

Wiseman mentions names in his songs because "the only time change happens in the world is through embarrassment," he says.

Another Jewish performer, Dan Bern, whose parents fled Europe to escape the Nazis, says their experiences "affect my music."

In his song, *Lithuania*, which appears on his next album, he recites the names of uncles, aunts and grandparents who perished in the Holocaust.

He wrote *Jerusalem* about three years ago when he spent 10 days in the Jewish capital.

Bern, however, doesn't think of himself as a Jewish artist. "I don't generally put myself into categories," he says. "I happen to be Jewish, I happen to be male, I happen to be from Iowa originally and I happen to be a Giants fan, but I don't think of myself as a Jewish artist.

"The whole thing of being an artist is about freedom and to be whoever they are...and to be able to change and shift and grow and not to be bound by any categories that people have set for them," he adds.

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Happy 90th birthday to Ruth Unger on May 11. Love and good health from your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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Mazel tov to Eddie Gordon and Lisa Greenberg (Montreal) on their engagement. A June 1998 wedding is planned.

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From coast to coast

Israel Day Caravan comes to Niagara Falls

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

ST. CATHARINES, Ont. — As part of the small Jewish community here for almost a decade, Rosalie Samosh feels she has to work harder to make sure her children, age 7, 9 and 11, are educated Jewishly and feel connected to other Jews.

Recently the load was lightened somewhat for her and other parents when Israel Day Caravan came to B'nai Jacob Congregation in nearby Niagara Falls, Ont.

The event was a pilot project under the joint auspices of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region; youth movements Betar-Tagar, Canadian Young Judaea, Habonim Dror and Hashomer Hatzair; and the Canada Israel Experience Centre, which provided the funding.

It is planned to run in about half a dozen small communities in Ontario over the coming year, beginning with Sault Ste. Marie in September, said Jennifer Turack, director of community services and youth activities, CJC, Ontario region.

Niagara Falls' B'nai Jacob Congregation – of which Samosh's father, Rabbi Nathan Liberman, is spiritual leader – was the site of the event, which also included St. Catharines' two synagogues, Congregation B'nai Israel and Temple Tikvah.

Kerri Joffe, right, of Canadian Young Judaea, ran an arts and crafts booth at the recent Israel Day Caravan in Niagara Falls. [Leanne Rosen photo]

Samosh estimates a total of about 160 families are affiliated with the two St. Catharines synagogues, and a further 35 to 40 families with the Niagara Falls congregation, although many of them live in St. Catharines.

"It's a struggle in a small community. We always rely on the same people," said Samosh, who teaches Hebrew school. "I think for the most part we've been very successful," but the caravan provided "a little bit of that ruach that I experienced in Toronto events." She lauded Congress for the support it provides to small Jewish communities. "They have been wonderful."

Niagara Falls already had annual Israel Day programs, Turack noted. Both she and Samosh have been involved in organizing them, with the emphasis in years past on involving children.

"We've always tried to offer something partly educational and entertaining," Samosh said. "It's an opportunity for the community to get together."

She rated this year's event, attended by an estimated 75 people, as "a very valuable program," with appeal for both adults and children. "It really helps develop a sense of community and ensure that we acknowledge Israel's independence. It's such a part of our culture and our community."

Ryan Hass, shaliach for Canadian Young Judaea, ran a program on Jewish identity and religious pluralism that Samosh said was one of the best adult programs she's ever attended.

Youngsters learned about four Israeli cities through arts and crafts activities such as making plasticine versions of Jerusalem's Old City. Older children created a banner for the synagogue depicting a day in the life of Israel.

Singer/guitarist Kim Kowarsky-Doron, who Samosh said faced the challenge of trying "to involve people from age 3 to 80," got them up and dancing to Israeli music. A taste of the Middle East was apparent in the falafel lunch and birthday cake for Israel.

"We had excellent feedback," said Turack. "People had a very good time."

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Hillel scholarships presented

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadians are well represented among this year's Hillel Leadership Scholarship award winners. Of the 15 such scholarships given this year by the Washington, D.C.-based Hillel International, four went to Canadian students studying at Canadian institutions.

Maya Haasz, Ira Markus, Sharrona Pearl and Ilana Reitzes – and their 11 American counterparts – will spend the coming year studying at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Rothberg School for Overseas Students in a program that includes classes, workshops, leadership development training and field trips.

Maya Haasz

Ilana Reitzes

Acceptance of the $1,000 (US) scholarship commits students to participating in program activities and to spend time on their return to North America promoting Israel awareness and activism.

Haasz, 19, a Montreal native and recent graduate of Dawson College (CEGEP) who plans a career in medicine, intends to take politics and Jewish studies courses in Israel. "I'm going into science for the rest of my life. These are things I know I won't get to take when I come back."

A graduate of Herzliah High School, Haasz has taken an active role in Hillel at Dawson, most recently as a vice-president for the past year. For both years at CEGEP she chaired Hillel's social action committee.

The leadership component of the year ahead is particularly appealing to Haasz, a past regional president of B'nai Brith Youth Organization who is also involved in the student wing of FEDERATION CJA and the young leadership division of the Jewish National Fund. "I know I'll be involved in the community when I come back," she said.

Reitzes, 19, an American-born Torontonian who has been studying for the past two years at McGill University, is hoping to "gain stronger ties with Israel and an enhanced Jewish identity." A graduate of Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), Reitzes, like the other participants, has a solid base on which to build.

A student of anthropology and religious studies, she plans to pursue those subjects at the Hebrew University. She also hopes to attend a graduate-level course on Chassidism, a particular interest of hers, and possibly more classes at another Jewish educational institution.

Among her volunteer activities at McGill was involvement in an Arab-Israeli dialogue group. Before leaving for Israel in August, she is working as a summer intern at UJA Federation.

Ira Markus, also 19, has finished his second year at the University of Toronto with a double major in political science and history.

A graduate of United Synagogue Day School and CHAT, Markus has "kind of a passion for Israel. I wanted any opportunity or excuse to go."

Most of his courses, he said, will give him credit towards his U of T degree. "I hope to come back with at least a little more knowledge of the way Israeli politics works [and] a better understanding of Israeli culture."

"It's very exciting. It's always been a dream of mine to study in Israel," said Pearl, 20, who just finished her second year at York University studying science history and humanities.

Although she'll be based at the Hebrew University, in some ways the alumna of Associated Hebrew Schools and CHAT sees all of Israel as her campus for the coming year. "It will give me a much better understanding of my history, a context I wouldn't be able to get here."

As social action chair for the university's Jewish Student Federation, Pearl worked on projects such as a clothing drive (with environmental studies students) and served as the York coordinator for the Out of the Cold program to feed the homeless, volunteering every week at Holy Blossom Temple, where the program was based.

Sharrona Pearl

Ira Markus

SINGLES EVENTS

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Israelis, Palestinians discuss Gaza airport

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — As Israel and the Palestinians attempted to resume negotiations last week, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sought to head off the stirrings of another coalition crisis.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Palestinian Authority official Nabil Sha'ath met to discuss the opening of a Palestinian airport in the Gaza Strip.

The airport is one of the outstanding elements of the interim phase agreement signed by the two sides that must still be implemented.

The sides have been at odds over Israeli demands to maintain overall security supervision of the terminal.

Mordechai's spokesperson said after the talks, in which the Egyptian and U.S. ambassadors to Israel also took part, that the meeting was "effective" and had been conducted in a "positive and good atmosphere."

The spokesperson said Mordechai told Sha'ath that Foreign Minister David Levy, who is responsible for coordinating negotiations with the Palestinians, was drawing up a negotiating team and would soon approve the start of negotiations on the matter.

The discussions did not touch on some of the larger issues of contention in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, namely constructing in disputed territory.

The Palestinians broke off negotiations in mid-March, after Israel began building a new Jewish neighborhood in southeastern Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, sources in the Prime Minister's Office were quoted in Israeli media as expressing concern that National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon might lead right-wing opposition against the opening of the airport.

He might also oppose further Israeli troop redeployment in the West Bank, which is scheduled for the fall under the interim accords.

The Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* quoted sources in the Prime Minister's Office and senior Likud members as being worried that Sharon might act in response to Ya'acov Ne'eman's appointment as finance minister.

After Dan Meridor resigned the post last month, Sharon had been the leading candidate. However, recently, he was informed that the post would go to Ne'eman instead. Levy had fiercely opposed Sharon's appointment.

During a tour of the north, Sharon sharply attacked the prime minister, accusing him of not consulting with him on security and political affairs.

For his part, Netanyahu said he hoped the two could meet again. Sources in the Prime Minister's Office reiterated Netanyahu's pledge to consult with Sharon on matters of importance.

Russia said ready to downgrade cooperation with Iran

By HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Clinton administration believes that Russia now understands the severity with which Washington and Jerusalem view its cooperation with Iran, and is willing to act on it, according to an Israeli official.

While he does not know what the results of the American effort will be, or what promises the Russians made to the United States, the official said Moscow is checking into the issue. Unlike in the past, Moscow "is now more attentive to what the Americans are saying" about its missile sales and nuclear plant assistance to Iran," he said.

The matter was advanced at last month's economic summit in Denver, when President Bill Clinton, at the request of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, raised the matter with Russian President Boris Yeltsin, the official said, confirming published reports.

Meanwhile, Israel does not believe it can put off the UN General Assembly session on Har Choma, and the United States has not promised to oppose any draft that is brought before the forum, a second official stated.

"The Americans will try to moderate them, of course," the official said, referring to Egypt and the Palestinians, the primary sponsors of the session, "but I don't think they can do much."

A key stumbling block is that the session is being held in the larger forum rather than in the Security Council, where Washington has a veto, which it exercised this spring on a resolution condemning Israel over the Har Choma construction.

Ambassador Eliahu Ben-Elissar met last week with Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Thomas Pickering, but received no U.S. assurances on acting against the Palestinian effort.

Nato leaders meet in Madrid

Pickering was the chief State Department official in town last week, while Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Assistant Secretary of State Strobe Talbott attended the NATO expansion meeting in Madrid.

Ben-Elissar also met with House Speaker Newt Gingrich to update him on the UN situation.

Israel has informed the Palestinians it sees the matter gravely, because the Palestinians' UN effort is proceeding while Jerusalem and the Palestinian Authority are seeking to break the freeze in peace talks, the officials stated.

"We've shown the Palestinians enough fairness, to expect them not to attack us so harshly in an international forum while we're trying to restart negotiations," an Israeli official said.

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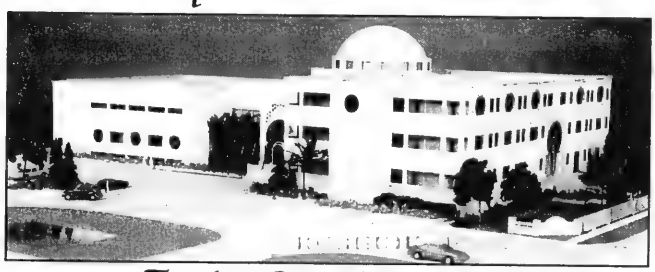

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Italy to return gold to Jews

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — Italy will return gold, jewelry and other valuables plundered by the Nazis from Jews in northeastern Italy during World War II, according to a law passed this week in Rome.

The Italian Treasury Ministry announced last week that parliament had given final approval to a bill sponsored by Treasury Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi to hand over the contents of five sacks of valuables discovered in a Treasury vault earlier this year.

The sacks contain jewelry, precious stones, watches, coins, silver cutlery and other objects, personal items, gold and even gold teeth that were looted from Jews at the Nazi death camp of San Saba, near Trieste.

They soon will be handed over to the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, the umbrella body of Italian Jews, which will in turn give them to the Jewish community of Trieste.

Tullia Zevi, president of the union, expressed appreciation for "the correctness, the timeliness and the speed" of the Parliament. "I hope that this example will be followed by other countries."

A Treasury Ministry statement said that the law "is of great moral significance and puts our country among the first to take legal steps to fulfil a duty of civility and solidarity towards the Jewish communities."

Claims for Holocaust compensation by the Trieste Jewish community, backed by a campaign last January in the local Trieste newspaper, prompted a government investigation into what had happened to the possessions of Trieste-area Jews who had been sent to San Saba.

A commission established that the goods had belonged to Jews killed or interned in San Saba, the only Nazi death camp on Italian soil.

The investigation revealed that the plundered treasure was taken to Klagenfurt, in Austria, by the retreating Germans at the end of the war, where it was hidden in the cellars of the local Nazi chief.

After the war, the valuables were brought back to Trieste by the Allies, but only a small fraction was claimed by surviving Jews.

The rest was deposited in a Trieste bank vault and eventually sent to the Treasury in Rome for safekeeping in 1962.

NATO welcomed

[Cont'd from page 1]

No longer "captive Jews" behind the Iron Curtain, these Jewish communities now are demonstrating a growing self-confidence in their identity and are demanding recognition as full-fledged members of the Jewish world.

"Of course we need and appreciate cooperation with all the international Jewish organizations," Warsaw Jewish representative Stanislaw Krajewski told attendees at a recent conference in Strasbourg on Strengthening Jewish Life in Europe.

"But being partners means we should not be ignored."

Poland's Jewish leadership was particularly blunt on the issue last month.

Jerzy Kichler, the newly elected 49-year-old president of the Union of Jewish Communities in Poland, issued a statement backing Poland's entry into NATO.

In doing so, he categorically rejected attempts by the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) to link NATO entry to Warsaw's handling of the restitution of Jewish property.

Polish officials fear that such opposition could harm the chances of securing the U.S. congressional approval needed to ratify the admission of new members to NATO.

"We believe that Poland's entry to NATO serves the interests of our country and of all its citizens, including Polish Jews,' Kichler's statement said. "It can only improve the situation of Jews in Poland."

Half a century after three million Polish Jews were murdered in the Holocaust, the Polish Jewish community, though numbering only in the thousands, is trying to re-establish a viable presence as an integrated part of Polish society.

Kichler's election in May put community leadership firmly in the hands of a post-Holocaust generation.

This generation's aim is to create a Jewish life that fits the nature of present-day Polish Jews – Jews who, as one community member put it, are "as Polish as French Jews are French."

Kichler' statement backing NATO membership demonstrated the community's growing desire to make its voice heard – and heeded – on issues relating to the future of both the community and Poland.

Meanwhile, the American Jewish Committee's (AJC) board of governors, meeting in New York last month, also passed a resolution supporting Poland's entry into NATO.

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The Vancouver B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation seeks applicants for its Executive Director position. The Executive Director and three staff serve the Jewish needs of more than 300 affiliated students on four campuses in the Greater Vancouver area. Resumes should be sent to: Professor Sheldon Green, UBC Department of Mechanical Engineering, 2324 Main Mall, Vancouver, B.C., V6T 1Z4.

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- assisting the Executive Director in the supervision and professional development of staff.

Requirements:
The successful candidate will have:
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- knowledge of Jewish communal affairs within a Federation would be an asset.

Send résumé, in confidence to:
Mitchell Bellman,
Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'Ir,
151 Chapel Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 7Y2.
Deadline for submissions: August 4, 1997

Israel & the Jewish World

The Week in Israel

July 7

• An Israeli military court sentenced an Islamic militant to 46 consecutive life terms for his involvement in three suicide bombings in 1996 that killed 46 people.

July 8

•The head of the IDF Intelligence told the Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee that the Islamic Jihad is planning more terrorist attacks.

• Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said Israel must maintain a military presence in southern Lebanon to ensure the safety of its northern settlements.

• The Knesset passed final reading of a bill declaring the anniversary of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination as a national day of mourning.

July 9

• The Knesset approved the appointment of Yaacov Ne'eman as finance minister and Michael Eitan as science minister.

• Several mortars fired from Lebanon landed in northern Israel. No one was injured and no damage was caused.

• State comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat told a Knesset committee she did not intend to conduct a special investigation into claims that Ehud Barak left injured soldiers in the field after an army training accident when he was chief of staff.

July10

• Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai characterized his talks with Palestinian Authority official Nabil Sha'ath as "effective" and "conducted in a positive and good atmosphere." A model for accelerating negotiations on a Palestinian airport in the Gaza strip was discussed.

• National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon accused Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of excluding him from political and security decision-making.

July 11

• Israeli security forces went on heightened alert following warnings of a possible terrorist attack. The alert came as incidents of violence were reported throughout the West Bank.

With files from the JTA

Value of aid weighed

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

When Benjamin Netanyahu addressed the U.S. Congress last July, he spoke of his intention to make Israel's economy self-reliant and to gradually wean it off American economic aid.

A year on, Netanyahu has begun this very process, albeit modestly. Israel, which receives $3 billion in U.S. aid annually, of which $1.2 billion takes the form of economic assistance, has agreed to a $50 million cut, which will be channeled to Jordan. (Fifty million dollars was also skimmed from Egypt, the recipient of slightly more than $2 billion in yearly American aid.)

It's clear that Israel can manage without U.S. economic assistance. Israel has ceased being a poor country, as it was in the early years of its existence, when rationing was in effect. Israel's economy is now larger than that of all of its Arab neighbors and its per capita income is approaching that of Britain. Indeed, Israel ranks as the sixteenth wealthiest nation in the world.

In addition to American government aid, Israel gets more than $1.5 billion in private U.S. funds per year: $1 billion in tax-deductible donations and $500 million in Israel Bonds.

Cognizant of these realities, Yossi Beilin, the former Israeli deputy foreign minister, added a new element to Israeli-Diaspora discourse when, in a well-publicized speech some years ago, he wondered out loud "how we [can] go on asking for your charity?"

It's a good question, and it complements Netanyahu's interest in reducing, if not altogether eliminating, Israel's reliance on U.S. economic aid. But Netanyahu is hardly the first Israeli personality who has broached the subject.

Zalman Shoval, the Israeli ambassador to Washington in the early 1990s, advised Israel to take the initiative in weaning itself off U.S. economic aid.

Yitzhak Rabin, several months before his assassination, intimated that while there was broad support in Congress for maintaining military assistance to Israel, there was no such unanimity regarding its economic aid package.

Reflecting this sentiment, U.S. congressman Sonny Callahan, chair of the sub-committee on foreign assistance, said during a visit to Israel last January that "aid to any country is not an entitlement."

Yossi Beilin

Callahan's implicit warning, unsettling though it may have been, paled in comparison to Senator Bob Dole's advocacy seven years ago of a 5 percent cut in aid to Israel.

Despite these voices, and the mood of fiscal restraint currently prevailing in Congress, the principle of U.S. aid to Israel enjoys widespread and bipartisan backing in Congress.

In 1993, 78 out of 100 senators asked Bill Clinton — the most pro-Israel president in U.S. history — to continue aid to Israel at present levels. Last year, Jesse Helms, chair of the powerful U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, asserted that cutting assistance to Israel was "off the table." Newt Gingrich, speaker of the House of Representatives, is an outspoken supporter of unconditional aid to Israel.

Be that as it may, even Israel's friends strongly believe that U.S. economic aid has become superfluous. "The time has come for Israel to do itself and the U.S. a major political favor — volunteer to take less economic aid, or none at all," wrote A.M. Rosenthal in the *New York Times* last June.

And in a persuasive piece in the *Wall Street Journal*, Joel Bainerman, an Israeli-based journalist who specializes in economic affairs, argued that the loss of such assistance "would be a blessing for Israel's economy." In essence, Bainerman said that U.S. economic aid constrained Israel from adopting free-market policies, which in turn would obviate the need for such assistance.

In nearly five decades, Israel has received $80 billion in U.S. military and economic aid, or one-third of the American foreign aid budget, according to Stephen Zunes in an essay in a recent edition of *Middle East Policy*. But can such levels of aid be sustained indefinitely, and is this assistance really in Israel's long-range economic interest?

Correction

In our June 26 story, "Builder planning Jewish seniors home in Moscow," a production error affected the meaning of one of the paragraphs. The paragraph, referring to comments by Russian builder Alexander Platonov, should have read:

Well connected to Moscow government officials, Platonov received the consent of Mayor Yuri Louzhkov to proceed. The mayor, Platonov said, is a "decent, very kind person. For him, there's no difference what nationality you are. Unfortunately," he continued, "at the lower levels, the attitude towards Jews is very bad."

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Campbell co-writes play

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Arts and Sciences. Proceeds from the two evenings went to the My Jewish Discovery Place Children's Museum in Los Angeles.

Featuring 18 actors, all with Broadway experience, and 26 members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, the play won positive reviews for its forcefulness yet sensitivity.

Told from the perspective of the animals aboard Noah's ark, the work is "deep and dark," Campbell said, but also has humor. It's meant to "raise questions, to be provocative, to have people think seriously about moral responsibility and what our obligations are."

Campbell said she and Felder consulted several Jewish sources in tackling the project, including kabbalah (Jewish mysticism) and rabbinic writings.

In the play, as in the Bible, the world is destroyed. But for Campbell, the larger issue is "when you know you have a seat on the ark, do you have an obligation to question the flood? Of all things Noah does, he never questions the actual flood."

She got to know Felder when he came to the consulate to get a visa for Poland, where he conducted interviews with Holocaust survivors for Stephen Spielberg's Shoah project.

Felder, nephew of the late Rabbi Gedalia Felder of Toronto, told *The CJN* Campbell "comes with a vast knowledge of ideas and people, aside from someone who was interested in bringing Nazi war criminals to justice."

The duo say the musical is still in rough form and needs work. They plan some polishing over the next year and then hope for a commercial run in Los Angeles, and perhaps, on to Broadway.

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שנת המפלצות והמלפפונים - ירם פירצקי:

יחד עם הקיץ אשר נחת על טורונטו, הגיעו לעיר הטובה כמה סרטים חדשים פאר היצירה של הוליווד הגאה. והשנה, סרט שהפקתו עלתה פחות ממאה מליון דולרים נשבב סחורה פנומה. ביניהם ראיתי שני סרטים מהמבחר העשיר בדם, יזע ועצמות שבורות. אחד מהם- בעולם האבוד של ספילברג, והשני קון איר, עם ניקולאס קייג וגון מאלקוביץ. וכאן אני מודה באשמה, נהניתי בשני הסרטים מכל דקה למרות התסריט שהיה מעליב אפילו סרט של מנחם גולן, והשחקנים שרמת משחקם לא מתקרבת לקרסוליים של הדיאנוזרים, הלטאות ושאר המפלצות שמתרוצצות על המסך. אך למרות המגרעות שציינתי לא שמעתי חריקה אחת של כסא משועמם לאורך כל ההקרנה. מה שקשה לאמר על הרבה סרטים אחרים שמעוטרים בחמישה כוכבים ומביאים הנאה רוחנית למבקרים ולכמה צופים מתוחכמים. ובינתיים חוגגות הקופות בבתי הקולנוע והתורים הארוכים רומזים שהחיים אפורים ומשעממים וגם החלומות קצרים ולא תמיד צבעוניים. אז מה כבר אפשר להפסיד אם בשמונה דולר קונים מטוסים נוחתים באולמות הימורים, או מפלצות שמפצחות עצמות כמו שפעם פיצחנו גרעינים!

על גזענות ישראלית:

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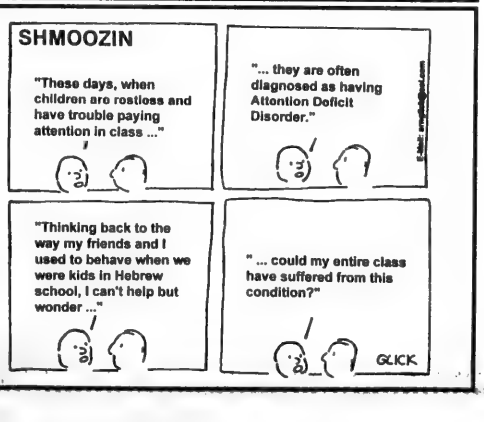
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Hospital for Sick Children joins Telehealth Clinic

TORONTO — The Hospital for Sick Children (HSC) bridged the geographical distance between Canada, Israel and Argentina within a matter of minutes recently through a new international Telehealth Clinic.

The first two videoconferencing links of the Telehealth Clinic are to the head office of Ezra Le'Marpeh in Bnei Brak, Israel, and Gerrahan Children's Hospital in Buenos Aires, Argentina. A third international site slated to be in place by the end of the year is the Hospital de Clinicas de Porto Alegre, Porto Alegre, Brazil.

"The international Telehealth Clinic exemplifies this hospital's leadership role in pediatric health care, education and research in Canada and abroad," said Dr. Robert Filler, director of external medical affairs at HSC, who also spearheads the hospital's Telehealth Clinic.

Ezra Le'Marpeh is a volunteer organization that provides medical consultations and worldwide medical referrals to people in the community. The centre is directed by Rabbi A.E. Firer from its head office in Bnei Brak. Last year HSC had more than 100 consultations and 30 admissions of Israeli children.

Amsalem Hadassah, 3, in Israel (left) and Dr. Ron Zucker, Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.

Garrahan Children's Hospital in Argentina celebrates its 10th anniversary in August. Since its inception, more than two million consultations have taken place. This 517-bed public hospital is also a research and teaching centre. It has a 72-bed intensive care unit and a bone marrow transplant unit. It also provides specialized care in neurosurgery, burns and cardiovascular surgery. More than 30 percent of the patients that come to Garrahan are from cities outside Buenos Aires.

The factors taken into consideration for international partner sites include proper transmission networks, time zone compatibility, a lack of language barriers and the potential for research collaboration.

"We also needed technical support and relied on the expertise of Bell Canada, Teleglobe and ADCOM. We asked them to make the system operate as easily as it does when making a local phone call. And they did just that," said Filler.

"We take great pride in being the international delivery partner in a program that will benefit children around the world," said Richard Gendron, vice-president, Business Services and Development for Teleglobe Canada Inc. "Helping the Hospital for Sick Children go global is a very important project for Teleglobe. There is no group who needs the best that our collective efforts can offer more than children."

Physicians and nurses at the Hospital's Telehealth Clinic are now able to diagnose and provide follow-up care for children abroad who need medical and surgical assessment before, during and after treatment.

"Bell Canada is committed to building active partnerships between our business and the communities in which we live. In our view, this is one of the best ways to give our future generations the greatest opportunities for success," said Bob Milne, Group vice-president, Corporate Markets, Bell Canada.

Baycrest to provide services to homes for the elderly

TORONTO — The Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care plans to provide specialized medical and dental services to residents of the 10 homes for the aged operated by Metropolitan Toronto.

Beginning this month, Baycrest staff will provide hearing and dental services to all 10 Metro homes, which house about 2,500 people. In addition, the centre will provide foot care services to residents in the five homes closest to the main Baycrest campus on Bathurst Street in North York.

"One of our goals is to make our services available to a broader community," says Rosslyn Bentley, Baycrest's coordinator of ambulatory services. "This initiative allows us to achieve that goal and at the same time provide excellent services to a large group of seniors living in the Metro homes for the aged."

For most appointments, Baycrest staff will go to the other homes so that residents will not have to travel. However, if more complex treatment or investigation is required (such as dental x-rays), a trip to Baycrest may be necessary.

SCHOLARSHIP CREATED

A special scholarship was recently established at the University of Toronto in memory of Marvin Kopstick, executive vice-president, Ontario east, of Shoppers Drug Mart, to be known as the Marvin Kopstick Scholarship in Marketing Excellence for fourth year students. Kopstick was a graduate of the faculty of pharmacy at the University of Toronto in 1964 and became a Shoppers Drug Mart associate in 1967. He joined Shoppers Central Office in 1984. He was appointed to the board of directors of the company in 1993.

Marvin Kopstick

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

MUSIC, DANCE, TV

• Alliance Broadcasting has announced a new specialty network called History Television. The new station will supposedly offer an engaging blend of documentaries, movies and original historical programming, beginning Sept. 8.

• Performers at the Free Times Cafe's Bella! Did Ya Eat? brunch extravaganza are **Bluma** with **Jonno Lightstone** performing klezmer and Jewish music on July 20, and **Ronnie Wiseman** performing klezmer on July 27, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 320 College St. 416-967-1078.

• The Festival of the Sound's first week runs July 21 to 27 in Parry Sound and offers a variety of sounds, such as sonatas for violin and guitar by **Moshe Hammer** and **Norbert Kraft**, and a Cape Breton Ceilidh with fiddler **David Greenberg**, pianist **David Sandall**, guitarist **Terry McKenna** and singer **Stephanie Conn**. There's also a Baroque Festival, a Bach evening, and a session in which violinists **Moshe Hammer, Lenny Solomon and David Greenberg** play in tribute to the great masters in styles ranging from baroque to jazz. 705-746-2410.

Arts Out of Town

• **Luboml**, a Jewish shtetl destroyed in the Shoah after 600 years of thriving activity, lives again in an exhibition of photographs and memorabilia in the Valley of the Communities at Yad Vashem, Jerusalem. The exhibition **Luboml, A Small Jewish World**, continues through next March.

• The Spertus Museum presents The Dybbuk, an exhibition celebrating the Lyric Opera's American Artists presentation of Shulamit Ran's opera based on the powerful drama of possession by the Yiddish writer Ansky. 618 South Michigan Ave., Chicago. Until Aug. 15. 312-322-1747.

In the Spotlight

Fugitive Pieces, by Toronto writer **Anne Michaels**, is presently taking the literary world by storm. A novel that personalizes the impersonal brutality of the Holocaust and its after-effects on survivors, the best-seller was "a labor of love" that took 10 years to produce, says Michaels, author of two previous books of poetry and until recently, a creative writing instructor at the University of Toronto.

During its composition she showed the manuscript to nobody. Only when it was "absolutely done" did she bring it to McClelland and Stewart, a leading Canadian publisher, which unhesitatingly accepted it for publication.

Since its appearance in 1996, *Fugitive Pieces* has won several literary awards in Canada, including the Trillium Award and the Martin and Beatrice Fischer Award for fiction on a Jewish theme. Last month it beat out 130 other entries to snag Britain's prestigious Orange Prize — and a purse equal to about $66,000 — for a single work of fiction in English by a woman.

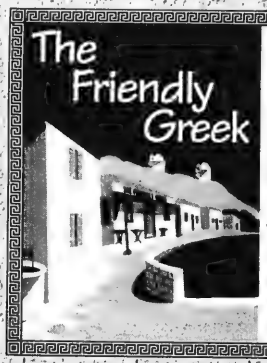
Rights to the critically acclaimed novel have been sold to dozens of publishers internationally and editions are currently being prepared in Chinese, Japanese, Estonian, Spanish, Portuguese — some 22 languages in all. There have even been some movie offers, the 39-year-old author acknowledges as she settles back in Toronto after a lengthy promotional tour.

"Nothing's been decided yet," she told us recently. "It's important that if someone does make a film, they do it with sensitivity. The project must reflect a certain depth."

Meanwhile, Michaels is happily starting work on a second novel.

KLEZMER COMES TO NORTH YORK

Be prepared to dance to the happy mixture of music as Klapman's Klezmer Band, featuring Yiddish singer Faye Kellerstein (right), Jordan Klapman (left) and Marvin Rosenshein (also known as Marty Rose), performs at Mel Lastman Square in North York on July 27, 7:30 p.m. The concert is free to the public.



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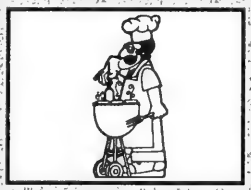

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Visit to Auschwitz prompts Canadian to create play

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

Samantha Swan

TORONTO — A non-Jewish Canadian actor was so shocked by what she saw at Auschwitz that she is the author and the star of a taut drama she hopes will awaken young Canadians to what happened during the Holocaust.

"Those enormous piles of shoes and clothing of the victims burned into my brain," said Samantha Swan, the London-born playwright of *Star*, one of the 83 plays and 600 productions in the Fringe Festival, which ended July 13.

Star is a resourceful and well written play about Isaac and Lili, a Toronto survivor couple who go back to Berlin to search out Stella (Samantha Swan), a Jewish artist's model who denounced fellow Jews, and find out what motivated her heinous acts.

In the end, only Lili, who at one time was her best friend, confronts Stella about her involvement in Lili's mother's being taken by the Gestapo. But it is a hollow victory, as narcissistic Stella, who once dreamed of being another Marlena Dietrich, denies any wrongdoing, underlining the banality of evil.

Isaac, a pubescent idolizer of Stella (he attended the same school), who still dreams about her svelte figure, does not even bother to see her in the flesh, though he ferreted out her Berlin address. Enamored with "the trivia of the Third Reich," as Lili puts it, Isaac says, "I don't need to see her, I just need to ask the questions."

What alarms this writer is that up to press time, not one of the three Toronto dailies had written even a line, in the reams of Fringe material, in advance, or in review, about *Star*, a first-rate play. Is the Holocaust no longer of interest to them?

Star is the first production of Cygnet Theatre Company and the ensemble acting of Swan, Gloria Saesura, Athena Reich, Robert Fulton and Giles Hodge does the new group proud —as does its direction by Swan's husband, Christopher Comrie.

All the actors except Swan play several other roles. The effortless scene changes are done in seconds so that the tension never lets up.

With her blonde hair and Aryan good looks, Swan makes a convincing plump artist's model and her scene with Reich, when the two young girls fantasize about Dietrich, is a gem. At curtain, Reich sings a Hebrew folk song about pain and survival.

When her husband finished his work on a film in Budapest in 1992, the couple, who were married in 1991, visited Poland and Auschwitz on a holiday, where the idea for *Star* was born.

* * *

Ivor Dembina, the grandson of Jewish Polish immigrants to England, brought sophisticated humor with a bite to the Fringe, in his one-man show, Stand Up Jewish Comedy.

Working on a bare stage with no props at the non-air conditioned Glen Morris Theatre, Dembina has a deft touch and good timing. "I want to get away from Jews telling in-jokes to each other," he told *The CJN*. "I think our humor should be far more inclusive. I don't ask my audiences to take down their trousers before they come to the show."

Dembina's trip to Canada, his first, is a bit of a gamble. Following the Toronto Fringe, he's appearing at Fringe Festivals in Winnipeg (July 18 to 27), Saskatoon, Edmonton, Victoria and Vancouver, through the summer.

"I won't make a lot of money, but I hope to cover the cost of the trip The challenge for me is to improve as a comedy performer. My only sponsor is the goodwill of my bank manager."

Dembina, 46, has a Harold Lloyd owlish appearance and likes the Canadian audiences he has seen so far. "They're very open, they like opinionated comedy and I don't have to play to the lowest common denominator."

He's done his homework and has several Canadian references in the show. "Mackenzie King thought Hitler was a smart man and liked dogs. His only trouble was he [Hitler] liked to kill people."

There's an edge to his humor when he talks about the popularity of the movie *Schindler's List*. "People were interested in how the Jews were victimized by the Nazis, but a lot like to see Jews killed too. That's what I call smart marketing."

* * *

If you are putting a play on for the Fringe, you might as well go all the way, which is what the North York Company up in the attic did with Stage Directions by Israel Horovitz of New York, who wrote the acclaimed *English Lesson*.

Two sisters, played by Terrilee Shannon and Lynn Weintraub (who also directed), and a brother, played by Robert Dodds, gather in the living room of a New England home, to attend the funeral of a parent.

All the characters speak only the stage directions, which describe their activities and emotions. It soon becomes obvious that there is much hostility between them.

Though it is leavened with humor, particularly in Dodds' characterization, the black ending leaves the viewer to question whether playwright Horovitz was writing a send-up of Jewish mourning rituals or taking a serious look at sibling relationships.

Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

DEAD SEA SCROLLS UNDER DISCUSSION

Next week, the Israel Museum in Jerusalem marks the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls at Qumran in 1947 with a major conference that promises to bring together dozens of international scholars and members of the lay public for five days of lectures and activities.

Several exhibits being prepared for the conference should be on view for several months thereafter.

A Day At Qumran documents a day in the life of the mysterious sect that variously composed, copied and collected the scrolls, which number about 850. Among the objects on display are a unique sundial, agricultural tools and phylacteries, as well some scroll fragments not previously exhibited.

As it happens, this year also marks the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the Cairo Genizah — a hidden chamber in an old synagogue in Fostat, Old Cairo — in which some 200,000 fragments of medieval Judaic documents were retrieved in 1897.

The Cairo Genizah: An Exhibit of Life presents some 50 rare and fascinating documents that shed light on almost every aspect of Jewish life in the Mediterranean region in the Middle Ages. The collection includes the famous Damascus Document, as well as documents in the original handwriting of Maimonides and other figures.

Another related exhibition, **Meaning and Myth: The Architecture of the Shrine of the Book**, traces the elaborate seven-year planning process through which the Israel Museum's distinctive edifice housing several scrolls was conceived and built.

The Israel Museum has a Web site at [http://www.imj.org.il]. Phone 02-6708811.

* * *

Chanukah Cruise: Celebrate Chanukah on the Carnival Cruise Line ship *Celebration* with Rabbi Elyse Goldstein and family, leaving from Tampa, Fla., and visiting Grand Cayman Island, Playa del Carmen, Cozumel and New Orleans.

The seven-night cruise is priced at $1,949 for an outside cabin, $1,799 for an inside cabin, based on double occupancy; $1,549 for third, fourth or fifth in a cabin. Price includes return air Toronto to St. Petersburg, transfers from airport to pier, first night of Chanukah party, Shabbat service and Saturday Torah study, all on-board meals, entertainment, and more.

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* * *

Medical Tour to Israel: The American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel is sponsoring Jewish Roots of Medicine and the Ethics of Care, a tour and medical seminar in Israel Nov. 2 to 11, with an optional three-day Jordan add-on. The seminar is co-chaired by Steven T. Katz, PhD, director, Centre for Judaic Studies, Boston University, and author of some two dozen books on Jewish thought and history. The other co-chair is Michael A. Nevins, a New Jersey physician and author of *The Jewish Doctor: A Narrative History.*

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Superlative Guidebooks: Travel Talk has already raved about Knopf's *Guide to the Holy Land*. Various other Knopf Guides — Egypt, Florence, Morocco, New York, Prague, St. Petersburg, Thailand — also seem in the same rarefied league, combining outstanding graphics and descriptions on every page.

However, the Knopf *Guide to Paris* seems especially deserving of praise. We spent hours recently going through its pages in fascination. The Knopf series was originally called Borzoi Books and published in France — hence the extraordinary excellence of Paris, which weighs in at nearly 600 pages and costs $35.

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Bargain Painter, apts, houses, offices. Mikhilov, 633-5973.

C.S. Decorating. Painting, Wallpaper, faux finishes, ceramic & vinyl tiles. **Special for landlords.** 905-566-7895

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E. Kats. Painting, decorating. **Free est.** Quality.416-219-4182

Exp. painter/ plasterer/ vinyl tile flooring. Best prices. Free est. Guaranteed. Bill, 638-9249.

450 PAINTING/ WALLPAPERING

Prof. painting/paperhanging, Jacob 667-9869, no shabbos calls.

Harry's Painting, for painting & wallpapering needs. 755-2021.

452 PARTY SERVICES

FOR YOUR PARTIES...
The CandyMan
SNO CONE, POPCORN, CANDY FLOSS, MINI DONUT MACHINE RENTALS
CENTREPIECES
SOFT PRETZELS
BALLOONS
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455 PHOTOGRAPHY/ VIDEO

Every Person Has a Story. Don't lose those **precious memories! Your** Movies, slides & photos transferred to Video. ******Bar & Bat Mitzvah******
Video Coverage from $495.
Spotlight Video 905-886-3210

465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Paralegal Services. Small Claims, Landlord & Tenant, Family Court, Processing Uncontested Divorce kits. Reasonable Rates. **Karen Kirsch & Associates. (416) 663-6135.**

477 SECOND HAND STORES

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We sell •FINE FURNITURE •ACCESSORIES •ANTIQUES
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480 SECURITY SYSTEMS

CANGUARD
A RoGERS Company
Monitoring as low as **$19.95/mo.**
Installation as low as **$98.00** (hard wire system)
Take over existing monitoring system from **$19.95/mo.**
Call Norman Katz, Security Consultant
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Made To Measure
TABLE PADS
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Hebrew Lessons. Experienced teacher. Reading, writing, conversation, Holy Days and Jewish Traditions. All levels & ages. Bathurst/Centre area, Thornhill. For info. call 905-771-0500.

510 UPHOLSTERY

Arctic Custom Upholstering Free est. Let us beautify your yesterdays furniture. Free armcovers, free toss pillows with every 2-piece suite. 665-3445.

Bathurst Upholstery. Reupholstering sofas, chairs. Lowest prices. 781-1995, 886-3148.

There will be no issue on July 24th. The next publication will be July 31st. Due to the Civic holiday, there will be an early classified advertising deadline for the August 7th issue. The deadline is Tuesday, July 29th by 4:00 p.m.

THERE ARE MORE THAN 10 REASONS TO ADVERTISE!
CALL LISA AT (416) 391-1836 FOR ADVERTISING RATES

***CJN* Classifieds Really Work!**

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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for information on classified ad rates

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357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
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475 ROOFING
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481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
548 WORD PROCESSING
550 WORKSHOPS

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — ARCHITECTURAL GEM

Gorgeous custom-built home, open concept, dream gourmet kitchen, loaded with upgrades, fabulous location! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712. SOLD

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED!

Estate sale! Spacious ranch bungalow on gorgeous 60 x 117 ft. lot, asking $439,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

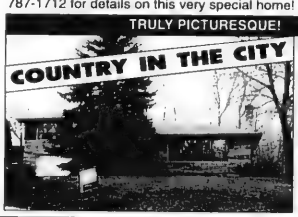
AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE — HOT NEW LISTING
51 ft. frontage in demand location, fab. bldg. lot near Avenue Road, only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

* * *

VIEWMOUNT — FABULOUS RENOVATION!
3 bdrm., 2 storey, eat-in kitchen, new baths, thermopane windows, 50 x 140 ft. lot, $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / PRUE — EXQUISITE EXECUTIVE HOME
Custom-built, luxurious upgrades throughout, exquisite finishes, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge rosewood-panelled family room, prestigious location. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712 for details on this very special home!

TRULY PICTURESQUE!



Magnificent setting! Spacious side-split on 80 x 200 foot lot, in prestigious area, near luxury homes, only $489,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK — SPACIOUS 4 BDRM. BACK-SPLIT — REDUCED
Fam. room, library, renovated kit., gorgeous deep lot, only $419,000. Call Esther Rubenstein or Michael Klugman (416) 787-1712.

HILLHURST — A RARE GEM

Spacious + renovated 5 bdrm. side-split, huge family room, gleaming hardwood floors, modern European custom kitchen, prestigious location, only $499,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN - STORE FOR SALE - REDUCED!
Popular retail strip, good opportunity for user, only $199,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

Forest Hill

Real Estate Inc. Realtor

(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

BATHURST/HEATH JUST $599K
Gorgeous 5 bdrm. stucco home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE - 1ST AD - $599,000
4 bdrm., white kit., gl SOLD Gayle Mitchell* 488-2875

ROSEDALE NORTH - 1ST AD - $429,000
5 bdrm., 2 sty. den & fam. r SOLD uiet ct. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

UPPER FOREST HILL VILLAGE $509,000
4 bdrm., 4 baths, den, eat-in kit. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

BATHURST/EGLINTON JUST $499K
Charming Tudor home, 4 bdrm. fin. bsmt. F. Sversky** 488-2875

MOORE PK. - 4 BDRM. RENO - JUST LISTED
Parking for 3 cars, fin. bsmt. Bonnie Singer** 488-2875

JUST LISTED! BATHURST/LAWRENCE
Totally reno'd. 1.5 sty., 3 bdrms., 3 baths. F. Sversky** 488-2875

FAB. ROSEDALE HOUSE FOR LEASE!
6 bdrms., lge. kit., spacious! Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

DESTINY ROSE HOMES & FOREST HILL R.E.
Presents 6 cstm. blt. homes in North York. F. Sversky** 488-2875

ATT: 1ST TIME BUYERS - NOW $204,900
3 bdrm. on cres., huge kit. & more! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

ARNOLD AVE. - GORGEOUS 300 FT. LOT
Updated 4 br. on property! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATKINSON & CLARK - 3 BDRM. DETACHED $255K
2 car garage, quiet cres.! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATKINSON & CENTRE - MOVE IN TODAY!
3 bdrm., huge kit., 4 appl., central air. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

AVENUE RD. - LAWRENCE
2 bdrm., 2 baths, move in cond. B. Singer** 488-2875

BUSINESS PROPERTIES

YONGE & STEELES - HAIR SALON $99,500
Turnkey. Call for details. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

Celebrating our 40th Year!

LAKE SIMCOE – YEAR ROUND RETREAT!
$174,900 - 2 sty., 4 bdrms., 3 baths, fireplace, fenced in for privacy, backs onto golf course. Make an offer! **C. Lazer***

1ST ADS! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
34 Touraine Ave! $229K! Large 3+1 bdrm., 3 baths, 60'x120'
56 Regina Ave! $215K! Updated 2+1 bdrm., 2 bath, 33'x132'

BIG BAY POINT – SANDY BEACH!
Year round masterpiece, 4 bdrms & loft, overlooks fab. view, skylites, 2 fireplaces, $499,000 - Must see! **Carole Lazer***

SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
162 Hillhurst Blvd! $499K! Mint 4+1 bdrm., 2 bath, den, sep. Nanny's suite, gorgeous treed lot w/priv. dr. & garage!

AVENUE RD./WILSON – JUST $549K
Stunning new home approx. 2800 sq. ft. now under construction. Time to choose finishes. **Cheryl Joseph***

WANTED! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
Bathurst/Glencairn & Lytton Park Areas!
My cash buyers need 4 bdrms. & mn. flr. fam. rm. Flex closings. $500K - $700K range. Thinking of selling? Call me!!

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to "Turning Point Charity" supporting Homeless Youth.

(416) 441-2888 www.harveykalles.com

SPRING GATE AREA – JUST LISTED
Fab. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, large family room with fireplace and bar, huge kitchen with walk-out to garden, 2 car garage, CAC, skylite, on quiet street. Only **$289,900.00,** very motivated to sell.

VENDOR MUST SACRIFICE LARGE HOUSE
$249,000 - Bathurst/Clark, 3 bedrooms, family room with fireplace, 4 baths, professional finished basement, 2 car garage, large deck & garden, central air conditioner.

OVER 2050 S.F. BEAUTY IN THORNHILL
Vendor bought. Must sell. Immaculate 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, family room with fireplace, double garage, large 150' lot. Two tier deck, central air conditioning, alarm & much more. Only **$259,900.**

Call NAT STARK
(416) 229-6090 or (905) 764-6000
"To buy or sell real estate satisfaction guaranteed"
Re/Max Realtron Realty Broker

BATHURST/SHEPPARD - Condo Apartment $159,000. 2 bdrm. + den, 2 washrooms. Spectacular Ravine view!!
BATHURST/MILNER - Great family home!!! $284,000.00, 2 storey, 4 bdrm. + family room, main fl. powder & laundry rms., finished bsmt.

MARSHA GOLDSTEIN - (416) 229-4454
HomeLife/Partners Realty Inc.

From condos to castles, Michael gets results

NORTH

JUST LISTED - 218 SPRING GATE BLVD.
Spacious executive home, 4 bedrooms, five washrooms, approx. 3,400 sq. ft., main floor library, basement is finished with a kitchen, 2 bathrooms, sauna, rec room, bedroom and has a separate entrance, jacuzzi, interlocking driveway and more! **Asking only $499,000.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

EXCLUSIVE - GAILCREST CIRCLE
Cozy 3 bedroom home, finished basement, shows beautifully. **Asking only $259,900.** Don't Delay! Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

SOUTH

1ST AD - SHEPPARD & WILMINGTON
2 storey home, four bedrooms, master ensuite, formal dining room, double garage, hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen & more. **Asking only $319,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

BATHURST & LAURELCREST - BUILDING LOT
Build your dream home! 1/4 acre pie shaped lot, fruit trees in back, quiet street. **Asking only $289,900.** Call Michael Harari at (416) 218-5566.

COTTAGE COUNTRY

JACKSONS POINT HOME - 6 YEARS OLD
Beautiful 2 storey home just steps from Lake Simcoe, 6 bedrooms, 4 washrooms, deck + 2 balconies with lake view. Two minute walk to shul and just a 50 minute drive from Toronto. Use it all year round! **Asking only $199,900.** Call Michael Harari for brochure at (416) 218-5566.

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED
Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
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• **HIGH PARK/RONCESVALLES** - 10 units. $534,000. Over 11% return. Excellent income. SOLD

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Paul Slavens
REAL ESTATE INC. REALTOR

RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS
483-4337

FINE HOMES

WANLESS PARK - $439,000.
Spacious 3+ bdrm. townhome. 4 baths, skylight, 2 fireplaces, central air. Finished lower level. Private drive & garage. *Leslie Dennis

• • •

YONGE/EGLINTON $289,000.
Stunning 2-storey condo townhouse. Private patio. Fireplace. CAC. Terrific location - steps to shops, restaurants & subway. *Barbara Kaplan.

• • •

YORK MILLS/BAYVIEW - $725,000.
Beautifully reno' 4 bdrm. ranch bungalow. Generous principal rms., family room. Private landscaped garden w/pool. 100'x125' grounds *Leslie Dennis.

• • •

"SKYVIEW" EXECUTIVE SUITE - $256,500
Stunning original model suite with spacious, elegant layout. Huge solarium. Exceptional gourmet kitchen. Super location. Building offers all amenities. *Heather Sherman.

• • •

BATHURST/STEELES CONDO - $239,000.
Professionally decorated 2 bdrm. unit boast matching wall coverings and window treatments, marble foyer, balcony & insuite security. Parking. *Ruth Kerbel.

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE - $689,000.
Handsome Tudor boasts 4+ bdrms., 4 baths, main floor den, fin. lower level, SOLD ry's quarters + rec. rm. CAC. Private drive & garage. *Marlene Federman & *Linda Rose.

• • •

YONGE/WOODLAWN - $529,000.
Renovated home features gourmet kitchen, 3rd floor master retreat & fin. low SOLD level, complimented by House & Gardens decor. CAC. Parking. *Leslie Dennis.

• • •

ESTATE SALE - $419,000.
Original duplex in prime Avenue Rd./Eglinton location. Two 3 bdrm. units. Par SOLD ave-in plus income. *Betty Cohen.

• • •

YONGE/LAWRENCE - $259,900.
Ideal for renovation or build new. Situated on 27'x100' lot. Lawrence Park SOLD ools. **Don Wagman.

• • •

THORNHILL GREEN - $335,900.
Wonderful 4 bdrm. family home located on quiet desirable street. Short dista SOLD Yonge Street shops & Old Thornhill. Easy access to Hwy 407. *Carol Cotton.

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* Sales Representative **Associate Broker
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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

LAWRENCE-ALLEN RD.
Tri-plex - 2-3 bdrm. + 1-1 bdrm. apts., bths ensuite, balcs., fully rented, steps to subway & shopping.

• • •

WILMINGTON-WILSON HEIGHTS
$319,000 - Unique & spac., 6 bdrms., huge liv. & din., 5 bths., oak up-to-date kit., built-in appls., fin. bsmnt., maids quarters, 2-car gar., don't miss this great buy.

• • •

BATHURST-SHEPPARD $269,000
Split lvl., 3 bdrms. + den, liv. & din. comb., w/out from kit. to deck, rec. rm., dble. drive, gar.

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES
4 bdrm. bung., 3 bths., sep. liv. & din., mod. kit., fin. w/out bsmnt., dble. drive, gar. Steps to all!

• • •

WILSON-BATHURST $248,800
Store & apt., well maint., fully rented, busy location, don't miss!

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

Bath. Manor, Sale by owner, gorgeous, spac. updated home, 6,000 s.f. of liv. space, 5 bdrms., 5 bths. 416-630-2721.

BATHURST MANOR
Exceptional landscaping. $425K 4+ bdrms., sidesplit incl. fam. rm. & rec. rm.Home has been beautifully maintained and updated, kit. & bthrms. have been renovated. A 40' pool is set in an extensively landscaped backyrd. Must be seen!
DELIA ZINGROVE 487-4311
ROYAL LEPAGE R.E. SVS. LTD.

BATHURST/STEELES
92 Peckham - lovely backsplit, 3+2 bdrms., 3 baths, fam. rm. $325,000.
Call MOLLIE ROTHMAN
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle R.E.
(905) 707-8001

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Arnold Ave., Thornhill, W. of Atkinson, prime prop., well treed, 100' x 170', avail. immed. 905-886-7152. **No Agents.**

Bathurst/Glencairn, custom home, 3,000 sq. ft. Granite foyer, kosher kit. w/granite counter, 5 bdrms, 4 baths, fin bsmt. w/kit. Lots of extras! $529,000. Must be sold. **NO AGENTS!** 416-785-5626.

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

CLARK/YONGE – SPRING FARM
$264,900 - 3 Bdrm., 4 Bath, fam. rm., fin. bsmt. Premium pie lot, central air. Aug. poss'n possible.
BATHURST/CLARK - OPEN CONCEPT 4 BEDROOM
$319,000 - Grey & white decor, bleached hrdwd. flooring, pot lighting, fam. rm., 3 baths, near synagogues.
SHELLEY KORAL, Associate Broker
(905) 764-6000
RE/MAX REALTRON REALTY INC.

BAYCREST/CLARK
$225,000 just listed. 3 bedroom, 3 baths, finished basement, large kitchen, garage, walk to Promenade Mall.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bathurst/Baycrest, lrg. lot, 3 bdrm bungalow, fin. bsmt, w/o deck. **Private.** (416) 782-1984.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Lawr., luxury 3 bdrm., 2 bath, avail. Sept. 416-789-7173

Bright, sunny 1 bdrm. apt. avail. for rent, Bath./Shepp. Call 635-5031.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

The SKYMARK *Specialist*
DON MILLS & FINCH
Exceptional in every sense; in comfort and luxury, in security and sophistication. Choices of 2-bdrm. to a penthouse (2 br. + fam. + balc.). For our updated inventory, please call Mr. Santee Leung, F.R.I.
Santee Realty Inc.
(416)
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(24 hrs.)

DENISE ABRAHAM
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416 - 485-2299
Glencairn W. Subway - $127,900 to $129,900. Just listed, 2 Bdrm. + Laundry Enst. or 2 Bdrm. + 2 Baths + Shabat Elev! Call Denise Abraham 485-2299.
COLDWELL BANKER PINNACLE REAL ESTATE

Fabulous 1 bdrm. condo., mins. from Queen's Univ., all appls., whrlpl. ensuite, pkg., etc. Call 633-6455.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp., 2 bdrm + den, 3 appls, pkg, $1200. 223-2808.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Roommate wanted to share 3 bdrm. apt, furn, in Toronto's Yonge/Finch area. On subway line, close to York Univ. Call 416-221-5335.

Wanted: roommate to share house/apt. David 416-487-4330

Yonge/Egl. area, 1 bdrm. for rent in TH, furn, und. pkg, pool, bckyrd, full gym in bsmt, imm. occup. 259-9229 (days) or 932-8018 (evg.).

70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

JM is looking for a male roommate to share his 2 bdrm apt, close to Brock Univ. Please call Josh 905-731-5017.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

A beautiful 1 bdrm. bsmnt. apt., furn., pkg., sep. entr., near shul & TTC. For a middle-aged Jewish couple or a student, n/smkrs, n/pets. 789-5980.

Lawr./Bath., bach. bsmt apt, $450. + hydro. 785-9490.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

140' gorgeous waterfront lot. 4 miles south of Orillia. Ready for building. Asking $269,000. 905-527-4557 or 905-627-0303.

140' waterfront lot. Prestigous 8 mile Pt., south of Orillia, $269K, ready to build. 905-527-4557 or 905-627-0303.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart, lakefront, 4 bdrms, huge lot, dock, nr. shul, 40 min. comm., season/mo. 443-1919.

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, lkfrnt,scrnd porch,90 mins. from TO, $750./wk., $2500/mo. 416-487-6050 or 705-426-4534.

115 COTTAGE FOR SALE/ RENT

Big Cedar Pt., 3 bdrm. cottage for sale/rent, priv. beach steps away, seconds from Camp Arrowhead, priv., cute, clean. 905-771-8678.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

Tel Aviv, best area,3 bdrm. lux. apt., fully furn, pkg, 24-hr sec, long-term from Sept. 1/97. $1300. U.S./mo. 416-638-1933

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

BIG BAY POINT, LAKE SIMCOE south of Barrie. 117' prime waterfront, 1500 sf quality bung, stone flrs, 2 sided F/P, 4 bdrms, 3 bths, guest cabin, most furniture, 1/2 share in back lot. Close to private golf/tennis. $450,000.
BIG BAY POINT, 100' on KEMPENFELT BAY. Exquisite 2 yr. old Exec. waterfront, open concept, 4 bdrms, 3 bths, oak & pine flrs, granite counters, turreted solarium, prof. decor. 3/4 acre treed & private. $885,000.
Pattie Harper, Sales Rep.
The Prudential Andrews Realty Group
416 - 213-7224 / 800 - 254-3695

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Lake Simcoe, Big Bay Pt., 125' frontage, magnificent view, gazebo, beach house, pool, completely renovated, year round, willow trees, hummingbirds, cobblestone beach wall, 60' beach deck, 50' viewing deck from main cottage. Won't last. **Agents welcome**. 416-481-6846.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Bookkeeper/Secretary, exper. individual with strong organ., communication & inter-personal skills for permanent job at Thornhill Reform Synagogue. Knowledge of Word, Excel & AccPac essential. Fax Executive Director at 905-889-2258.

SALES MANAGER
El Al Israel Airlines is seeking a dynamic **SALES MANAGER**. The successful candidate must be a university graduate with industry experience and management skills. Excellent interpersonal & communication skills. Must be computer literate and be proficient with Microsoft Office and have knowledge of the Hebrew language. Please fax résumé to 416-967-1643. **(Only those selected for an interview will be contacted).**

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

CALGARY
• **Kosher Style Deli & Catering**
Purchase over 18 yrs. of tradition. Has an excellent reputation. Financing offered.
• **Gourmet Catering & Retail Deli**
Established over 10 yrs. Owner nets $100,000 +.
EMPIRE BUSINESS BROKERS
(403) 252-4202

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

▲ Director of Volunteer Services

Mount Sinai Hospital is a progressive, dynamic organization committed to excellence in patient care, education and research. We seek a dedicated individual to provide overall vision and guidance to our volunteer services programmes.

Renowned for its leadership and innovation, The Department of Volunteer Services exceeded 100,000 hours of volunteer services last year. With more than fifty programmes, the Department plays a very significant role in the success of Mount Sinai Hospital, and we need a dynamic individual who can continue our tradition of excellence. Among your talents are the ability to provide continuous leadership, demonstrate sensitivity, warmth and understanding toward others and establish good working relationships with volunteers and staff from all educational and cultural backgrounds. Your resourcefulness, excellent sense of judgment and communication skills, both verbal and written, will help make you a wonderful addition to our health care environment.

Salary and benefits will be commensurate with education and experience. Please submit your resume to: **Employment Relations Officer, Human Resources.**

Mount Sinai Hospital is a fully accredited hospital and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL
600 UNIVERSITY AVENUE,
TORONTO, ONTARIO M5G 1X5
(416) 586-5040 FAX: (416) 586-5045

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Sec./Rec., req'd. P/T for Israel-based National fundraising organization. Computer skills essential, team player, strong organiz. skills, able to handle multiple tasks. North York location. **Fax résumé: 416-665-8055.**

247 DAY CARE

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

Prof. childcare by E.C.E. teacher in unique home environ.Bath/Yonge/Finch 250-6374

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

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330 OBITUARIES

SILVERBERG, Irving - on June 27, 1997, late of 3650 Bathurst St.
OILGISSER, Temy - on June 27, 1997, late of 2 Brendan Court.
COHEN, Maurice - on June 29, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Avenue, #221.
NANKIN, Fanny - on June 29, 1997, late of 130 Midland Avenue.
TUCKER, Sally - on June 30, 1997, late of 135 Antibes Drive, #1405.
UPITER, Lily - on July 1, 1997, late of Thornbury.
OSTFIELD, Rose - on July 2, 1997, late of 205 Cummer Avenue.
BRONNER, Maurice - on July 2, 1997, late of 167 Waterloo Avenue.
LOWE, Peter - on July 2, 1997, late of 128 Parkview Avenue.
SHULMAN, Wilf - on July 3, 1997, late of 3 Garden Circle.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

GASPAR, David Dezso - on June 29, 1997 late of 133 Torresdale Ave.
SALTZMAN, Ethel - on July 1, 1997 late of 7 Townsgate Dr.
WEBBER, Melvin Sheldon - on July 1, 1997 late of 3690 Bathurst St.
KAPELYUSHNIK, Musya - on July 2, 1997.
MANDELKER, Abraham - on July 2, 1997.
JOSEPH (CAPLAN), Pauline - on July 3, 1997.
PALLMAN, Mary - on July 5 1997, late of 2 Buchan Court.

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAGDA KELENYI ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 20th, 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Row M, Plot 40
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
OLGA *(Oci)* FELLEGI ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 20th at 11:00 .m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst Street, South of Steeles
First Narayever Section
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Kehillat Shaarei Torah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

CLASSIFIED INDEX

Call 391-1836
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5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT-TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

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Sports

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Rider hopes to repeat as Olympic competitor

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

BALDWIN, Ont. — So what's a nice Jewish girl from Montreal doing in a place like this?

No, not in some tacky bar, but in the tiny Ontario community of Baldwin, populated by hard-working, clean cut farm folk running horse-breeding ranches.

Anita Nemtin, a graduate of Bialik High School in la belle province, is right at home in the rural outback of Ontario southeast of Lake Simcoe, living out a dream of riding finely-tuned thoroughbred jumpers in three-day events.

Last year, Nemtin, 27, reached the near-pinnacle of a rider's career when she and her horse, Kaesar, participated in the Olympic Games in Atlanta, where they finished 19th, tops among Canadians. Unfortunately, because of the sport's politics, Nemtin was forced to compete for Hungary, of which her mother is a citizen.

For Nemtin and Kaesar, it was their first Olympic Games and Nemtin admits to having been a little overwhelmed by the experience. (Kaesar had no comment.)

"I learned a lot from it," she says. "Hopefully next time, I'll be 18 places better."

Nemtin's performance improved day by day during the three-day event, which includes dressage (fancy footwork for horses), cross-country racing (the famed English steeplechase) and show jumping.

Nemtin was 30th after dressage, 20th after cross-country and 19th after the jump event.

Kaesar was a little nervous during the dressage, which requires a rider to put the horse through a complicated series of manoeuvres to display the horse's obedience and suppleness. Kaesar sensed the intensity of the spectators surrounding the dressage ring and didn't perform as well as he might have, Nemtin says.

Since Atlanta, Nemtin and Kaesar have continued to compete in a variety of events and Nemtin is setting her sights on participating in the Open European Championships to be held in England in September. She hopes to continue to improve and compete in the Sydney Olympics — this time for Canada.

The run-up to the '96 Games left Nemtin disappointed. She would have loved to compete for Canada and she felt she merited inclusion on the team. From the time she acquired Kaesar in 1992, they had made tremendous strides together. By 1994, they were competing in intermediate level international events and together won Checkmate, a three-day event at Feversham, Ont. Nemtin was Ontario champion and named leading lady rider in the province.

In that same year, riding Murphy's Law, her first horse, she finished sixth at the advanced level and a year later, Kaesar qualified for that prestigious competition. In '95, they finished sixth in a competition in New York, sixth at Bromont, Que., and first at a competition at Grandview, held in Orillia.

Having qualified for the Olympics in '95, Nemtin and Kaesar went on to the Olympic trials in Kentucky, finishing second and later finishing fifth at a Massachusetts trial.

Canadian organizers "long-listed" Nemtin and wanted her to compete in one more pre-Olympic event. "But that would have taken too much out of the horse" and Nemtin declined.

Instead she competed for Hungary. Ironically, of the 12 members of the Canadian team, five were not native Canadians, she said.

Although she chooses her words carefully, Nemtin believes the fact she's generally outspoken and doesn't know enough of the right people cost her a spot on the Olympic team.

Nevertheless, she's dedicating herself to continuing her ascent up the three-day event ladder, not exactly a standard career choice for someone who attended the Jewish People's Peretz School and Bialik. In fact, Nemtin believes she "was the only person in Bialik history who didn't continue on to college or university."

Her choice of an equestrian career didn't exactly get the ringing endorsement of her parents, Sydney and Marianne, either. Neither of them has any background in horses, though when Anita was 12, they took her for her first trail ride near their summer cottage in Stowe, Vt.

Anita Nemtin and her thoroughbred, Kaesar.

She later attended a horse camp for four weeks near Stowe, getting riding lessons in English style and learning about the care of horses.

"I was afraid at the beginning," but that quickly changed. Her love of animals and her competitive nature pushed her on.

She went on to attend a series of riding camps in Ontario, Quebec, Bermuda and the United States over the next few summers and supplemented that with local winter rides.

"At the time, my friends didn't understand. They thought it was smelly and shoveling manure."

At 17, Nemtin decided to make horses her career. She got a job training and competing horses and eventually bought Murphy's Law, a thoroughbred. He was aptly named: one day after she acquired him, things went rum as he pulled up lame. Luckily it was just a bruised foot and riding Murphy's Law, she moved up to the advanced level of competition.

"I learned with him. I moved up the ranks with my horse," she said.

In 1992, she put together a syndicate to buy Kaesar, a Mexican thoroughbred that started his life as a racehorse. Kaesar cost $10,000, about average for three-day eventers, but upkeep and competition expenses run about $30,000 per year. It'll cost $15,000 alone to ship Kaesar to England for the European championships, considered *the* premier event of the year.

To make ends meet and to finance other competitions, Nemtin rides and trains horses for the Hepworths, an English couple who own Leacock Hills Stables, where Kaesar is quartered. She also rides, trains and competes 10 horses at King's Windy Fields, a farm owned by Michael Loew and she gives riding lessons.

It's not exactly a run-of-the-mill lifestyle for a nice Jewish girl from Montreal, but for someone who loves horses, what could be better?

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E	L	I	E	■	A	R	I	A	■	A	G	A	I	N
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Gymnasts haul in medals

TORONTO — Athletes laden with medals recently returned home from the Luau Cup in Vancouver, among them two Jewish girls from the Vaughan Gymnastics Club.

In the midget 1 category for athletes aged nine and 10, Emily Iseman of Thornhill placed first overall while in the tyro 2 category for girls aged 11 and 12, Jaclyn Kerbel of Thornhill placed second overall.

Iseman, 10, posted a first place finish in vault, a second in bars, a second in beam and a fifth in floor exercises for a total score of 29.500, .4 better than the second place finisher.

Kerbel's best score, meanwhile, was a second place finish in bars. A fourth in vault, a sixth in floor exercises and a 10th place finish in beam gave the 11-year-old 31.2 points, good for a tie for second, .750 points behind the gold medalist.

The Inside Back

'A refreshing breeze from the tropics'

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Purimshpiel about a Hebrew sect on the paradise island of Saduka in the South Pacific has had some surprising results.

Three articles by congregation member Sidney Midgen, 66, in the Temple Emanu-El bulletin, poking gentle fun at some Jewish rituals, were taken seriously by some members of the temple and by a CBC TV news program.

The "B'nai Gands," the Hebrew sect in question, whose members practice polygamy and combine the rituals of bar mitzvah (at age 15) and chasseneh (wedding), exist only in the imagination of Midgen, director of customer operations for Novapharm.

Midgen said he imagined a gentler, easier life in the Polynesian Islands after the death of his mother in England last year.

"I was feeling down at the time, and the B'nai Gands became real to me. Their way of life, free of a lot of stress, appealed to me."

Most readers of the temple bulletin accepted the articles as a Purim story, but a few were not happy about being hoodwinked.

"One member had a brother in New Zealand who runs a crop dusting service and she asked him to fly out and locate the island," Midgen said.

"Another one wanted to take up a collection to organize food parcels for them. Still another was on business in Los Angeles and asked the Israeli consul there to get information about Saduka. He was angry when Tel Aviv answered they could find no record of it."

Midgen used the device of having his mythical friends, Carol and David Marcus of Auckland, New Zealand, write him letters about the uncharted island they "found."

"We were met by Rabbi Chaim Madzel, the fourth generation of rabbinic Madzels to minister in the South Pacific," their letters said. "He traces his roots to Grodzinska, a Polish village where the family operated a bakery and taught cartography. Rabbi Madzel is a young-looking 53 with seven children and — wait for it — two wives."

The entire population greeted the couple and presented Carol with a hip-bath for her own mikveh, the letters stated.

In the Purimshpeil vein, they said the Gands' Torah was translated into Saduli by Rabbi Madzel's great-grandfather, Rabbi Ur Madzel, and sent to New Zealand, where a group of Jewish businessmen had 600 copies reproduced. Reproduction of the Torah was not considered a transgression as it was in Saduli, not Hebrew.

A real Purimshpiel

The Marcuses were told, so the story goes, that one cleric, since defrocked, officiated at multiple marriages on Saduka for fees ranging from 20 chickens to 100 fish, but the Gands chased him off the island.

All members of the sect, in this idealized life, had to give some of their goods to the rabbi, attend Sabbath services on a compulsory basis and in practising tzedakah, pledge victuals and clothing to those in need.

The Marcuses asked whether the islanders marry non-Gands and were told that some of them do stray to neighboring islands to select a spouse, but Rabbi Madzel refused to officiate. Thus, the rate of intermarriage is low, according to this tongue-in-cheek account.

Midgen said Temple Emanu-El's Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld "was a party to the joke" and welcomed the articles published in the dead of winter as a "refreshing breeze from the tropics."

Midgen convinced some members of the temple to pose for pictures showing primitive tools used by the sect and a few of these were published with the articles.

"Rabbi Bielfeld asked me to expand the articles, perhaps in the form of a book, and I'm toying with the idea," Midgen said.

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SHISHKEBAB

1 lb. beef fillet, cut in cubes
19 oz. can pineapple pieces, drained
10-12 cherry tomatoes
2 green peppers, cut in squares
10-12 pearl onions

Marinade
1/4 cup French dressing
2 tblsp. sherry wine
2 tsp. soy sauce
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
1/2 tsp. cornstarch

Cut steak into 1" cubes and place in marinade overnight, stirring occasionally. When ready to BBQ, place ingredients onto skewers, starting and finishing with a cube of steak. Place on hot fire for about 20 minutes, turning skewers and using up marinade for basting after each turn. Yield: 2-4 servings. *Hint: Before adding meat and other ingredients to bamboo skewers, it is best to soak the skewers for 1 hr. in cold water to keep them from burning.*

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

My husband and I are celebrating our 40th anniversary. We are going on a cruise for two weeks. My mother is 89 years old and although she is somewhat confused, she manages to live alone. No one will be here to monitor her. She is uncomfortable with strangers. Have you any suggestions? I am very nervous.

HL

Dear HL,

There are options. Perhaps, you would introduce your mother to a homecare worker before your trip. If she participates in the interview, you will be able to judge the interaction between them. If it works, you might be able to negotiate telephone contact as well as suitable time slots for visits. An alternative is for your mom to have a vacation at the same time. There are senior residences in many cities, that are available for short stays.

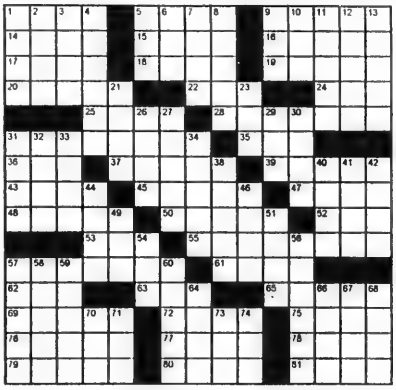
Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

L'CHAIM, L'CHAIM, L'CHAIM

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy drink a toast to Yaacov Ne'eman (left) the newly appointed finance minister.

[RNS/Reuters photo]

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across
1. Ephraim Luzzatto
5. "__ Shabbat"
9. Unveiling site
14. Competent
15. Jordanian Mount
16. Equipment for Baskin
17. Haman?
18. Jazzman Getz
19. Rosen's base
20. Singer Merman
22. Point of a scribe
24. Tel Aviv to Jerusalem (dir)
25. Isaiah or Samuel
28. Pops conductor
31. Fasiday
35. Arafat's gang
36. Hester Street time zone
37. Items on Schindler's List
39. Shertok or Feinstein
43. Airline
45. David's weapon
47. Actress Perlman
48. Asher's daughter
50. Dances
52. Over to Bialik
53. Kosher chew
55. Bolton and Landon
57. Actor Gone
61. Gangster "Dandy __"
62. Got yall
63. Haman or Amalek
65. Lulav fronds
69. Orthodox minyan
72. Boxer Rosenblatt
75. Seder plate item
76. Schreiber
77. Niels Bohr research
78. Adam to Eve
79. Cactus
80. Zeta __ Tau, fraternity
81. Mt Hermon powder

Down
1. "__ of Settlement"
2. Levaye notice
3. Eilat, old style
4. Bigthan's partner
5. Switch positons
6. Biblical fishing device
7. Ambassodor
8. Thief
9. Divorce papers
10. Cheer
11. Ezra's swift scribe
12. "The New Colossus"
13. Eldad or Medad
21. Seder manner
23. Marceau character
26. Israeli mountain
27. Jewish camp
29. Tu B'Shevat need?
30. Mezuzah holder
31. Tafs (Eng)
32. Ellis
33. "__ Trek", Nimoy's show
34. Poison
38. Foodbag?
40. Teva offering
41. Jacob grabbed Esau's at birth
42. Hamantaschen?
44. Need
46. Apiece
49. Purr
51. Ark
54. Dike
56. Shofar blasts
57. Terrorists
58. Israeli cosmetics
59. Scout
60. Aaron's oldest son
64. Israeli fruit
66. Usurer's tool
67. "Mr. __", Lorre film
68. Cholent
70. Johnny Kling stat
71. Literary initials
73. No Clue
74. Jonas Salk's Org ?

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 34.)

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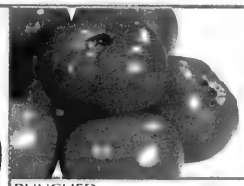

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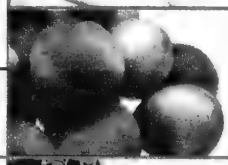

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The Canadian Jewish news
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Welcome Back Maccabi Canada
ELTVALTN I

This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Branson Hospital gets a new lease on life as ambulatory care centre. **Page 3**

Canada supports UN resolution condemning Israel for its Har Choma housing project. **Page 4**

Alleged Nazi war criminal won't fight loss of citizenship. **Page 5**

National

Documents show Bank of Canada involvement in laundering Nazi gold. **Page 20**

Maccabiah Games

Canada captures hockey gold in convincing 6-1 victory over the U.S. **Page 23**

Arts

New book *Growing Up Jewish* chronicles the reminscences of 26 prominent Jewish Canadians. **Page 31**

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
On Campus 15
Yiddish Corner 16
What's New 18
Coast to Coast 20
15th Maccabiah Games 22
International 25
Health 29
Travel, Arts & Business 30
Classified 38
Sports 42
Dear Susan 43
Crossword 43

Shabbat: Mattot-Masei
Candlelighting: 8:21
Tammuz 27, 5757
Havdalah: 9:26

Swiss list published

Praise is muted pending full disclosure

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Last week's decision by the Zurich-based Swiss Bankers Association (SBA) to publish a list of dormant bank account holders on an Internet site and in newspapers around the world, has been welcomed by Canada's Jewish community as a step in the right direction.

But praise for the move was tempered by observations that a complete list has yet to be published and that Swiss banks had acted belatedly.

In a related development, the former national president of Canadian Jewish Congress, Irving Abella, called for a full-fledged investigation into allegations that Portugal and the Swiss National Bank had laundered looted Nazi gold through the Bank of Canada.

And in a letter to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Toronto lawyer Sergio Karas suggested the formation of a royal commission to study Canada's dealings with Swiss banks before and during World War II. Karas represents 31 families of Holocaust survivors and victims seeking unclaimed dormant funds in Swiss banks.

In a dramatic break with Swiss banking secrecy laws, the SBA placed newspaper advertisements in 27 countries, including Canada and Israel, listing 1,872 names linked to 1,756 accounts. All the persons on the list, Jews and non-Jews, are non-Swiss. A much longer list of dormant accounts, held by Swiss citizens and residents, will be released in October.

Without the accrued interest, the current value of the 1,756 accounts is 60.2 million Swiss francs, or roughly C$55million. Until last week, Swiss banks claimed that they were in possession of 775 dormant accounts valued at about C$41.4million.

The list carries the names of several Canadians, and also includes such figures as Adolf Hitler's personal photographer, Heinrich Hoffman; Adolf Eichmann's aide, Anton Burger (who assumed the alias of Willi Bauer); Hans Wendland, a German who is said to have looted works of art in France and Italy; the late Slovakian war criminal Vojtech Tuka, who sent thousands of Jews to concentration

Continued on page 16

Triumph of games tempered by tragedy

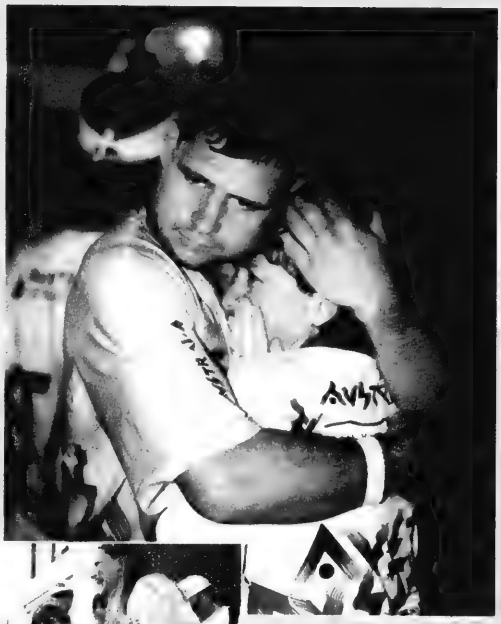
By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Maccabi Canada (MC) officials say a special kinship between the Canadian and Australian teams played a key role in getting the Aussies to remain at the Maccabiah Games following the tragic bridge collapse at Ramat Gan stadium that killed two and injured scores of others.

Leonard Wolman, a member of MC's executive, and National Athletic Committee chair Bob Luxenberg were standing with the rest of the Canadian team and special guests – including honorary *chefs de mission* Jean Béliveau and Charles Bronfman, and Canadian ambassador David Berger – within 100 metres of the bridge when it caved in just before 8 p.m. on July 14.

15th Maccabiah

Continued on page 27



Members of the Australian team (above) try to comfort each other in the immediate aftermath of the bridge collapse the night the games opened. *[Israel photo]* **Two weeks later during the closing ceremonies, members of the Australian team, some still bearing wounds from the first night debacle, smile and joke with colleagues.** *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

INSIDE

Remembering the Exodus 1947.
Please see page 9.

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Renewed U.S. peace initiative expected soon — please see page

The News in Brief

CANADA

Canadian Jewish Studies

ST. JOHN'S — The Association for Canadian Jewish Studies recently held its annual meeting here on the campus of Memorial University of Newfoundland. It was a two-day conference which also featured a special production of *The Failure*, a new Canadian play by Arnold Bennett based on the poetry of A.M. Klein

The conference was made possible through the sponsorship of the Beth El Congregation of Newfoundland, the Atlantic Jewish Council and the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies.

March of Living

MONTREAL — Barry Rishikof has been appointed as the Canadian chair of the 1998 March of the Living.

Rishikof, a participant in several Marches, chaired Montreal's March of the Living program in 1994.

Holocaust and Hope

TORONTO — Nineteen Canadian high-school students from a variety of ethnic and religious backgrounds left recently for a Holocaust and Hope study tour in Israel. The pilot project, co-sponsored by the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada and Canadian Friends of Massuah is based on a similar League program for educators.

Hear O Israel

KELOWNA — The Okanagan Jewish community, together with the Kelowna Museum, has launched a new exhibit entitled Hear O Israel.

The exhibit includes religious artifacts dealing with services, holidays and festivals. The Okanagan Jewish community and its members contributed to the exhibit in many forms, including their own personal collection of artwork and artifacts.

Protesting Sentence

TORONTO — The Simon Wiesenthal Centre last week called on Italian Justice Minister Giovani Maria Flick to take legal steps to ensure that convicted Nazi war criminal Erich Priebke will serve a full 15-year sentence for his role in the Ardeatine Caves massacre during World War II.

An Italian military court found Priebke guilty of taking part in the murders of 335 men and boys but reduced his sentence from 15 years to five. Prosecutors had sought a life sentence for Priebke, 83.

David Matas, senior legal counsel for B'nai Brith Canada referred to the sentence as a "mockery of justice."

ISRAEL

Yad Vashem Expansion

JERUSALEM — Israeli-born architect Moshe Safdie, who designed Habitat '67 and the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull, Que., has been chosen to design the expansion and renovation of the museum complex and entrance plaza at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem.

Yad Vashem says the cost of the project is estimated at over $20 million. The government of Israel and the Claims Conference, which oversees claims for restitution from Holocaust survivors, have agreed to finance part of the cost.

WORLD

Forbes' List

MOSCOW — Two Russian Jewish tycoons were listed by *Forbes* magazine as the nation's richest people.

Boris Berezovsky, a businessman-turned-politician, cracked the top 100 of the magazine's annual list of the world's wealthiest individuals. He was ranked in the 97th spot, with an accumulated wealth of $3 billion.

Mikhail Khodorkovsky, president of the Rosprom financial-industrial group, ranked 133rd, with a wealth of $2.4 billion.

Streisand Appointment

CHICAGO — Barbra Streisand has been appointed as honorary chair of the Hadassah-sponsored International Research Institute on Jewish Women at Brandeis University.

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, established the institute, the first of its kind, with a multi-million dollar commitment at its 83rd national convention earlier this month.

JTS Gets New Provost

NEW YORK — Dr. Jack Wertheimer, whose research and writings have made him a leading voice of contemporary Judaism and the Conservative movement, has been chosen as the next provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Buenos Aires Memorial

LOS ANGELES — The Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Museum of Tolerance was the site of a memorial service on July 18 to mark the third anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the Jewish community building in Buenos Aires.

Eighty-six men, women and children were killed in the blast. Argentine authorities have failed to solve the case and are now considering closing their unsuccessful investigation of the 1992 terrorist bombing of the Israeli embassy, which left 27 dead.

The memorial service included participation of religious leaders and a representative of the Argentine Jewish community.

Anti-Semitism Decreasing

NEW YORK — Anti-Semitism is down around the world, according to the latest survey issued by the American Jewish Committee and the London-based Institute for Jewish Policy Research.

The study, which included an analysis of 60 countries, found that in most cases, anti-Semitism is a small threat to Jewish existence, but that several countries need careful monitoring, including several eastern European countries. Moreover, some degree of increased anti-Semitic activity was found in Argentina, Australia, France, Greece, Slovakia, Sweden and Belgium.

CD Calls For Death of Jews

BERN — A new compact disc calling for the murder of Jews is in circulation in the skinhead communities of Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

German prosecutors have launched an investigation of extreme rightists who are suspected of having distributed the disc. Anti-Jewish material is banned in Germany.

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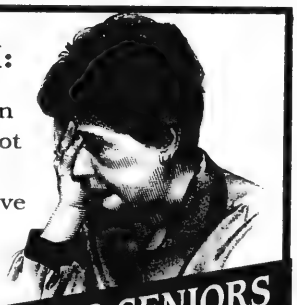

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,711 copies.
Average net paid circulation per issue: 45,109 copies
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997.

SUBSCRIPTIONS
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Branson to become ambulatory care centre

Will primarily serve the elderly

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — North York Branson Hospital will be given a new lease on life as an ambulatory care centre, primarily for the care of elderly patients.

Its inpatients will be moved to three other hospitals by the end of 1999.

Branson was originally scheduled to be shut down along with 11 other Metro hospitals, but this was reversed in the final decision of the Health Services Restructuring Commission (HSRC). No appeal of its ruling is allowed.

"We are quite pleased. This community needs this kind of service," said Branson president and CEO Jack Gallop.

The present site of Branson Hospital will be retained as an ambulatory care centre, but the centre itself will be managed by the North York General Hospital (NYGH).

The decision to keep Branson primarily for the care of the elderly was welcomed by NYGH president and CEO Murray MacKenzie.

He hopes that in the future, a shuttle bus will run patients and visitors between the two hospitals. The hospital already picks up some geriatric patients at home and this service will be extended to Branson patients.

A donor has offered to pay for a Jewish chapel at NYGH, he said, and "we expect the Seventh Day Adventists to play an important part in running the centre.

"Numerous physicians from Branson have applied to come to NYGH and we welcome them and many non-medical staff who we expect will come here as well."

The new Branson Hospital will include specialty clinics, outpatient mental health services, medical walk-in assessment and diagnostic services, day programs for the elderly and health promotion. The final shape of these services is yet to be determined.

UJA Federation and Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, filed strong briefs with the HSRC urging consideration for the elderly along the Bathurst Street corridor if Branson was closed. They pointed out that this area had the fastest growing number of seniors in Metro.

Support to keep Branson as a centre for care of the elderly also came from NYGH, Humber River Regional Hospital (formerly York-Finch, Humber and Northwestern) and the Metro Hospital Council.

Branson and Humber River had proposed that they run the Branson ambulatory care centre, but the commission decided to hand the reins to NYGH.

There will be some "significant changes" in Branson's operation in the next 18 months, Gallop said, as a transition team will decide which outpatient services will be housed at each location — Branson, NYGH, Humber River Regional and York Central in Richmond Hill.

The team, consisting of three members from each of the above-named hospitals, will be headed by a facilitator from the commission.

Some services now at Branson may be moved away and others moved in, Gallop said.

He was delighted, he said, that the commission has allotted $4.1 million for renovations to make the ambulatory care centre a reality.

NYGH has been given $20.7 million to care for all its new patients, including obstetric patients from Branson.

The commission set the deadline of Sept. 30 this year for Branson to reach an agreement with NYGH for disposition of its inpatients to other hospitals, though the move itself has a deadline of the end of 1999.

The commission ordered that 40 percent of medical/surgical patients at Branson go to NYGH, 43 percent to Humber River Regional and 17 percent to York Central.

The disposition of obstetric patients is to be 60 percent to NYGH, 20 percent to Humber River and 20 percent to York Central. All pediatric patients must go to NYGH.

Until the transition team makes its decisions, Gallop said, it will not be known how much of Branson's physical (including medical) plant will be maintained.

The question of whether Branson will retain beds for sub-acute cases has yet to be settled, he said, noting that the commission has asked for proposals from area hospitals to provide 400 sub-acute beds in north and northwest Metro.

As well, an urgent shortage of chronic care beds for elderly patients was underlined in briefs to the commission protesting the closing of six chronic care hospitals in Metro.

The HSRC said the Branson board must pass a resolution by Aug. 31 that would prohibit the transfer of any funds and assets from the hospital foundation or any other person without the commission's approval.

The Branson board is also directed, along with all Metro hospitals, York Central and Mississauga Hospital to develop a human resources plan by Oct. 31, for the employees who will lose their jobs. This plan has to be approved by the Ontario Minister of Health and the HSRC.

In response to the recent announcement, Congress vice-chair Harold Brief and UJA Federation vice-president Alan Sandler said they "appreciated that the commission has listened to the Jewish community in its representations, and that the hospital will continue to be of service to the significant numbers of the community, especially the elderly, who live within the vicinity of the hospital."

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By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada has come under fire from national Jewish groups for supporting a United Nations resolution that condemned Israel for its Har Choma housing project.

Canada's support of the July 15 resolution "will only serve to injure an already fragile Middle East peace process," said Stephen Victor, national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC), in a statement.

The UN General Assembly, in a special emergency session, overwhelmingly adopted the non-binding resolution against Israel by a vote of 131-3, with 14 abstentions.

The Arab-sponsored resolution condemned Israel's decision to build a 6,500-unit housing project mainly for Jews in eastern Jerusalem's Har Choma neighborhood. The project has been a source of tension between the government of Israel and the Palestine Authority.

Voting against the resolution were Israel, the United States and Micronesia, a collection of Pacific Ocean islands.

Canada voted for the resolution "because it reflects in broad measure our concerns about the serious situation in the peace process, and the particular importance which the construction of a new settlement in [Har Choma] has had in bringing us to the critical juncture," said Canada's ambassador to the UN, Robert Fowler.

Fowler explained that Canada abstained on previous resolutions on this subject, and it is "with regret that we find it necessary" for the UN to raise the issue again "due to the absence of any positive developments in this matter."

The resolution fell short of its original intent to levy economic sanctions against Israel.

In his statement, Victor said he finds it "disturbing to see the UN hijacked by a politically motivated campaign to isolate and delegitimize Israel."

While recognizing that there is a dispute between Israel and the Palestinians over Har Choma, the General Assembly "is not the appropriate venue" for resolving it.

The CIC is "very disappointed" by Canada's support of the resolution, Victor added.

B'nai Brith Canada criticized the resolution as one-sided and biased, and claimed that Canada's support for it "can only inflame Middle East tension," said Joel Cuperfain, chair of the group's Israel affairs committee.

The 13-point resolution not only condemns Israel for Har Choma, it reaffirms that "all illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory...cannot be recognized, irrespective of the passage of time."

Fowler said Canada "is deeply concerned" about the "absence of negotiations" on the peace front, and repeated Ottawa's long-held view that it does not recognize "permanent Israeli control" over the territories captured in 1967.

Fowler called on both sides to honor the Olso accords, and said there should be "a determined effort by the Palestinian leadership to combat violence and terrorism."

In a statement, Israel's Foreign Ministry said the country "utterly rejects this one-sided and hostile resolution," and said the Har Choma project "does not, by any criterion, constitute a threat to international peace and security."

Over the past 15 years, Canada's voting pattern at the UN appears to have tilted toward a European perspective on the Arab-Israeli conflict, rather than an American one, observed David Goldberg, director of research at the Toronto-based Foundation for Middle East Studies.

The July 15 resolution came in response to recent findings issued by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan that Israel had failed to stop construction of the Har Choma project.

From the editor's desk
Will return next week

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Lawyer ran boys club

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Carl Keyfetz, a Toronto-born lawyer long involved in many facets of the Jewish community, died recently at Baycrest Hospital. He was 89.

Obituary

Probably his most rewarding involvement was as a director of the Jewish Boys Club of Toronto in the late 1920s, he said in a 1990 interview for The Osgoode Society's oral history program.

Within a year or two after the club's formation, delinquency among Jewish youth dropped dramatically, he recalled. The club was a beneficiary of the United Jewish Welfare Fund, a forerunner of United Jewish Appeal.

A co-founder of Ontario's first Jewish boy scout troop as a teenager, Keyfetz later became involved in B'nai Brith, Canadian Council of Christians and Jews and numerous other organizations, but always retained his affiliation with the scout troop.

He also served on the boards of Jewish Family and Child Service, Jewish Immigrant Aid Society and Beth Tzedec Congregation.

The son of Russian immigrants who married in Toronto, Keyfetz graduated from Osgoode Hall in 1930 and practised law until the mid-1980s, well after a progressive disability made it necessary for him to use a wheelchair. He was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1951.

"He enjoyed every day he was at the office," said Pearle Keyfetz, his wife of 34 years. "He loved being a lawyer. That kept him going, even when he had difficulty getting there and would use Wheel-Trans."

Keyfetz put his legal skills to use in over 100 court martials when he was in the Royal Canadian Air Force during World War II. A life member of General Wingate Branch No. 256 (Ontario) of the Royal Canadian Legion, he also was honorary national commander and judge advocate for the Jewish War Veterans of Canada and legal counsel for the Canadian Hemophilia Society.

A staunch Conservative, Keyfetz was active in political circles and once served as campaign manager for John Bassett when he ran for mayor of Toronto.

He continued to follow political news with avid interest after moving into Baycrest ten years ago. No stranger to the institution, he was a former longtime chair of its admissions committee.

"He was a people person," said Pearle Keyfetz. "Any involvement with the public was like a tonic for him. I think that was the secret of his success in so many areas."

Keyfetz is survived by his wife Pearle, daughter Penny Benjamin, six grandchildren, and siblings Ben of Hollywood, Florida, and Theresa Jacobs of Buffalo, New York. Son Stephen Norris and five siblings predeceased him.

Greater Toronto Area

Alleged Nazi won't fight loss of citizenship

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —An alleged Nazi war criminal has unexpectedly withdrawn his opposition to government efforts to strip him of his citizenship.

In a formal notice filed in Federal Court recently, Ladislaus Csizsik-Csatary stated he would not seek a court reference on the citizenship question. His decision opens the door for federal Citizenship and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard to recommend to cabinet that Csizsik-Csatary be stripped of his citizenship, without having to prove in court he obtained it by fraud.

Loss of citizenship would be followed by deportation proceedings to remove him from the country.

Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit, said "it was unexpected that he drop the case" after filing a summary of fact and evidence outlining his version of wartime events.

Federal officials allege that Csizsik-Csatary lied when he immigrated to Canada in 1949 and again when he obtained Canadian citizenship in 1955.

They claim he served as an officer in the Royal Hungarian Police in Kassa, Hungary (now Kosice, Slovak Republic) in March 1944. During the time the town's Jews were forced into ghettos, he "had an office in the ghetto headquarters. He had the authority to determine whether certain individuals were exempt from anti-Jewish measures. His position was 'commander of the ghetto'."

In a fact situation eerily reminiscent of the Imre Finta case, government officials allege that in April 1944 Jews from the ghetto and elsewhere were transferred to a brickyard on the outskirts of Kassa by the Royal Hungarian Police.

"At the brickyard camp, Jews lived in inhumane conditions, with inadequate shelter, food and sanitary facilities. Those who tried to escape were shot and killed. The Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie and the Police guarded the camp," court documents allege.

Government documents also contend Csizsik-Csatary "visited the brickyard camp on a number of occasions and was one of the senior officers in a position of authority at the camp."

They also allege that Csizsik-Csatary was present at least twice when Jews were loaded onto rail transports bound for Auschwitz and other camps, and that of the 12,000 Jews who had been gathered in the brickyard, fewer than 500 survived the war.

The documents claim Csizsik-Csatary "transferred custody to the Germans of several Jews who had been in hiding and had evaded the mass deportations. According to his own police reports, [Csizsik-Csatary] transferred the Jews to the Germans 'for the purposes of deportations.'"

After the war, the documents go on, Csizsik-Csatary, who was sentenced to death in absentia by a People's Court in Kosice, passed himself off as being born in Yugoslavia.

In his own summary of facts, Csizsik-Csatary, 82, admits he "played a limited role in the movement of Jews to the ghetto and no part whatsoever in their subsequent deportation." He denied having authority to exempt anyone from anti-Jewish measures but he admits that in June and July 1944, he transferred, under orders, several Jews who had been in hiding in Kassa to the Germans, though he did not know where they were to be sent.

Csizsik-Csatary downplayed his role as commander of the ghetto, saying it was "with respect to this small Jewish ghetto in the city and only in his capacity as assistant" to the police chief.

He claims he changed his name because of "false accusations" against him and out of fear for his safety and that of his family. He says he "inadvertently" claimed his hometown was in Yugoslavia and he said he was unaware of the Hungarian death sentence against him until informed of it in 1995 by a government lawyer.

Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, said "the government should move as quickly as possible to strip him of his citizenship and get him out of the country."

Vickery said even if stripped of his citizenship, Csizsik-Csatary could still contest the deportation on humanitarian or other grounds. If he fails, he could be deported to the country from which he came to Canada, or to Hungary or to any country that would accept him.

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Greater Toronto Area

Service groups help JWI head develop new skills

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Anna Lee Gould, newly installed president of Jewish Women International (JWI) of Canada credits the organization with having helped her to develop the skills needed to raise a child who has special needs.

"Through my involvement [in raising funds for] the Residential Treatment Centre (RTC) in Jerusalem, a centre sponsored by JWI North America and the Israeli government that offers a drug-free program for emotionally disturbed boys, I became aware that such treatment did exist for special needs children. This allowed me to take a pragmatic approach in my daughter's upbringing."

Moral support was also high when her daughter, now 13, was born, she says. "They respected the time out I took to be with my family and welcomed me back when I was ready to return to the organization," says Gould, who has two other children, a son, 21 and a daughter, 4.

The support she received, she says, made her realize that "women need to share with each other. They need to prioritize time that is just for themselves. When they come out to meetings, all other ties slip into the background for a while and they take part in something that is not necessarily task oriented. It is energizing. Women involved in something outside the family become fuller — more complete. I believe that their families benefit from this."

Belonging to a service organization, Gould says, provides a woman with "skills she would not hone anywhere else. Through our leadership skills department, women learn communication skills, self-confidence and about group dynamics. Even a well-educated woman may not have the confidence to become a leader. There is definitely a place to learn within the volunteer context and this knowledge can be carried over into the workplace.

"I have gained confidence in my public speaking, learned to understand people, learned how to delegate and motivate and even how to deal with certain family situations — not to mention the good friends I have made."

Gould, who joined JWI (then B'nai Brith Women) 20 years ago, says that the organization has changed in that time "to suit the needs of today's women. We recognize that women are different than they were even five years ago. Their free time is scarce, yet they still want a Jewish connection. To that end, members can become as involved as they wish. We even offer a general membership in which a woman may become involved in a specific program, but not attend regular meetings."

Part of her mandate in her two years of office, she says, is to provide programming that "suits every woman. Through our programs such as action and advocacy we hope to attract women at all ages and stages."

Hear about JWI on its weekly five-minute report on the *Shalom Show*, 100.7 FM, Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Tragedy hits tourists

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Holiday trips turned to tragedy as three Israeli tourists were killed in two unrelated accidents in Alberta recently.

In the first, a 26-year-old Israeli died after falling off a cliff into a waterfall in Jasper National Park. In the other accident, two women were killed when the car in which they were passengers crossed a median and flipped near the town of Morley.

The bodies were flown to Israel for funeral services.

In both cases, the Jewish communities of Calgary and Edmonton, including the Chevra Kadisha, provided moral support and other assistance to the families of the victims, said Irit Waidergorn, vice-consul at Israel's Toronto consulate.

She said Alon Henig, who was travelling in Alberta with his girlfriend, died when he slipped on a wet rock near a waterfall while posing for a photograph. *The Edmonton Journal* reported that Henig and his girlfriend had left a designated trail area.

In the other accident, Ruth Cohen of Kiryat Ono and Malka Nahmias of Hadera were riding in the back seat of a car that went out of control on the Trans-Canada Highway between Banff and Calgary.

Their husbands, Asaf Cohen and Asher Nahmias, were taken to Foothills Hospital but their lives were not in danger.

Cpl. Bruce McFarlane of Cochrane RCMP said neither woman was wearing a seat-belt when the accident occurred. His investigation showed that the car drifted off the paved portion of the highway to the grassy shoulder. The driver then oversteered the car back to the highway and realizing he had over-compensated, oversteered again, losing control.

Both women "came out of the vehicle" when it rolled. The men were wearing seatbelts and received only minor injuries, he said.

The couples were returning to Calgary after visiting the Rockies and were scheduled to continue their trip to Alaska, McFarlane said.

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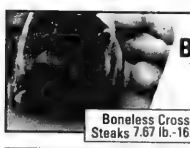

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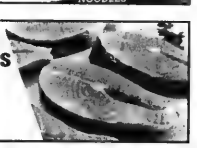

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Greater Toronto Area

Demonstrators march outside Kalejs' residence

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For three residents of a North York condominium building, the demonstration to protest the presence there of war criminal Konrads Kalejs could not have come too soon.

"Jews in the building are giving up," said Vera Peter, a resident of the North York condo building. "Some say, 'What's the use? Why should we be doing anything?'"

When asked how they feel about Kalejs' presence, Jewish people in the building "roll their eyes and say, 'What's the use? He'll be here until he dies,'" said Rhonda Pasternack, a resident in the same building.

Pasternack, Peter and Imre Smith, three Jewish residents of the condominium building at 5444 Yonge Street, were among the 120 demonstrators who marched and chanted against Kalejs' presence there. The rally was the second in a series organized by Generation to Generation, Children of Holocaust Survivors, a group that targets alleged Nazi war criminals. The first was held about a month ago outside the Burlington home of Juozas Kisielaitis, who moved to Canada in 1985 after U.S. authorities confronted him with allegations about his involvement in a Lithuanian killing unit.

Kalejs also left the United States, ultimately ending up in Canada after a court found him guilty of participating in wartime atrocities as a member of the Arajs Kommando, a Latvian police killing unit. A citizen of Australia, Kalejs is facing possible deportation from Canada. A decision by an immigration adjudicator in his case is expected soon.

Outside the North York condo building where he resides, Holocaust survivor Imre Smith was clearly agitated at Kalejs' presence in the building.

"I came down today and he was standing with me in the elevator. I am shaking. He's even not afraid of anything that happens to him. It's a very bad feeling. He stands beside me and I cannot do anything in the elevator."

Peter, Pasternack and Smith regularly attended Kalejs' immigration hearing, which concluded in March. Peter and Smith are both Holocaust survivors and the condominium building is home to many Jews, including survivors.

Outside the building,the demonstrators heard brief addresses from Mike Feldman, a North York councilman, Len Rudner, vice-chair of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, and Holocaust survivor Max Eisen.

Eisen recalled the "dreadful days of beatings and killings" and how volunteers massacred Jewish communities and served as concentration camp guards.

Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Congress, said, "We are here to say to the Canadian government that time is of the essence. Kalejs has lived here one day too many. We want him out."

The next demonstration is planned for Wednesday, Sept. 17, at a location yet to be named.

Chanting 'Nazis out,' demonstrators march outside the North York home of alleged war criminal Konrads Kalejs. [Paul Lungen photo]

CJC posts $5,000 reward

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress has pitched in $5,000 as part of a $27,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons who threw a beer bottle at an Amish woman two weeks ago.

The woman, Mary Kuepfer, 22, was riding in an open buggy at 2:30 in the morning when she was hit in the face by a beer bottle, causing her cheek, lip and forehead to be badly cut. Kuepfer has been told she may need reconstructive surgery to repair the damage.

Len Rudner, Congress' vice-chair of community relations, said the reward was offered because "these are the kinds of crimes that affect Jews. We understand it as well as anybody...It has all the signs of a hate-motivated attack.

"We can't be parochial and say we'll only be concerned about attacks on us."

Police reported that a second Amish buggy, returning from the same wedding attended by Kuepfert, was also attacked with a beer bottle that night. No one was injured in that assault.

Congress has twice before offered a $5,000 reward — both times in cases involving vandalism to property. On one occasion, the reward led to the arrest and conviction of a man for desecrating a synagogue. The reward was also offered last summer after a North York home was vandalized with anti-Semitic graffiti, but no arrests were made in that case.

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Marionette chorus

Two weeks ago, on July 15, the General Assembly passed a resolution condemning Israel for not abandoning the construction project on Har Choma. The vote was 131 in favor; three opposed — Israel, the United States and Micronesia — and 14 abstained.

Typical of all such General Assembly resolutions aimed at delegitimizing Israel's claims in the region, its language was extreme, loaded with the code words which have one meaning in the Arab world and an other in the west; and its content went far beyond any recognizable sense of proportion or balance. The following two paragraphs from among the 13 in the resolution are representative. "The General Assembly...

• Reaffirms that *all illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem* (our emphasis) and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, especially settlement activity, and the practical results thereof cannot be recognized irrespective of the passage of time.

• Reiterates the demands...in particular the immediate and full cessation of the construction of a new settlement at Jebel Abu Ghneim *(Har Choma — our addition)*, to the south of Occupied East Jerusalem, and of all other Israeli settlement activities, *as well as of all illegal measures and actions in Jerusalem*." (our emphasis)

Canada supported the resolution. Our Ambassador to the United Nations, Robert Fowler, justified his vote in favor "because it reflects in broad measure our concerns about the serious situation in the peace process, and the particular importance which the construction of a new settlement in Jabal Abu Ghneim/Har Choma has had in bringing us to this critical juncture."

Both as logic and as tactic, Canada's support of the resolution is regrettable. Logically, it makes no sense to claim concern over the floundering peace process, as Fowler did, and then help to implement a measure which undermines it even further.

Tactically, it merely pushes the two parties farther away from the negotiations table. Intervention into the bilateral process by the UN weakens the bilateral process. Moreover, by so openly adopting the PLO's arguments and by so brazenly ignoring Israel's counterarguments, the General Assembly and those countries who supported the one-sided, manipulative resolution proved they do not understand the key component of the bilateral Oslo process is to allow the parties to develop mutual trust and confidence by requiring them to resolve their differences peacefully, reasonably through debate, discussion, negotiation and compromise.

In our view, the government of Canada deserves to be soundly criticized for falling into the PLO line, as if tugged by a string, like a marionette, singing the chorus of unfair, anti-Israel rhetoric.

Tarnished forever

Like the newly-vowed marriage under the chupah whose celebration is constrained and diminished by the crash of broken glass, so too were the celebration and the elation of the 15th Maccabiah Games. It should have been an untarnished shining monument to athleticism, camaraderie and peoplehood. But, alas, it was not. Instead its shine was diminished forever by the sorrowful engraving deep into the stone of Jewish history, of three names: Gregory Small, 37, Yetty Bennett, 50 and Elizabeth Sawicki, 47. Their deaths should have never happened. Those responsible must be brought to justice to bear the consequences.

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"All kinds of vices are falsely attributed to the Jews because one wishes to convince oneself that one has a right to detest them. But the pre-existing sentiment is the detestation of the Jews."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

July 29, 1882 Annie Feinberg and David Ripstein were married. It was the first Jewish wedding in Manitoba. Rev. A. Benjamin performed the ceremony. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Aish HaTorah reply to Rabbi Yitz Greenberg

I was distressed to read Rabbi Yitz Greenberg's characterization of Aish HaTorah as a contributor to divisiveness in the Jewish community. (*CJN*, July 3)

If anything, in our opinion, Aish HaTorah is fortifying links among Jews and breaking down walls between our people.

It would help at the outset to question Rabbi Greenberg's definitions of unity and divisiveness. From reading the contents of the interview, one would think that anyone who agrees with his outlook understands all about Jewish unity, whereas anyone who disagrees is against it.

If someone believes philosophically that everything is relative, then, of course, one can accept all standards. The trouble is that, philosophically, no one believes that.

I assume that Rabbi Greenberg has standards regarding Jewish theology that he will not compromise. If so, is he being divisive with people who hold a different view? Is the Conservative theologian divisive if he does not accept patrilineal descent as the criterion for Jewish identity? And what about Reform theologians who feel that a non-Jewish spouse should not receive an aliyah to the Torah? Are they, too, against Jewish unity because they disagree with those who advocate this innovation?

I would like to propose a different standard — one that we believe is logical, powerful and tested. The principle is: "Even though I don't necessarily agree with your ideology or politics, I don't know who the better person is in the eyes of G-d." Like a family, we must learn that we can admire and respect each other, even when we disagree.

If all Jews walked around with this mindset and exhibited it daily, we would bring authenticity to the designation, "the Jewish People." We call upon all Jews who believe that our most important goal is bringing the concept of the Jewish People to adopt this definition of unity and put it into practice.

Rabbi Ahron Hoch
Director of Education
Aish HaTorah
Toronto

Windsor has more than 400 Jewish families

First I want to congratulate Sharon Kroft on her election as president of Toronto Hadassah-WIZO (*CJN*, July 3) and wish her much success.

Secondly I want to know what Windsor she is referring to. I have lived in Windsor, Ont., for 60 years and although our Jewish population is decreasing annually, we have never been down to 100 families in the years that I have lived here.

Ruth Lazarus
Windsor

Respect views of elders and children

As a parent and an educator, I was interested to read Elliott Malamet's column of July 3, "Parents must teach concept of morality."

Malamet makes an important point: the elders of a society have a great deal to offer in terms of having a long view and understanding the consequences of our present actions. But he ignores an equally important point: the world (including Judaism) is continually changing and it requires the new aspects that every generation brings for its very survival.

Malamet refers to *The Little Prince*, a favorite book of mine, but in a way that completely misrepresents its meaning. Anyone reading *The Little Prince* will know that it is an unmitigated celebration of the viewpoint of children, with a less-than-flattering description of "grown-ups." I couldn't let Malamet's inaccurate portrayal of the book go unchallenged; hence this letter. However, as I read the article, I realized that the reference he makes to the book gives a powerful if unintended boost to the neglected side of the argument of how to educate for the future.

According to Malamet, children must be "tamed," and by this he implies that they must learn to submit to authority and accept the moral view of their parents and teachers. But the passage in *The Little Prince* suggests something very different. Far from needing to be tamed, the child (the little prince) is being implored by the fox to tame him, by which he (the fox) simply means "to establish ties." The description of "taming" in the book, of the mutual, reciprocal relationship of establishing those ties and the time and understanding required to do it, seems to me as true and beautiful description of an ideal teaching-learning relationship as any I have read. It is also evocative of Martin Buber's "I-Thou" relationship.

Teaching and learning, conservation and renewal, are sometimes paradoxical and contradictory, and this seems to be suggested in the passage Malamet quotes from the Talmud. Judaism, at its core, has a relational, interactive quality that goes against dogmatism. Our truths stay vital by being debated and discussed, by being questioned and rediscovered by succeeding generations. The role of the elders, then, is not just to transfer concepts of morality to the young, but to take responsibility both for the children and for the renewal of the world, and this requires respect and valuing for what it is children bring.

We live in a world where everything is changing and where the values of the past are no longer assured or automatically accepted. This is a challenge in all areas of life, not the least in religious and moral thinking, including in Judaism. There are two basic reactions to this state of affairs, and Jews have embraced both. One is fundamentalism, the other a willingness to adapt and renew ideas. The second option is not an easy one, because it lacks certainty and risks losing some concepts and practices in their existing form. But because fundamentalism runs counter to our basic beliefs as Jews, it is the only thing we can do.

Anne Adelson
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Remembering the Exodus 1947

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

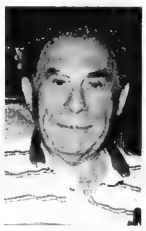
Hana Zimnowitz was married in June 1946, just a year after liberation from the Oberalstadt concentration camp in Czechoslovakia. Given the new couple's meagre resources, a honeymoon was out of the question, even though Hana longed for an ocean cruise. A year later, however, she got her wish. For Zimnowitz, today a 75-year-old widow living in Thornhill north of Toronto, the voyage of the *Exodus*, the little steamer that made Jewish history 50 years ago, was "[her] honeymoon cruise."

Zimnowitz spent a good portion of her "cruise" preparing for a pitched battle against British troops, who refused to allow the famed ship's 4,515 passengers to disembark in Palestine. All of those passengers, refugees from Hitler's Europe, were crammed into the ship like sardines.

"But we were young," she says. "We survived the Nazis, and now, we were on our way to Palestine. What could the British do to us?" She even goes so far as to say that parts of the trip were "fun."

For Ben Shedlezky of North York, now 80, the voyage was less amusing. He was aboard the *Exodus* with his wife, Eva, and their infant son, Henry. He remembers "crying, screaming, panic" when the British attacked the unarmed vessel, and was so afraid for his young family that he barricaded them into a bathroom below deck.

Of the 64 vessels that tried to smash the British blockade of Palestine from 1945 to 1948 in the clandestine operation known as Aliyah Bet, none became better known than the *Exodus*. Leon Uris immortalized both the ship and that period in his 1957 historical novel, *Exodus*, which has been translated into dozens of languages and has been read by millions. A film version starred Paul Newman. For countless readers and movie-goers, the book and the film served as an introduction to the story of modern-day Israel. For them, it was the ship that launched a nation.



Ben Shedlezky

But like many great storytellers, Uris blurred the line between truth and fiction. His *Exodus* succeeded in reaching Palestine with 300 refugee children after a dramatic hunger strike in Cyprus. The truth was far different.

Zimnowitz and Shedlezky experienced the real thing.

The vessel was an American ferry called the *President Warfield*, after the founder of the shipping line that built her. Licensed to carry 400 passengers, she was built in 1928 and bought in 1946 by a company in Baltimore fronting for Aliyah Bet. Repaired and overhauled, she was registered at first to Panama. When the British pressured Panama to withdraw its registration, the boat flew the flag of Honduras.

After a series of cloak-and-dagger manoeuvres, the *Warfield* made its way to the French port of Sete, across the Bay of Lyons from Marseilles. British intelligence, however, was aware of her and followed her the entire time.

In the summer of 1947, Shedlezky was recovering from his wartime experiences, which included a two-year stint in a German prison and two years in the Polish army. While in a displaced persons camp in Germany, he was approached by a leader of the Irgun, one of the post-war Jewish underground groups, and told about the *Warfield*'s plan to sneak Jewish immigrants into Palestine.

"We were told to leave everything behind," says Shedlezky, now a grandfather of six. "We could only take five kilos [of belongings] each. Then, for two days and two nights, we went on trucks to France."

The Exodus after it was boarded by British soldiers. Photo from *Israel: Images & Ideas*, Viewfinder Publications, New York, 1988.

Once in Sete, the men, he says, were told to stay on the decks, while the women and children were taken to the holds below, which had been emptied of all fittings. At first, the atmosphere was joyous and optimistic.

To get on the *Warfield*, "you had to have some kind of shlep [influence]," says Zimnowitz. Her husband Meir did, having been a leader in Betar, the Zionist youth movement. The couple travelled on trucks and in trains for several days before arriving on the scenic French coast for the trip. "No one was scared," she recalls. "We were happy to go to Palestine."

But only one day after the *Warfield* had slipped away from the French coast, a British destroyer appeared on the horizon and demanded the *Warfield* identify herself and state her intentions. With each passing day, the number of British ships chasing the *Warfield* increased, and so did the concern of the passengers. Everyone knew a confrontation was imminent. The mainly American volunteer crew rigged wire mesh around the deck and openings, and passengers prepared makeshift weapons with any material available: canned food, iron bars, even hot steam and oil. It was Zimnowitz's job to wrap barbed wire around potatoes for use as projectiles.

"We knew what was coming," she says. "But no one was worried. We came from concentration camps. We knew the British wouldn't kill us. At worst, we thought they would take us to Cyprus."

In the early hours of July 18, 1947, with the *Warfield* just 40 kilometres from the coast of Palestine, the British attacked. But overnight, the ship had changed her name. A banner now proclaimed her as *Haganah Ship — Exodus 1947*.

The battle was fierce. "They rammed us and made holes in the ship," remembers Zimnowitz. "Then, there was panic. Smoke came from the electrical room, and we started to leak oil and drinking water."

A strong swimmer, Zimnowitz thought of jumping overboard. "People were running everywhere and screaming, 'Fire!'"

Only a few metres away, Shedlezky was carrying out his orders: to cut the ropes supporting the *Warfield*'s lifeboats, which the British were using to climb aboard. After he did, the troops "hit the water."

The fighting lasted only a few hours, but the British killed two and wounded 146 Jews. The damaged *Exodus* was towed into Haifa's harbor, where passengers were loaded onto three British prison ships.

The rumor was that the boats would be escorted to Cyprus, but instead, they set back out to France and anchored off Port de Bouc. The French government refused to force anyone off and a three-week standoff with the British ensued.

"It was fun, not scary," Zimnowitz insists. She helped scrawl a huge banner, in lipstick on a bedsheet, declaring "Down With Bevin." Ernest Bevin was the hated British foreign secretary at the time.

Despite a hunger strike staged by many of the adults on board, officials in London made good on their threat to return the passengers to British-controlled DP camps in Germany. The survivors of Nazi camps "weren't happy" — to say the least — about returning to the land of Hitler, Zimnowitz says. Passengers were carried off the ships in Hamburg "kicking, screaming and spitting," and taken to closed-off army barracks. But the plight of these Jews caught the world's attention and ultimately played a part in persuading Britain to hand the matter of Palestine to the United Nations.

Eventually, in 1948, both Zimnowitz and Shedlezky made it to Israel, just months following independence. Shedlezky came to Canada in 1953 and plied his trade as a butcher. His infant son Henry is now a teacher in Hamilton.

Zimnowitz and her husband came to Canada in 1965. Today, she keeps busy with hiking and canoeing. "I was always one for adventure," she says with a smile. "And the *Exodus* was an adventure."

* * *

This year's Holocaust Education Week in the Greater Toronto Area will open Oct. 30 at the Leah Posluns Theatre with a program on the *Exodus*. The Holocaust Education Committee (416-635-2883, ext. 144) is seeking any passengers of the ship who live in the Toronto region.

In Montreal, the Holocaust Memorial Centre will conduct Holocaust Education Week from March 23 to 30, 1998. The core of the week's programs, called Meeting the Future Through Knowledge of the Past, is sponsored by the Kleinman Family Foundation's annual CEGEP symposium.

Certificate
Holder of this No.
Mossp. of „Exodus 1947"; he/she was
brought by force to Germany from
Haifa, and is in exile on his way back
to Eretz-Israel.

Hana Zimnowitz as she appears today and as she appeared on the certificate issued by Jewish authorities in exile camp Poppendorf November 26, 1947.

Opinions

A descent into fast food hell

By Viva Press in Jerusalem

For me, Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) was the final straw. First there was McDonalds, then Pizza Hut, Burger King, Sbarros, Dunkin Donuts, Second Cup. And now, KFC.

The once quaint downtown promenade area of Jerusalem has been overtaken by huge international fast food chain conglomerates. Where before tourists used to come to Ben Yehuda Street to see authentic Israeli-style living, now tourists who still flock there see an area depleted of anything truly Israeli.

The Ben Yehuda area has turned into a food court — albeit an open-air one — that you would expect to find in a large North-American shopping mall.

The Israelis who used to sit in the small personalized cafes have moved elsewhere.

And who can blame them?

Sitting at any of the Americanized cafes on Ben Yehuda Street, you can't help but feel you're in the middle of tourist hell.

When a storefront is not occupied by a food chain, there are T-shirt stores selling clothing with catchy tourist phrases proving you were in Israel.

Also present on the Ben Yehuda strip are "American ice-cream" places and bagel shops.

Come to think of it, Ben Yehuda Street isn't the only street that has been colonized.

Near every town and city, a fast food chain reigns. From north to south, east to west, in every nook and cranny, no matter where you are in this country you can get fast food. When you drive along the highway, the golden arches seem to be following you, or rather leading the way.

Make no mistake — when I say fast food I'm referring to American-style fast food. The falafel and shwarma are the Israeli fast food that's particular to Israel.

But these places are much quieter — in the esthetic sense. Falafel places rarely have loud and bold-colored signs announcing that you're " only a two-minute walk" from their location.

Quite the opposite. The falafel place often occupies a small storefront area or kiosk. It still is the "bona fide" Israeli fast food.

And then there's supposed to be something special about the capital city, Jerusalem. Something different from the rest of the country.

But its downtown core is nothing more than a meeting place of fast food giants.

When I do go to Ben Yehuda Street, I feel I have crossed the border. There is more English spoken there than elsewhere. If I didn't live here, I'd wonder where all the Israelis had gone.

But I know where the Israelis are. Since I've resided here a number of times, I know which restaurants and cafes the authentic Israelis frequent. However, I won't disclose these places because I don't want to be blamed for ruining another favorite hangout spot.

I know that some people still like Ben Yehuda Street. Yet I can't stop thinking what the man himself would say ,were he alive today.

Here we had a man who was criticized for speaking to his son only in Hebrew. Eliezer Ben Yehuda dreamed that one day Hebrew would become the official language of Israel, that everyone would speak Hebrew.

But at the heart of the city, in the downtown core that everyone has to pass through at some time or another, there, standing mighty and proud, are places Ben Yehuda would surely have abhorred. His dream of a Hebrew-speaking Jewish state could not have included fast food chains taking over the capital city.

Then again, maybe I'm being a little too harsh. After all, Kentucky Fried Chicken here is kosher.

Action turns idealism into reality

By Justin Korda in Jerusalem

This summer in Israel I have found myself with several different groups of activists. I have spent time with followers of the late Shlomo Carlebach, people who in the '60s were protesters against the U.S. government's involvement in the Vietnam War. I have sat with ex-students who lobbied numerous institutions in the '70s for the release of Soviet Jewry from the oppressing Communist regime. And I have met others, who, in the '80s, brought the subject of Ethiopian Jewry to the top of the list of Jewish concerns, whose intervention eventually led to the airlift of that community to Israel.

It seems as though every generation has had its struggles and its accomplishments. I listened in fascination to the miraculous stories of how, in their youth, these people made decisions and took the measures to realize their dreams. This always made me think about what trademark my generation is going to leave. What is our struggle? What are we going to accomplish? And then, before I could even pinpoint one of the serious causes that our generation could be working towards, I began to wonder about something that to me is the most troubling of all: Where is our generation?

This generation is definitely not blessed with a world that is free of problems; it is, therefore, not a lack of causes that is silencing us. Perhaps apathy is what plagues us.

As a student myself, I have had to listen to countless people utter the cliche that goes something like this: "Oh you're so young and idealistic. Wait until you get older and you will see that things are not so simple." Now I must admit, I realize that my response to this piece of advice is biased. However, I hope and pray that as long as I live, I will never give the biased response to that particular remark. I don't feel that there is anything wrong with being idealistic, as long as this idealism is realistic. For an idealistic belief can be the most powerful force when it is reflected in action. Perhaps the students of my generation have listened too diligently to this advice given by our elders and as a result, have lost their enthusiasm.

The immigration of over a half-million Soviet Jews to Israel and the airlift of the Ethiopian Jewish community was once an idealistic dream. To some people, these dreams were even thought of as ridiculous and not worth the effort. Fortunately, the idealists did not relent when they were told to "get serious," and their idealism was reflected in realistic action. They did not sit around and talk about how much they wished for their dream to come true; they picked up their pens and wrote letters, they dialed their telephones and pressured, and they stood up to march and demonstrate. In time, the dream became a reality.

Seeking the freedom of the four missing Israeli soldiers, improving the quality of life of the 20 percent of Jews in Montreal who live in poverty, working to end the hatred that exists between religious and secular Jews in Israel, bringing Nazi war criminals living freely in Canada to justice and contributing to a future that is assured with the continuation of vibrant Jewish communities are just a few possible current dreams. Unfortunately, as if it were not obvious, merely believing in these causes will do nothing to realize them. Only an active approach that involves translating a belief into *tachlis*, or action, will bring about the desired changes. This has been proven many times before. Hopefully it will be proven again.

The ability to believe in a cause with all of one's heart is a true gift that human beings, and especially youth, possess. However, we also possess another gift — the ability to act. To use one gift without complementing it with the other is simply a futile endeavor. But using both gifts in tandem to turn an intangible idea into concrete reality is to make a difference, to make dreams come true.

I recently heard an anecdote about a poor man who decided to take his troubles up with G-d. He went to Western Wall, pressed his face up against the stones and cried to the creator, "Please G-d, I have so many children to support and I don't have any money. Please let me win the lottery. I know it is a big request, but I promise that I will use all the money to help my family and myself better serve you." The man then turned around and began to walk away. All of sudden a heavenly voice descended to the man saying, "Why don't you buy a ticket?"

This story has tremendous meaning. We complain about the world's problems and desperately hope for changes, yet we fail to look at the most obvious and powerful place to bring about change — ourselves. Our idealistic beliefs must be combined with activism if we are ever to see our dreams come true.

Concerning the State of Israel, David Ben-Gurion once said that "reality includes all possible miracles." Let us begin to realize our dreams and let us never stop dreaming.

Finding heroes other than boxers

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

I must confess that I was disinterested in the world championship in the age-old sport of boxing. To be sure, the prize monies — more than $30 million dollars — did give me pause. Sports figures are considered nobodies unless they are paid in the million dollar range, but even so, for a single night (which might only last a few minutes), it was a bit more than the usual. No doubt the contestants thought they were worth it. I did not, and in fact I think that we ought to boycott the whole sport.

It is bad enough that two men get rewarded for trying to render the other one unconscious, if possible. In the process, they are legally entitled to inflict the kind of mayhem which would otherwise qualify as a criminal offence. Not here: the victor is considered a hero and the victim usually becomes a has-been in short order.

One of these has-beens, so I learned, was a former champion (excuse the expression) who has served time in jail for rape and is now back collecting big bucks. I understand it was a truly distinguished fight: heads butting against each other, faces smeared with blood and the "always-gentle" Mike Tyson biting a piece out of his opponent's ear and then trying for the other ear as well. He probably read about Vincent Van Gogh prior to the fight, or maybe he had seen a picture.

The first time, the referee ruled that biting a piece of one's opponent's ear was accidental, even though Tyson had already spit out his mouthpiece, thus making his attack possible. Had nothing else happened, fascinated watchers would doubtlessly have seen further biting incidents.

The second bite was apparently too much, even for the referee, and thus the tale came to an end and Tyson was disqualified, but not without calling "foul."

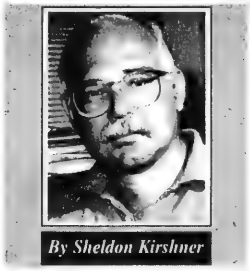
Those of you who did not follow this absorbing news — probably because your attention was riveted on Hong Kong and Canada Day — may wonder whether this tale was written by a modern-day Lewis Caroll. No, this was not *Alice in Wonderland.* It was a "must" for which worthies paid $5,000 to watch from close by, and no doubt they felt rewarded by seeing something that they had never seen before.

Many years ago, I advocated that boxing ought to be barred from television, as a prelude to getting rid of the sport as public entertainment. As with some of my other suggestions, I was spectacularly unsuccessful. Too bad, for it describes our kind of culture. A parent may not legally be permitted to discipline a child physically, but hitting somebody until he falls down senseless is called "the sport of boxing" and passes the scrutiny of the law.

I once paid attention to boxing when a Jewish boy from Omaha, Max Baer, knocked out the German hero Max Schmeling. That was at a time when I was still living in Germany and when Jews were depicted as physical weaklings, and there was Baer, who later became the heavyweight champion of the world. Since then I have preferred to look for champions in other fields.

The Kirshner File

The passing parade ...



By Sheldon Kirshner

They died recently, leaving footprints in time...

Oscar Auerbach, a New York City pathologist, was the first scientist to establish a link between smoking and cancer. His research fostered the anti-smoking movement in North America and prompted manufacturers to carry a warning label that cigarettes can be harmful to health.

George Wald, a biologist, was the co-winner of the Nobel Prize in 1977. A Harvard University professor, he was cited for his work in furthering understanding of how the eye passes images to the brain.

Robert Herman, a physicist with the General Motors Research Laboratories, developed statistical methods to analyze the flow of city-traffic.

Martin Schwarzschild, a Princeton University astronomer, devised a simple method of taking clearer photographs of the sun. Through balloon-borne telescopes capable of reaching the stratosphere, he obtained pictures free from atmospheric interference.

Jenny Rosenthal Bramley was the first woman in the United States to receive a doctorate degree in physics. She earned it from New York University in 1929 when she was 19. She held patents for color television tubes and the early tubes used in computer terminals.

Harry LeVeen, a Brooklyn surgeon, developed the LeVeen shunt, the first medical device for diverting fluids from the abdomen back into the bloodstream. It is particularly useful in cases of cirrhosis of the liver, and is credited with easing pain and saving lives.

Saul Marantz, a backroom tinkerer from Brooklyn, extended the possibilities of sound reproduction by developing such hi-fi audio components as the Model 9 amplifier and the Model 10B tuner.

Ruth Fine Clark was a pollster whose 1979 landmark study on the American newspaper industry encouraged a new generation of editors to publish "news you can use" — life style sections, consumer news and entertainment guides.

Carol Botwin was a leading American sexologist. She dispensed advice in a succession of books: *Sex and the Teenage Girl, Men Who Can't Be Faithful* and *Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus.*

Jurek Becker, an award-winning novelist, wrote the acclaimed book *Jacob the Liar.* A Holocaust survivor from Lodz, Poland, he lived in East Germany before settling in West Berlin.

Lucy Kroll was a New York talent agent whose clients included Norman Mailer, Carl Sandburg, Martha Graham and Elisabeth Kubler-Ross. She founded the Lucy Kroll Agency after a stint as a story analyst at the Warner Brothers Studio.

Helene Levy Hanff wrote the enormously popular memoir *84 Charing Cross Road.* Adapted for the stage, it was made into a film in 1987 starring Anne Bancroft and Anthony Hopkins.

Dorothy Stecker Norman was a writer, editor, photographer, patron of the arts and supporter of Israel. She was closely associated with the photographer Alfred Stieglitz, whom she memorialized in a 1973 biography.

Ben Raeburn was the proprietor and chief editor of the Horizon Press, specializing in manuscripts no one else would buy. He published Irving Howe, Alfred Kazin and Orina Fallaci before they were famous, as well as the complete works of Frank Lloyd Wright, the architect.

Alexander Kazhdan, a Moscow-born scholar, was the editor of the *Oxford Dictionary of Byzantium*, the definitive work on the subject.

Sydney Freedberg, a historian, was chief curator of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, a Harvard professor and the author of several books on Renaissance art, most notably *Painting in Italy: 1500-1600.*

Rose Bigman was Walter Winchell's devoted secretary. She worked for Winchell — the celebrated columnist and broadcaster — for three decades starting in the mid-1930s.

Albert Shanker fashioned New York City's United Federation of Teachers into one of the most powerful unions in the United States. He was also president of the American Federation of Teachers.

Stuart Kaufman, a University of Maryland historian, edited the papers of Samuel Gompers, the illustrious labor leader, and wrote *Samuel Gompers and the Origins of the American Federation of Labor, 1848-1896.*

Benjamin Gebiner was the first executive director of the Jewish Labor Committee (1934) and a long-time administrator of the Workmen's Circle.

Evsey Domar (Domashevitsky) was an economist whose claim to fame is the Harrod-Domar model of economic growth. He described his hypothesis — which predicts how much people must save and invest to keep an economy growing — in *Essays in the History of Economic Growth.*

Albert Wohlstetter advised U.S. governments on military strategy. A consultant with the California-based Rand Corporation, he is associated with the doctrine of nuclear deterrence.

Bernard Segal, a lawyer, was the first Jewish president of the American Bar Association (1969).

Harry Wachtel was legal counsel to Martin Luther King, the civil rights leader, and his wife, Coretta.

Robert Sarnoff, scion of David Sarnoff, the father of television, managed the now-defunct Radio Corporation of America (RCA) from 1965 to 1975. Under his direction, the company diversified its holdings.

Shoul Eisenberg, a refugee from Nazi Germany, was one of Israel's wealthiest businessmen, with controlling interests in the Israel Corporation, Israel Chemicals and Zim Navigation. He was instrumental in nurturing Israel's trading relationship with China.

Ernst Japhet was one of Israel's top bankers. A German Jew, he headed Bank Leumi in the 1970s and 1980s, falling into disrepute and forced into exile in a financial scandal related to the collapse of bank shares.

Jacques Coe, at 103 years old, was the oldest active stockbroker in the United States. Born in Holland, he was the son of a diamond cutter. He joined J.S. Bache & Company in 1916, and formed his own Wall Street firm 10 years later.

Nancy Goldman Claster entertained a generation of preschool children as Miss Nancy on *Romper Room*, an educational TV program which probably inspired *Sesame Street.*

Sydney Guilaroff was a legendary hairstylist at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer whose clients ran the gamut from Greta Garbo and Elizabeth Taylor to Grace Kelly and Marilyn Monroe. Born in London, he grew up in Winnipeg and Montreal.

Abe Feder, a seminal figure in theatrical light design and architectural lighting, worked on 300 Broadway shows, notably *My Fair Lady* and *Camelot*, and lighted the Rockefeller Centre, the United Nations, St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

Alexander Salkind produced a trio of Superman movies with Christopher Reeve as the lead actor.

Irwin Levine co-wrote the second most recorded song in history, *Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round the Old Oak Tree.*

Burton Lane (Levy) composed a string of memorable songs, notably *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever, (I Like New York in June) How About You?* and *How Are Things in Glocca Morra?*

Jesse White (Weidenfeld), an actor, was best known for his role as a meloncholy Maytag repairman in a long-running TV commercial.

Sheldon Leonard was a heavy in more than 150 Hollywood films and produced and directed such television programs as *The Dick Van Dyke Show, The Andy Griffith Show* and *Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.*

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Rabbinic Reflections

One small step...

By RABBI MOSHE SHULMAN

Thirty-seven verses in the Torah wasted! What a crime! Thirty-seven verses in the Torah are dedicated to where the Jews camped in the desert, where they rested, and how many times they changed venues! "These are the journeys of the children of Israel ... from Ra'amses to Sukkot ... from Chazterot to Ritma ... from Rissa to Keheleta..." (Num. 33)

The truth is, however, that behind this list of places there is a very profound message to the people. Moses was saying to Israel: look back and see how far you've come! After 40 years, it was time for national introspection. Who were we when we started, and who or what had we become? What had it taken to transform us from scared, weak, enslaved tribesmen into strong warring soldiers? What journey had to be travelled to change us from idol worshipers to the chosen people, committed to Torah and mitzvot?

It certainly didn't happen overnight. We didn't wake up one morning, see a vision, and cry out: "I believe!" Yes, Jews saw many miracles, including the greatest of them all, the Revelation of G-d at Mt. Sinai. But even that great miracle lasted only 40 days, after which we were back to our old tricks.

We learned the hard way that you can't take slaves and turn them into free people with Revelation. People don't change their entire lifestyles because of one inspirational speech, even if the speaker is the Almighty Himself!

In the desert it took 40 years of hard work, following G-d from place to place. Look back, said Moses, to where and what we were in Ra'amses, what types of things concerned us at Sukkot, and Eilim. Remember the stories of the golden calf, the complaints about water, the spies, the rebellion of Korach. Remember the 40 years. With each new place we encamped, with each new step, we came closer to achieving our goal.

Today, everyone is concerned with Jewish continuity and Jewish commitment. How do people develop commitment to Judaism? The answer lies in these 37 obscure verses. Commitment comes one step at a time.

Too many people misunderstand Judaism to be an "all or nothing package. They learn about 613 commandments, about Shabbat, kashrut, Torah study, or any other Jewish value — and say to themselves, "It's all too overwhelming." Nothing could be further from the truth. If G-d would have demanded from us "all or nothing," He would have left us at the foot of Mt. Sinai!

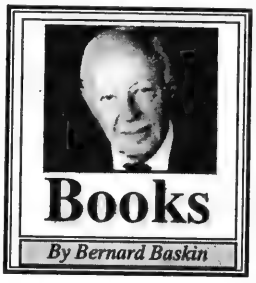
What the Torah demands is that we grow in Judaism, that tomorrow we are better Jews than we were yesterday, one mitzvah at a time, one Jewish value at a time! Shabbat begins with Shabbat candles, a Shabbat meal, perhaps Shabbat songs, and grows from there. One can grow in Yiddishkeit one day at a time, one mitzvah at a time, one step at a time.

That's the Torah's message. Look at what we have accomplished, where we have come from, how much we've achieved, and how we did it one step at a time. It didn't happen in one giant leap. It happened because we went from place to place. And in each new place we learned a new lesson, a new concept, a new mitzvah, and grew that much more.

Moses showed us the way. Each of us must continue to learn and grow. But we must not be frightened by what we see as the *distance* between where we are and where we are going. The distance is only the length between where we stand today and where we stand tomorrow! One small step at a time, slowly, we can journey great distances and conquer great horizons.

Shabbat Shalom.

Rabbi Shulman is currently the Rabbi at Congregation House of Jacob-Mikveh Israel, Calgary.



Books

By Bernard Baskin

Writer discusses bible's lurid episodes

***The Harlot by the Side of the Road*, by Jonathan Kirsch (Random House, $37).**

The themes of sex and violence, so prominent in the great classics of antiquity, are not alien to the Torah. This is to be expected, since they dominate human relationships and the Torah is replete with narratives concerning human development.

The Torah portrays human beings as they are, made of flesh and blood. And when they act immorally (as all human beings do at times — "for there is no man on earth who does only good and does not sin"), when they yield to the temptation to do evil, they are exposed. The Torah was meant for adults, not children, and God must not be identified with middle-class morality.

In *The Harlot by the Side of the Road*, Jonathan Kirsch, a book critic, novelist and lawyer, discusses some of the Torah's lurid and shocking episodes: the incest of Lot's daughters; the rape of Dinah; Tamar and Judah; Zipporah, Moses and the Bridegroom of Blood; Jephthah and his daughter; Tamar and Amnon; and David and Bathsheba.

The book's title refers to Genesis 38, where we are told of Jacob's son Judah, who breaks a promise and refuses to give his third son in marriage to Tamar after the others die. She then disguises herself as a prostitute, seduces her father-in-law and becomes pregnant. Instead of paying her, Judah leaves his staff and seal with her as pledges and Tamar subsequently uses them to prove his paternity.

The author places each episode within the social and political context of its time, indicates why, through the ages, some versions were censored or intentionally misinterpreted, and explains how these accounts have something vital to impart to contemporary readers.

Dinah, daughter of Jacob, was raped by Shechem, son of Hamor. Upon hearing of this brazen insult and of his desire to marry their sister, Jacob's sons acted: "They put Hamor and his son Shechem to the sword, took Dinah out of Shechem's house, and went away."

The Torah concludes the narrative with Jacob remonstrating against this violence, pointing out that one such deed leads to further actions of a similar nature: "You have brought trouble on me, making me odious among the inhabitants of the land...so that if they attack me, I and my family will be destroyed."

But his sons answered, "Should our sister be treated like a whore?" As in the modern *crime passionnel*, the sexual affront could not be overlooked and remain unanswered.

The grave sins of King David — arranging the murder of Uriah the Hittite and the taking of his wife Bathsheba — aroused the anger of Nathan the Prophet, who unsparingly describes the punishment that will befall David's family.

The words of Nathan's prophecy were soon fulfilled. Amnon, one of King David's sons, lusted after Tamar, David's daughter by another wife. Amnon feigned illness, prevailed upon the king to allow Tamar to nurse him and then raped her.

Moreover, this narrative of incest and cruelty ends in hatred between brother and sister and between brother and brother, for Absolom, Tamar's full-brother, harbored sentiments of vengeance against Amnon and, when an opportunity presented itself, had him murdered.

Absolom flees David's wrath and a full-fledged revolt breaks out. Absolom further fulfils Nathan's prophecy by sleeping with David's concubines, a deed that signifies political and familial usurpation. He performs this "ritual act" in public on the rooftop, "with the full knowledge of all Israel." This mirrors David's first view of Bathsheba bathing on her rooftop. Sexual betrayal thus comes full circle.

Roots & Remembrance

Missionaries describe 19th century Jews

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

In 1839, a group of Protestant missionaries from the Church of Scotland travelled through Europe to the Holy Land and back, surveying Jewish communities wherever they went. Their object was to assess how ripe the Jews were for conversion by observing Jewish sites, living conditions and attitudes.

Their fascinating account, *Narrative of A Mission of Inquiry to The Jews*, published in Philadelphia 158 years ago, contains many outstanding descriptions of Jewish communities in Central and Eastern Europe as well as in the Holy Land. The authors regarded the Jews highly and penned much that is now of special interest to Jewish genealogists.

Departing from London, the deputation moved through France, Italy, Malta and Greece, then sailed to Egypt. The elaborate descriptions of Jewish life in Palestine include this prescient account of the encampment of philanthropist Moses Montefiore on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives:

"He had fixed a cord round the tents at a little distance, that he might keep himself in quarantine. On the outside of this, a crowd of about 20 or 30 Jews were collected, spreading out their petitions before him. Some were getting money for themselves, some for their friends, some for the purposes of religion. It was an interesting scene, and called up to our minds the events of other days, when Israel were not strangers in their own land."

The travellers returned through Cyprus, Constantinople and present-day Romania, Ukraine, Austria, Poland, Slovakia and Germany, recording their impressions of many Jewish communities, synagogues, prayer services, marriages, funerals, schools, inns, customs and dress. The passage on Iasi, describing local Jews from Odessa, Vienna, Germany and Spain, suggest that the average Jewish community was anything but homogenous.

Further highlighting this diversity is the revelation that Iasi's roughly 25,000 Jews supported about 200 synagogues, most of them small, with several grouped together in small areas.

The authors provide good introductory sketches of many places. Czernowitz, for example, "is a pleasant town, with streets wide, well aired and clean. The houses are generally two or three stories high, and there are barracks and other public buildings...There are 3,000 Jews here, with eight synagogues, only three of which are large. These three we visited, being all under the roof of one large edifice. The congregation were engaged in worship when we entered [and]...a group soon gathered round each of us at different parts of the synagogue. On saying to those around, 'We have been at Jerusalem,' they were immediately interested, and asked, 'Are the Jews there like the Jews here?'"

Through such accounts a rich tapestry emerges. In Zalosc, pictures of a famous Rabbi Landau adorned most Jewish houses. In Potkamin, the "shamesh or beadle" knocked loudly on every Jewish door to summon synagogue congregants to prayer. Many Jewish cemeteries and even some headstones are elaborately described. The cemetery at Tarnapol, for example, "is covered with upright gravestones, some of them 200 years old, having inscriptions generally in good preservation, and some elegant monuments over the Rabbis."

Brody, with its 150 synagogues, "seemed wholly a Jewish city; and the few gentiles who appeared here and there were quite lost in the crowd of Jews." Here the travellers' sleep in a respectable Jewish inn was disrupted by a series of Jewish hawkers at an early hour.

"First of all the door was pushed open, then a fur-cap and long beard thrust in, while a voice demanded, in German, if we needed knives or combs. No sooner was this visitor gone, than another similar head was thrust in, and a voice asked if we wished to buy soap. This singular kind of annoyance was repeated by eight similar visitors before we were fully dressed, and we were obliged at last in self-defence to lock the chamber-door."

It's clear the authors could not help but see the Jews as a sorrowful anachronism of history. Still, their attitude is generally benign and they managed to capture quintessential elements of a diverse, complex, thriving culture. Genealogists seeking insights into specific localities may find them here. *Narrative of A Mission of Inquiry to The Jews* is available from many university libraries across North America.

The Jewish Highway

Take a virtual trip to land of Israel

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Shalom! Today, we are continuing our virtual trip to Israel.

Are you a veteran tourist who's been there done that? Then take a look at the *Jerusalem Post*'s large archive of tourism-related articles that should surprise even the most seasoned traveller **[http://www.jpost.com/Tourism/]**. For example, in Succah in the Desert **[http://www.jpost.com/Tourism/Article-0.html]**, Haim Shapiro writes about his visit to a unique spot near the Mitzpe Ramon area of the Negev.

After being served a simple dinner, guests are shown to their own little sukkah made of "old telephone poles covered with layers of canvas, plastic and palm fronds." Shapiro loved the food but found the accommodations a bit wanting.

Looking for ritzier lodgings but tired of the same old hotels? Good Morning Jerusalem **[http://www.yaronmor.co.il/gmj/]** is a reservation service for bed and breakfast facilities across the country and holiday apartments in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

Here are a few sites that offer very practical information. Ever at a loss calculating how many shekalim to expect for the dollar? No problem if you use Travel-Finder's Currency Convertor **[http://www.travel-finder.com/convert/convert.htm]**. (Your browser must be able to handle Java to use this page.) And check out **[http://www.inisrael.com./tour/main.html]** and click on Prices in Israel to find out how far your shekel will go.

If you're looking for road maps of the country, try **[http://www.geocities.com/~israeltouring/maps.html]** and click on the area that interests you. There are even distance charts included. Also try **[http://www.hotelstravel.com/israel.html#mp]** and MapQuest **[http://www.mapquest.com/]**. None of these maps is perfect but they will do in a pinch.

And no, it's not a glamorous site but if you've forgotten what time it is in Israel, just type in **[gopher://brachot.jct.ac.il:13/0/]** and you'll get an instant, accurate answer.

Still looking for more information? Then try Israel Hotel Association **[http://www.israelhotels.org.il/]**; Hotels and Travel in Israel **[http://www.hotelstravel.com/israel.html]**; Hostels in Israel **[http://www.hostels.com/il.html]**; and The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel **[http://www.learningvacations.com/eco7.htm]**.

So, after all your travels, are you begining to feel that since Israel is such a nice place to visit, it must be an even nicer place to live?

In a future column, I'll look at Aliyah sites on the Jewish Highway.

Until then, Lehitraot!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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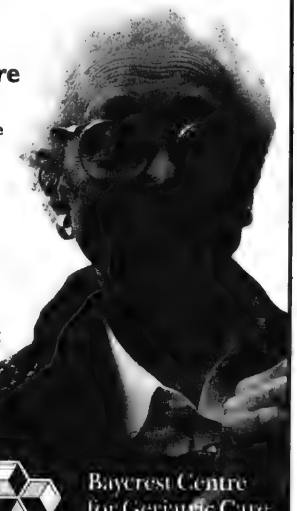

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KS INTERNATIONAL

Jewish authors

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Like a latter-day prophet of Israel, novelist A.B. Yehoshua utters a variety of lamentations — mostly of a political nature — and says that "it is the task of the intellectual to say what he thinks."

His biggest lament seems to be centered around Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whom Yehoshua accuses of poisoning the atmosphere of peace that had been building in the region: "The feeling was that we were creating a new climate with the Palestinians. I don't think he can destroy the Oslo agreement, but he has contaminated it, just as he has contaminated the new relationship between Israel and the other Arab countries. I feel myself a total opponent to him. What can I say? I don't like him; it's that simple."

A fifth-generation Jerusalemite who now teaches literature at Haifa University, Yehoshua also laments the government's Har Choma housing project, seeing it as an unnecessary provocation.

Yehoshua says he is part of an old school of Israeli Hebrew writers who regard it as a moral imperative to speak their minds. "There's a tradition dating from the very beginning of Zionism that writers were involved in the political discussions of the country," the 61-year-old author of six novels and numerous short stories told *The CJN* during a recent visit to Toronto.

"My generation is the last one to speak up. The new writers are far more indifferent. They're tired of the politics and they want to remain in their little corners. This is not good because we still have many problems and when intellectuals choose not to get involved, we lose certain voices that were respected by Israelis, even when they didn't agree with what was being said."

Perhaps his most well-known and critically acclaimed novel is *Mr. Mani*, which became the basis for the popular Israeli TV serial that was screened at Toronto's Jewish film festival last spring. The book, which Yehoshua has called "intergenerational psychoanalysis," covers six generations of Jewish history from 1848 to 1982, through the medium of five separate conversations that go backward chronologically.

Like much of Yehoshua's fiction, *Mr. Mani* uses a multiplicity of voices as it grapples with central issues of the Jewish nation: he tends to project the problems of the nation into the lives of his characters. Critics have dubbed him "Israel's Faulkner," in part because of his use of multiple voices, his treatment of history and myth, his gloom and his recognition that the roots of the past are so thoroughly entwined around the present.

A theme that often emerges in his novels involves the splintering of an ideal: the fragmentation and disintegration of Israeli society and the elusive unity of the Jewish people.

His first novel, *The Lover*, reflects a deep disappointment with the implementation of the Zionist dream, while his second, *A Late Divorce*, examines questions about the Diaspora and presents an acutely observed reflection of current social realities in Israel. His stories often highlight the tension between the native-born Israelis — sabras, like Yehoshua — and the generation of Israelis who were born in Europe and fled Nazism.

Yehoshua's latest book in English is *Open Heart*, a story of adulterous love that stretches between Israel and India; it has received mixed reviews. In Israel, his most recent Hebrew title, *Voyage To The End of The Millennium*, appeared earlier this year. (It has not yet been translated into English.) A historical novel set in the 10th century, it it represents something of a departure for Yehoshua, it is still very much in keeping with his habit of exploring schisms within the Jewish world.

"This is a fascinating and obscure period that we don't know much about. The book describes encounters with Oriental Jews, Islamic Jews and Western Jews. Most Jews at the time were Islamic Jews. This was the time of the first split between the Ashkenazim and the Sephardim; I wanted to examine this split."

In particular, the book examines attitudes around the practice of polygamy, of which the Sephardi world supposedly approved but the Ashkenazi world did not.

Writing in the language of the Bible — "a language that was dying at the beginning of the 19th century" — Yehoshua says he is proud to participate in Hebrew's historic renaissance.

"I can say that Hebrew is a flexible, modern language, a rare example of a language that has been revived. It's a very antique language and this is its special charm. I would say that if the prophet Ezekiel came here and heard me speak Hebrew, he would understand me. English is only 900 years old, but I doubt you would be able to understand the language of William the Conqueror."

As he orchestrates a multiplicity of voices in his fiction, Yehoshua contends that Israel's social diversity "must be caught and understood by different voices, because Israeli reality has become a multi-voiced reality."

Speaking of the group of senior Israeli writers who inject their voices into the national cacophony, he declares: "My colleagues and I have been very much respected as a group. Not always do people agree with us, but they listen.

"There's a tradition in Israel of listening to the prophets, even if they are anti-government. I'm not saying we're prophets, but if you look at the prophets in the Bible, they were a kind of social critic. They were not speaking about theology, they were speaking about the state of the nation, about politics, about social justice, about foreign relationships. And they didn't hesitate to criticize the king."

Old school writer speaks his mind

A.B. Yehoshua

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On Campus

Filmmaker employs digital technology

By PAMELA SWEDKO
Special to The CJN

Aaron Weintraub

TORONTO — Without any formal training or hi-tech equipment, Aaron Weintraub, then only 14, created his own brand of animation using basic software and a PC from school.

When Weintraub was 17, he went on a high school field trip that led him to Topix computer graphics and animation house, where he impressed the artists with a demonstration of his low-tech, amateur work.

Weintraub, now 21, recently completed his third year of film studies at York University and has worked part time at Mad Dog, a division of Topix that handles high-end digital post production and design.

He is becoming one of a new wave of filmmakers who are digitally literate and knowledgeable about the newest technologies, while also knowing about the art of filmmaking.

Working on the industry's most advanced equipment, Weintraub has been involved in almost everything produced at Mad Dog, including spots they did for Panasonic, which are receiving award-winning recognition worldwide, and he was one of the artists on a recent David Bowie video.

He had his first opportunity at Mad Dog when the creative director from Much Music called looking for someone to prepare an introduction with graphics and other technical elements.

Everyone else was busy with other projects and Mad Dog president Sylvain Taillon offered the services of his student employee. The creative directors decided to give Weintraub a chance.

Weintraub was given a few days to experiment with some ideas before they discussed the project further, but only three days later he had finished a piece of animation that surprised everyone, including the creative director at Much Music who put it on air just as Weintraub had created it.

Despite this experience, Weintraub plans to finish his program at York.

"I realize that doing animation requires a lot of the same skills as classical film, like storytelling, composition, the art of motion and how things move in the frame. So, I figure that film school is the best place for me, because with that sort of stuff, things haven't really changed. It's the technology used to make that happen that's changed. Its a different set of tools, but the basics are still there."

Weintraub says he hasn't put much thought into what the future will bring.

"I would like to make films," he says, "but I want it to be combination of all this stuff — traditional and digital. I would like to have my hands in every aspect of creating a project."

Weintraub is taking a break from his computer this summer at Camp Ramah, where he is a section head.

Women to study Torah

TORONTO — A yarchei kallah for women, a program of intensive Torah study, will be held at Or Chaim Yeshiva, 159 Almore Dr., Aug. 5 to 7.

The three-day program, sponsored by Canadian Friends of Nishmat, is designed for women of all educational backgrounds, levels and ages.

Each day's study consists of two sessions during which participants prepare English or Hebrew source material in partnered (chavrutah) study. This is followed by a seminar led by Rabbanit Chana Henkin, founder and director of Nishmat, the Jerusalem Centre for Advanced Jewish Study for Women.

The program's topic is the Song of Songs, and themes studied will include the song of the lover and the beloved; the literary changes in the role of women from a passive to active role and the thoughts of modern Jewish thinkers on the Song of Songs.

Rabbanit Henkin founded Nishmat seven years ago as a centre for Jewish learning that placed no limits on a woman's study of Jewish texts. In an age when Jewish women are pursuing all areas of secular study, she said, it is imperative that their Jewish knowledge reach the same intellectual heights.

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(צו זיין 120-סטן געבוירן־יאָר)
פון אַלבערט בייגערמאַן

וועך מען שרייבט וועגן אַ יידישן שרייבער, אַ פאַלקס-דיכטער, ווי **מרדכי געבירטיג**, איז אוממעגלעך נישט צו דערמאָנען אין אונטערשטרייכן די היסטאָרישׂ־נאציאָנאַלע באַדייטונג פון יידישן לעבן אין פוילן. דאָרט האָבן געהערשט אייגנארטיקע פאַראַלל־טענישן, וואָס האָבן נישט קיין פאַרגלייך אין קיין שום אַנדער לאַנד פון דער יידישער צעשפּרייטקייט. אין פוילן האָבן די יידן נישט גע־האט מיט וועמען זיך אויסצומישן אוּן האָבן דערויבער גענלעבט זייער באַזונדער לעבן.

דאָס פוילישע יידנטום האָט געמאַכט אַ גאַר וויכטיקן בייטרייער צו דער פאַרמירונג פון היינטצייטיקן יידישן פאַלק, מיט זיינע נאַ־ציאָנאַלע פראָבלעמען, מיט דער יידישער שפּראַך אוּן יידישער ליטעראַטור. די קלייַנע שטעטלעך זיינען געווען עכט יידישע אוּן מען האָט דאָרט געלעבט אַן עכט יידיש לעבן.

אַזוי האָט זיך אין פאַרלויף פון דורות געפּורעמט אוּן גע־שטאַלטיקט דער באַזונדערער יידישער שטייגער, דער אייגנארטי־קער יידישער מענטש. דאָס עכט יידישע פונעם פוילישן יידן, די באַזונדערקייט פונעם לעבן אוּן ווירקן פון יידיש לעבן אין פוילן, איז אייניע פון די טראַגישסטע אוּן גליכצייטיק דערהויבנסטע קאַפּיטלען אין דער דראַמאַטישער געשיכטע פון יידיש פאַלק.

די אלויטיקע אוּן פולבלוטיקע יידישקייט אין פוילן האָט גע־פונען איר אויסדרוק אין די אַרגאַניזירטע אויטאָנאָמע קהילה־אינסטיטוציעס אוּן אין זייער גייסטיקן אוּן קולטורעלן שאפן. דאָס לעבן אוּן ליידן, דאָס שטרעבן אוּן האָפן פון די אַרעמע פאַלקס־מאסן האָט געבראַנגט צום אויסדרוק אַן אייגנאַרטיקן, אַן עכט יידיש־מענטשלעכן פאַלקלאָר. עס איז אינטשטאַנען אַ גרויסע, רייכע אוּן פאַרשידנארטיקע יידישע ליטעראַטור אוּן קונסט, וואָס האָט אפּגעשפּיגלט דאָס לעבן אוּן שטרעבן פון פאַלק.

ספּעציעל האָט דאָס פאַלק אַרויסגעווירן זיין לעבנס שטייגער אין די האַרציק־פרימיטיוון לידער־מעשׂיות, וואָס האָבן זיך גע־טראָגן פון שטאָט צו שטאָט, פון דור צו דור. דער באַוואוסטער פאַלקס זינגער מרדכי געבירטיג האָט אין זיינע לידער דערהויבן די דאָזיקע קונסט צו אַ העכערן שטאַפּל. אין זיי קומט צום אויסדרוק דער קאַלעקטיוויזם, דער פּרייס פון דרייסע יידישע מאַסן.

מרדכי געבירטיג איז געבוירן געווארן דעם 4־טן אפּריל, 1877, אין דער פּראַצייטיקער פוילישער הויפּט־שטאָט קראָקע. אין 1906 הויבן זיך אַן צו דרוקן זיינע לידער אוּן טעאַטער רעצענזיעס אין דער קראָקעווער יידישער צייטונג „סאַציאַל דעמאָקראַט". פון דאָן אַן ווערן זיינע לידער פּאַרשפּרייט צווישן פאַלק, ביז זיין אומקום אין 1942 אין דער קראָקעווער גטאָ.

מרדכי געבירטיג איז געווען אַן אַרעמער סטאַליאַר אַרבעטער, וואָס האָט געלעבט אין נויט און אין דלות אַזוי ווי צענדליקער אַדער הונדערטער טויזנטער אַרבעטער אוּן פאַלקס־מענטשן אין פאַר־מלחמה־דיקן פוילן. לעבנדיק איז אזעלכע באַדינגונגען האָט ער אין זיך איינגעאָפּט די נויט אין פיין, דעם צער אוּן ווי, די בענק־שאפט אוּן דאָס שטרעבן פון די בריטע מאַסן אוּן האָט דאָס איבערגעגעבן אין זיינע פּרעכטיקע אוּן טרעפלעכע לידער אוּן פּא־עמעס, וועלכע זיינען דעם פאַלק געווארן אַזוי נאָענט אוּן טייער. איז ער טאַקע געווארן דער באַליבטער פאַלקס־דיכטער, דער גע־בענטשטער פאַלקס־טרובאַדור — „דער זינגער פון נויט".

מרדכי געבירטיגס לידער ווערן שטאַרק פאָפּולער אוּן פאר־שפּרייט. טויזנטער אוּן טויזנטער יידן זינגען זיי אַדער הערן זיי זינגען, נישט וויסנדיק גאָרנישט וועגן זייער מחבר אוּן פיל מאָל אפילו נישט וויסנדיק ווער עס האָט דאָס ליד געשאפן. דער פאַלקס־מענטש זינגט אוּן האָט ליב צו הערן געבירטיגס לידער, ווייל זיי זיינען אייגענע, פאַלקישע, אַנגעלאַדן מיט טעאַטראַלער בילדערשקייט, דראַמאַטישער דינאַמיק אוּן באַהויכט מיטן צויבער פון עכטער פאַלקסטימלעכקייט. דערפאַר האָבן זיי פארכאַפט נישט נאָר דעם פשוטן מענטש, נאָר אויך די אינטעליגענץ אוּן דעם בעסערן קלייַנקונסט־טעאַטער. אזוי פיל מעלאָדנאַלישע בענק־שאפט קלייַנט פון זיינע לידער: „קינדער־יאָרן", „משה'לע, מיין פּריינד", „הער, קלעזמאָרים" אוּן אַ גרויסע צאָל אַנדערע, אין וועלכע ער באַרימט געפּלן, וואָס באַהערשן אונדז אזוי אפט.

אין דער היטלעריישער מגפה איז ער, צוזאַמען מיט אַלע יידן, פאַרטריבן געווארן אין אַ שקלאַפן־לאַגער, וואו ער איז אומגעקומען. ביז דער לעצטער מיטוּ האָט ער נישט פאַרלוירן זיין גלויבן אין אַ ליכטיקער וועלט. בלוּט פיזיש איז געבירטיג אומגעקומען. גייסטיק לעבט ער. ער לעבט אין זיינע לידער, ער לעבט אין הארץ פון זיין פאַלק. אזוי לאַנג ווי דאָס פאַלק וועט לעבן, וועט אויך לעבן זיין גע־בענטשטער דיכטער, דער גרויסער פאַלקס־זינגער מרדכי געבירטיג.

Swiss publish list

[Cont'd. from page 1]
camps; and Elisabeth Eder, wife of SS leader Ernst Kaltenbrunner.

In conjunction with the ads, which appeared in 19 languages, including Yiddish, the SBA launched a new claims process. It will be supervised by the Swiss Federal Banking Commission and an independent commission headed by Paul Volcker, former chair of the U.S. Federal Reserve.

Ernst & Young, the international accounting firm, has been designated to sift through claims, which will be resolved within one year. Contact offices have been set up in New York, Tel Aviv, Budapest, Sydney and Basel.

As a result of the new procedures, Hanspeter Hani, the ombudsman appointed by the SBA to handle claims against dormant accounts, has been replaced by the Ernst & Young office in Basel.

The national president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Goldie Hershon, welcomed the latest developments.

"After the passage of so many years, we are pleased that the (SBA) has taken this initiative," she said in a communique issued in Montreal. "Congress sincerely hopes that Switzerland's efforts to make restitution to Holocaust survivors will result in the return of the assets of Swiss bank accounts to their rightful owners."

Lyle Smordin, national president of B'nai Brith Canada, and Frank Dimant, B'nai Brith's executive vice-president, also commended the SBA.

In a statement, they declared: "This is an important step in the Swiss people's accounting of their country's wartime dealings with the Nazis and the assets stolen from Jews during the Holocaust, and their acceptance of responsibility for these acts."

In an interview, Moshe Ronen, chair of Congress' Ontario Region, expressed irritation that only "a fraction" of the names were in fact released.

He said this data should have been made public after the war. "There is a certain degree of anger that it has taken 50 years for the Swiss to release this information."

Nathan Leipciger, co-chair of Congress' Holocaust Remembrance Committee, described the list as drastically incomplete. But he said he was heartened by the SBA's plan to publish another list later this year.

Leipciger, an Auschwitz survivor, noted that dormant accounts are only one aspect of the problem. "They're sitting on thousands of kilograms of (Nazi) confiscated gold, worth between $6 to $7 billion," he said, referring to Swiss banks.

Ron Singer, a Toronto claimant who believes that his Polish uncle opened a Swiss bank account before he perished in the Holocaust, voiced mixed feelings about the list.

"As a beginning, it's fine. But it's hardly definitive."

Responding to news that the Bank of Canada had begun a review of its records to verify a 1944 U.S. intelligence report about its involvement in a Nazi money laundering scheme, Abella called for a full accounting of the reported transaction.

The Bank of Canada should appoint an impartial historian and establish a neutral advisory board to look into the matter, said Abella, a York University historian and co-author of the 1982 classic, *None is Too Many: Canada & the Jews of Europe, 1933-1948*.

Information available

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – Anyone seeking information on the dormant accounts listed by the Swiss Bankers Association needs to fill out an information kit, which includes a claim form to be filed to the accounting firm of Ernst & Young.

The list of accounts and the information kit is available via the Internet at **[www.dormantaccounts. ch]**.

If you are unable to access the Internet, Ernst & Young has set up offices in New York, Tel Aviv, Basel, Budapest and Sydney to provide information kits.

In the United States contact:
Ernst & Young LLP
c/o Dormant Accounts
787 Seventh Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10019
1-800-662-7708

In Israel contact:
Kost Levary and Forer
c/o Dormant Accounts
2 Kremenetski Street
Tel Aviv, Israel 67899
011-972-3-623-2525

In Switzerland and Europe contact:
ATAG Ernst & Young
c/o Dormant Accounts
Aeschengraben 9
P.O. Box 2149
CH-4002 Basel, Switzerland
011-41-61-272-08-11

In Hungary contact:
Ernst & Young Kft
c/o Dormant Accounts
1146 Budapest, Hermina ut 17
Hungary
011-36-1-343-5117

In Australia contact:
Ernst & Young
c/o Dormant Accounts
The Ernst & Young Building
G.P.O. Box 2646
Sydney, N.S.W. 2001, Australia
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Tuesday, Aug. 5, is deadline for Aug. 14 issue and Monday, Aug. 11, is deadline for Aug. 21. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, July 31

CHILDREN'S DAY

North York Farmers' Market Children's Day 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Mel Lastman Square with games, face painting, musical entertainment and puppets. Showtimes 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon. Presented by North York Public Health Department. 395-7670.

Saturday, Aug. 2

SUNNYBROOK MINYAN

Ma'yan, the Sunnybrook Liberal Minyan, Sabbath services 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. Kiddush following. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Wednesday, Aug. 6

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

A service in remembrance of the yahrzeit of **Ze'ev Jabotinsky**, rosh Betar, 8 p.m. at Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Keynote speaker His Excellency, the Israeli Ambassador to the United States **Eliyahu Ben-Elissar**. Sponsored by Herut Likud and Betar Tagar. Everyone welcome.

And What Else Is New

YARCHEI KALLAH

Canadian Friends of Nishmat annual Yarchei Kallah: Three Days of Intensive Learning for Women of All Ages and Background, Aug. 5-7, 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and 1-3:30 p.m., 159 Almore Ave. Topic is The Song of Songs, led by **Rabbanit Chana Henkin**, founder and director of Nishmat Jerusalem. A light lunch will be served to those who pre-register. 789-4883.

JEWISH HEALING

National Centre for Jewish Healing (NCJH) two-day regional conference for Jewish clergy, health care professionals and lay leaders of Toronto , Sept. 8 and 9 at Baycrest Terrace, 55 Ameer Ave. NCJH, New York, 212-772-6601.

YIDDISH FOR CHILDREN

Yiddish classes for children, kindergarten and elementary grades, featuring reading, writing, conversation, Jewish holidays, culture, customs and history, art and music. Sunday mornings, Associated Hebrew Day School, 250 Finch Ave. W., starting Sept. 14. Registration Sept. 7. Pre-registration/information **Naomi,** 635-2883, ext. 700. Sponsored by Committee for Yiddish of UJA Federation and North York and York Region Boards of Education.

PEACE OF MIND, SOUL

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto full-day retreat for women, Peace of Mind, Peace of Soul, Monday, Aug. 25, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Camp Robin Hood in Markham. Program includes swimming, games, exercise, Torah discussions, structured activities for children, kosher barbecue by A Taste of Tikvah. $20 adult, $10 child. **Karen Bendahan** 905-886-5730.

CRAFTERS AND VENDORS

Crafters and vendors are wanted for the first annual Bizarre Autumn Affair at Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Sunday, Sept. 28, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. **Alison Lee** 924-6211.

JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service Groups: Bereavement Group, separate group for younger bereaved persons, Aug. 5 and Aug. 21; Do Your Children have Trouble Making Friends? social skills for ages 7-12, begins October; Single Again for divorced/separated individuals, begins Sept. 9. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., fall courses for adults, teenagers and preteens, in conversational Hebrew for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. Monday mornings, Sept. 15-Dec. 15 (intermediate); Tuesday mornings Sept. 16-Dec. 16

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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pkg. of 2
199

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

(beginners); Wednesday mornings, Sept. 17-Dec. 17 (intermediate II); Tuesday evenings, Sept. 16-Dec. 16 (all levels). Beginners' course instructor **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

HADASSAH HAPPENINGS

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO new membership ideas:

Calling all new mothers! A new chapter comprised of mothers and their babies (up to 1 year of age) is being formed. Come out and hear interesting speakers, bond with other new mothers, share experiences. **Lisa Adler**. 630-8373.

Calling all new brides and brides to be! One year's free membership is being offered to you. Find out what Hadassah is all about. **Betty Sherwood** 630-8373.

ORPHANS HOME REUNION

Combined reunion of two Jewish orphanages, the Montefiore and the Montreal Hebrew Orphans Homes Sept. 13 and 14 in Montreal. Alumni from these two orphanages can contact **Myer Gordon** 221-3161 or write him at 14 Alonzo Rd., North York, Ont. M2R 1T5.

VARIETY SHOW

Mel Lastman Variety Players perform Sept. 4, 5, 6, 7, 12 and 13, at Fairview Library Theatre in a program of singing, dancing and comedy. This is a company of seniors, some of whom are former professional performers. **Dolly Brown** 905-881-8011. Call now, tickets are going fast.

SINGLES DIRECTORY

A newly updated Jewish Singles Directory has just been released by Jewish Information Service. Activities include socials, lectures, trips, matchmaking and get-togethers of a religious nature. $2, or $4 by mail. 635-5600.

Singles event information also on JIS's Jewish Singles After Hours Hotline 635-5605, or Internet at [www.feduja.org/commserv/sinserv.stm] ("Jewish Toronto").

SOCIAL SKILLS GROUP

Jewish Family & Child Service and the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region new Program for Teens, ages 13-18, who have difficulty with relationships. The group will develop improved social skills and self-esteem, and meets in Promenade Mall at JF & CS offices beginning September. Pat Lieberman 638-7800, ext. 215.

FOR SENIORS

Wagman Centre Bereavement Group for recently bereaved seniors meets every other Friday morning. **Paula David** 785-2500, ext. 2271.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 7's program is one where anyone can offer anecdotes, stories, recitations and impressions. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Blood pressure clinic Aug. 5; Thornhill Square Mall Aug. 11; barbecue party Aug. 17; Royal Ontario Museum Aug. 19; New Dixie Mall Aug. 26; *Jolson* at Royal Alexandra Theatre Aug. 28; Casino Rama Sept. 17; Haliburton Sept. 22-23; Washington and Atlantic City Oct. 26-31; shopping in Buffalo Nov. 5. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Oak Creek Boat Farm cruise, entertainment Aug. 5; Ottawa trip: seven kosher meals, Renoir exhibit, cruise on the Rideau Canal Aug. 17-19. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Bowlers wanted for 5-pin seniors social league, couples or singles, to start Sept. 6. 223-0082.

LZA Seniors Club at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. has Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. (new time) and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

"Celebrate 15 Fulfilling Years" at the annual Open House, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

L'Briyut Wellness Centre session on Skin Cancer: Prevention and Early Detection with **Peggy Pavlin**, primary nurse at Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, Thursday, July 31, 1:30 p.m.

Uzi Grunwald of Lenscrafters will adjust your glasses, free of charge, Tuesday, Aug. 5, 12:15 p.m.

Arthritis Society pain management clinic with **Bev Tobe**, registered therapist with the Society, Thursday, Aug. 7, 1-4:30 p.m.

Legal Information Clinic presented in connection with Young Leadership Cabinet of United Jewish Appeal Federation, to provide explanations of various legal problems which may beset seniors, solutions available and, if necessary, direction for further assistance.Thursday, Aug. 7; 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free of charge.

Israeli Etrog Club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Programs include movies, sing-alongs, dances, bingo. Aug. 6 is a movie: **Anna.**

Movie, *The Mirror Has Two Faces,* Sunday, Aug. 3, 2:15 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Mark Thursday, Sept. 18, on your calendar and be one of the lucky 144 people to pay only $99 as an entrant to the Bloor JCC "Teeser" Tournament, proceeds to go to L'Chaim Campaign. Reserve.

Space is still available for Summer Fun Day Camp. Two-week session includes swimming, arts and crafts, music, sports, hobbies and more. Session runs Aug. 11-22 Half Day Summer Fun, ages 3-5; Summer Fun, ages 4½-10; Summer Fun Plus, ages 9-12; Circus Camp ages 12-15 (Aug. 25-29).

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Limited Tic Tac Two spaces available for September 1997. Program runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday or 9:15-11:15 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday, September to June. Children must be two years of age by Dec. 31, 1997. Curriculum includes Jewish holiday themes, music and fun centre gym time. Ext. 248.

ABOUT PEOPLE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada has appointed Iris Britan as executive director. A native Montrealer, Britan received a BA from Concordia University and pursued her graduate studies at McGill University. She has served as executive director, Eastern Canada, at both B'nai Brith and Jewish National Fund and has led successful fundraising campaigns in Montreal, Ottawa and Halifax. Since coming to Toronto, Britan has worked with the Kidney Foundation and the YWCA.

Iris Britan

PAST PRESIDENTS HONORED

At the annual general meeting of Toronto Chapter Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University, special recognition was paid to past presidents. Front row from left: Dr. Walter Unger; Paul Jacobs, immediate past president; Sidney Chelsky; Norman Latowsky. Second row from left: Dr. Ronald Oelbaum; Bruce Bronfman; Michael Winston, new president, Toronto chapter. Missing are Aly Larson and H. Wayne Tanenbaum. [Photo by Arnold]

YAD VASHEM RECEPTION

At a reception hosted by Canadian Friends of Yad Vashem at Queen's Park, Premier Mike Harris presented citations to 10 people who had survived the Holocaust. One of those honored was Councillor Milton Berger (inset) for his contribution to the Canadian community. With Premier Harris is Marilyn Light, Canadian Friends board member. Attorney General Charles Harnick was also present.

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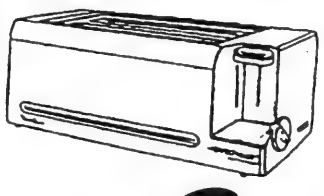

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Therese Cornelissen

John Colomby, Managing Partner of Soberman Isenbaum & Colomby, is pleased to announce the appointment of Therese Cornelissen to partnership.

Ms. Cornelissen is a Chartered Accountant, has completed the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants' in-depth tax course and has been with Soberman Isenbaum & Colomby since 1986. Her practice focuses on public companies in both the health care and real estate industries as well as owner-managed businesses. Ms. Cornelissen has experience in Canadian/U.S generally accepted accounting principles and audit issues.

Soberman Isenbaum & Colomby, the largest single-office Canadian public accounting firm, ranks as the seventeenth largest in Canada. The firm offers its clients auditing, accounting, taxation, valuation litigation support and corporate and personal bankruptcy services on a *person to person* basis.

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Chartered Accountants

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

Nazi gold scandal hits home

OTTAWA — Hardly a day goes by, it seems, without a shocking new revelation in the Swiss-Nazi gold scandal. To wit: "Vatican held plundered Swiss gold;" followed, of course, by the obligatory "Vatican denies receiving pounds of Nazi loot;" or, "Swiss list victims of Nazi looting."

But for the most part, Canada and the federal government have stood largely on the sidelines throughout the dizzying events of the past few years. (The government has had enough trouble defending its pitiful record on Nazi war criminals, especially with the onslaught of international attention brought about as a result of the Rambo-like tactics of American private investigator Steve Rambam).

Until now.

The World Jewish Congress (WJC) has unearthed documents which suggest the Bank of Canada may have been used during World War II to launder thousands of kilograms of the gold plundered by the Nazis from banks and Holocaust victims.

The declassified U.S. intelligence documents revealed the Bank of Portugal and Swiss National Bank swapped tonnes of gold looted by the Nazis for clean gold held in the Bank of Canada and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Here's how the complex paper trail — where no gold actually physically moved and no Nazi gold actually landed in Canada — appears to have worked:

The Bank of Canada was holding gold for the Swiss that was deposited in its vaults for safekeeping before the war, sometime between 1935 and 1939. A number of European countries had shipped gold to Canada and the United States for safekeeping, should they be invaded.

The contentious swap occured when the Bank of Portugal, which had been buying looted gold from Nazi Germany, physically deposited four tonnes of "dirty" gold in its account in the Swiss National Bank. The Swiss then asked Canada's central bank to transfer ownership of an equal amount of Swiss gold stored in Ottawa to Portugal. Meanwhile, in Switzerland, the four tonnes that were held in the name of Portugal's bank were then transferred back to the Swiss.

A Sept. 10, 1944, document uncovered by the WJC in the archives in Washington from the Overseas Special Services (the predecessor of the Central Intelligence Agency) quotes a "very confidential source" describing the 1942 paper transaction as "measures taken to eliminate evidence of origin of gold bars…the amount thus exchanged being 4,020 kilos. The gold in Canada was prewar but the gold in Switzerland was probably tainted."

"You have the simple swap in which no gold physically moves, but with a few strokes of a pen, all the bad guys win," said Elan Steinberg, executive director of WJC.

"Nazi Germany has sold their looted gold to Portugal. Portugal has exchanged its tainted gold holdings for clean gold in Canada and the Swiss National Bank has earned big fat commissions on each of these transactions."

A similar transaction took place at the U.S. bank, explaining why Portugal, which had no American gold reserves at the beginning of the war, ended up with 257 tonnes.

So what of the Bank of Canada's involvement — willing launderer or blind dupe?

As is their wont, the always duelling Jewish organizations, Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada, called for urgent investigations.

"Several countries have begun to establish independent commissions to examine their roles in this matter, and we call upon Prime Minister Jean Chretien to likewise launch an investigation into the very serious allegations of Canadian involvement," said B'nai Brith president Lyle Smordin.

"Only through an honest examination of the past can we learn from history and create a better future."

On paper, the Bank of Canada does not appear to have done anything illegal. But Bernie Farber of CJC says the Jewish community must know whether the bank simply "closed its eyes to the transaction" and followed routine banking regulations without questioning the motives behind the transfer.

"This was a significant transaction worth millions of dollars at that time.The biggest question is how knowing was Canada about the origin of this gold and what were its moral obligations to find out? Did they suspect where it came from?

"We're not pointing fingers, but this is a serious historical issue and we want to clear the records and see what Canada's role was: minor or otherwise."

So far, at least, the Bank of Canada has been mouthing all the right words.The bank, which apparently has a thing or two to teach other federal institutions about openness, obliged with the promise of a "quick and thorough" investigation.

"We share your concern that the gold of other central banks held for safekeeping in Canada could have been associated in any way, however indirect, with Nazi Germany gold transactions," bank governor Gordon Thiessen said in a letter to Congress.

The bank investigation will include an examination of its archival records, as well as normal banking practices of the time and the historical context surrounding the gold transaction.

The results, though, are not yet in.

Stephen Bindman is legal affairs correspondent for the Southam Newspapers based in Ottawa.

OTTAWA COUPLE TO BE HONORED

Erwin and Edie Koranyi will be honored Sept. 7 by the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev for their many contributions to the Ottawa community.

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15th Maccabiah Games

Tragedy mars opening ceremonies as two killed

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

RAMAT GAN — The opening ceremony of the Maccabiah games began in tragedy when a temporary pedestrian bridge carrying Australian athletes collapsed into the Yarkon River, killing two team members and injuring over 60 other Australians and several Austrian athletes. Seven Australians remain in hospital in serious condition.

The accident occurred when over 5,000 athletes from 57 countries were being marshalled together about 100 metres from the stadium. The assembly point was separated from the stadium by the narrow Yarkon River and the athletes had to cross the bridge to march into the stadium Olympic-style and alphabetically by country.

Late last week, a third Australian athlete died from injuries she sustained when the bridge collapsed.

The Austrian contingent had almost cleared the bridge to prepare for a triumphant entry into the packed stadium when the first third of the 373-member Australian team started to cross. Suddenly, the bridge collapsed in the centre, throwing most of those on it into the water. Others piled on top of each other in the bottom of the V-shaped tangle of metal, wood and aluminum sheeting that had formed the walkway.

Many of those who were pushed into the river ingested water that was heavily treated with chemicals against mosquitoes and contained partly treated sewage.

Inside the arena, a capacity crowd of 50,000 spectators filled every corner of the stadium, anticipating the start of the opening ceremony. Hundreds of Canadian supporters were in the stadium, ready to welcome Canada's biggest-ever delegation to a Maccabiah — a total of 400 people, of which 290 were athletes. Maple leaf flags together with Maccabiah emblems were very much in evidence.

The ceremony was due to start at 8 p.m. with the entry of each team into the stadium. Some motor vehicles and motorcycles from the early years of the state were driven in display around the same perimeter track that was to be used by the athletes.

Moments later, there was an announcement of a delay in the opening ceremony, but no explanation was given. The announcement was repeated several times until President and Mrs. Weizman came into the stadium to meet the heads of the Maccabiah movement and shortly afterwards, to declare the games open.

Meanwhile, urgent behind-the-scenes discussions ensued as to whether to cancel the opening ceremony, as it was known that at least one person had died in the accident. In the end, it was decided to go ahead with a very much shortened version, consisting mainly of dance routines with many hundreds of participants in the central arena. The waiting teams were unable to enter the stadium, due to the collapse of the bridge.

President Weizman and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu left the ceremony quietly and early to visit the injured in hospital.

Following the lighting of the Maccabiah flame by Israeli basketball champion Mickey Berkovitch, the opening ceremony was brought to a close. At this time, an explanation was given to the crowd, which was largely unaware of the drama being played outside the stadium. The waiting athletes were also not told why they were kept for more than two hours before being taken by buses back to their hotels.

There was much controversy as to why the opening ceremony was allowed to continue, even in a shortened version.

An inquiry was launched by the police and Ministry of Education to find out as quickly as possible if the design of the bridge was inadequate, the materials used in its construction were substandard, or the engineering specifications were inadequate for the number of people due to use the bridge.

There is one thing with which everybody is in agreement. The ambulance, police and soldiers on the scene risked their own lives to help the stranded athletes. Within 20 minutes of the collapse, every injured person had been moved to hospital.

Australian team members were overcome by exhaustion and grief in the aftermath of the bridge collapse at the Maccabiah Games opening ceremonies. [Israel photo]

Many blamed in bridge collapse

By RAINE MARCUS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A chain of negligence was blamed on all parties involved in the collapse of the Maccabiah footbridge on July 14, in which two members of the Australian contingent were killed and 66 injured.

According to the findings presented by the Education Ministry's Dotan committee, the sequence of foul-ups began with engineer Micha Bar-Ilan, who designed the bridge, and continued with the Irgunit construction firm and its subcontractor, Ben-Ezra Construction, and the Maccabiah organizing committee. The Dotan committee passed its findings on to the Dan sub-district police, whose investigation continues.

Faulty planning, negligence, incompetence, inferior materials, lack of coordination between construction companies and organizing bodies, and lack of technical experience are just some of the factors mentioned in the report. It was completed in just eight days, so that results could be presented before the end of the Maccabiah.

In a packed press conference at Tel Aviv's Beit Sokolov, Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled expressed his condolences to the families of the two victims and praised the speedy work of rescuers.

Peled then proceeded to explain the bridge collapse as symbolizing a deteriorating Israeli society, in which "amateurism and the notions of 'it'll be okay, don't worry' are contributing to unnecessary deaths; [this attitude] is also expressed in traffic accidents.

"Lives are lost because of total lack of respect, disdain and indifference," said Peled. "Our society must be changed by education. We tend to say, 'We'll cross that bridge when we come to it.' This time we failed, and didn't even reach the bridge."

The commission's experts — professors at the Technion and members of the Engineering and Architecture Associations — summarized the technical findings:

- Faulty planning and failure to comply with Standards Institution criteria.
- Inexperienced builders, who had no authorization to build bridges.
- Substandard materials.
- Faulty coordination between builders and planners.
- Total lack of supervision and control.
- Implementation of the work without essential plans and instructions.
- The use of ready-made materials which were in need of maintenance and were inappropriate for the bridge.

None of the parties involved in the bridge's construction took responsibility, and each passed the buck to the other, the committee emphasized.

Peled and Dotan also said that the company commissioning the bridge should have had a supervision and control system to ensure it was fit for use. At present, there is no law specifying safety regulations for such temporary constructions at events, said Peled.

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15th Maccabiah Games

Great White North gets gold in hockey competition

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

METULLA — Canada's decisively beat the United States 6-1 to take the gold medal in the final of the Maccabiah ice hockey competition before a capacity crowd at the Canada Centre.

The Canadians dominated the match from the beginning, as time and time again they broke through the U.S. defence in a fine display of teamwork, and in the case of David Nemirovsky, a virtuoso solo performance. No less than three times, in the first, fifth and sixth goals, Nemirovsky seemed to come from nowhere to crack the puck into the U.S. goal, to the delight of the Canadian fans.

The remaining goals were scored by Jamie Sokolsky (second goal, assisted by Nemirovsky), Cory Pecker (third goal), and Aaron Brand (fourth goal, again assisted by Nemirovsky).

The first period saw Canada quickly establish a commanding lead of 2-0. In the second period the Americans began to get their act together and for the only time in the game seemed to challenge Canada. It was in the second period that Brett Chodorow scored the Americans' only goal in the game. The period also produced Canada's third and fourth goals.

In the final period all eyes were on Nemirovsky. When he scored his hat-trick the crowd went wild. The goal was set up by Sokolsky. Nemirovsky seemed to pick up a loose puck about a metre from the U.S. defence line and slammed it into the goal before the Americans could set themselves up.

The hockey competition was a Maccabiah first, with Canada the United States, Ukraine and Israel taking part.

In the previous day's semi-finals the United States beat Israel 10-2. Even though the win was decisive, the Israelis were unrelenting in their effort to stay in the game, but in the end experience showed through.

The other semi-final between Canada and the Ukraine was a game that should not have been played, as the Canadian team had been given a technical win as a result of Ukrainian injuries. Nevertheless the "game" was allowed to proceed, with most of the spectators unaware that for most of the time the "Ukrainian" goalie was either an Israeli or a goalie from the U.S. team. At the final whistle, the score was 14-3 with Nemirovsky, who plays for the NHL's Florida Panthers, scoring four of Canada's goals in what was no more than a practice match.

Ukraine met Israel for the third place bronze medal competition. Israel started playing aggressively and soon had a lead of 5-1 over the Ukrainians. However, the Israeli team seemed to fall apart and lose direction and the Ukrainians, who never seemed to lose their concentration, began to make up for lost time. At the final whistle, the score was eight goals each. In a sudden death period, Anatoly Nayda scored the winning goal and Ukraine took the bronze medal.

Team Canada captain Harold Hersh of the Fredericton Canadiens holds the championship trophy high as he and assistant captains (from left) Aaron Brand, Mikhail Nemirovsky and David Nemirovsky look on. [Isranet photo]

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15th Maccabiah Games

Women hoopsters fall short of medal goal

By VIVA PRESS
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — When Montrealer Dalya Greenberg scored the first basket in Canada's game against Hungary on July 18, it looked as though Canada was headed for a win.

The Canadian women's basketball team came out playing aggressive ball and initially took the lead. But eight minutes into the game, the Canadian team began to fall apart. First there was a travelling call against Canada, then a handover and then fouls. With 12:00 left on the clock in the first half, Hungary took a one-point lead and the Canadian team was forced to play catch-up ball for the remainder of the game. Hungary ended up beating Canada by a score of 66-42.

The game was entertaining despite the loss. Canada's top scorers were Greenberg with seven points, and Eva Ain and Netta Krumer with six points each.

The teams were fairly evenly matched, said Sy Herling the coach of the Canadian team. And the results showed that he was right. Canada ended with 21 fouls compared to Hungary's 20.

"We didn't play very well," said Greenberg, 20. "They out-hustled us and outplayed us."

At the end of the first half, the score was 30-24 for Hungary. In the second half, the Canadian team had a hard time focusing on their game. Five minutes into the second half, Canada was running the ball well, scored two in a row and looked as if they were poised for a comeback. However, Canada drew more fouls, committed a handover and never recovered.

The Hungarian fans roared with encouragement as the Canadian fans, who had been very enthusiastic at the beginning, drew back into their seats.

It was evident that Canada was going to be 0-2, after their first two games.

In the round robin format of the tournament, each of the three teams, Israel, Hungary and Canada, played four games.

Canada won its third game against Hungary with a score of 61-59; however, the team fell to Israel in its fourth game 64-29.

Canada's losses could be attributed, at least in part, to the fact that the team had been formed late and has not played together long enough.

"Four months ago, we weren't planning on being here," said Herling, who has coached basketball for the past 15 years. "Hungary faxed us and begged us to come to the games. We weren't sure if we could commit to raise the money."

To get here, each player had to come up with about $5,000.

"These girls are from Montreal and Toronto," said Herling. There was only one tryout for the team held in May. "We had to notify the players we knew about to come to the tryout."

For wrapup of Maccabiah coverage, see page 42.

If players had come from further away than Montreal, they would have been taking a risk on their transportation costs if they didn't make the team, Herling said. And while there may well be players in other parts of Canada who could have qualified for the team, he added, "All of these girls deserve to be here."

The challenge to play international ball was one that drew Greenberg to the tryouts.

"It's different," she said. "I'm not used to the refs calling it so tight, but it's neat."

Torontonian Robyn Lerer, 28, joined the team for another reason. "Playing for the Jewish Olympics is a dream come true," she said.

If the Canadian team hadn't become committed to participating, the women's basketball competition would have been shelved for another four years, said Herling. But since the women's basketball competition was inaugurated, there are already six other teams interested in playing in the women's division at the next Maccabi Games.

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Judging mars tae kwon do matches

JERUSALEM — The Canadian tae kwon do team did not fare as well as it had hoped in the first-ever Maccabiah tae kwon do competition in Jerusalem. Then again, neither did any of the other teams. Most participants felt the judging was to blame.

Because all the judges and referees were Israeli, players, officials and coaches from the other teams said there was no way the competition could be ruled fair.

Canadian Corey Mincovitch, who has been doing tae kwon do for 25 years, has a fifth degree blackbelt, and ranks second overall among Jewish fighters in North America, says he is disappointed.

"Nowhere in World Tae Kwon Do Federation history do they allow all the judges to be of one nationality," he said.

Judging wasn't the only problem at the competition, said Oury Stantman, one of the French coaches. "In most international competitions, the scoring is done with an electronic board," Stantman explained. "Here, however, the referee keeps the score in his head so no one knows the score until the match has ended."

"I don't know how you can have fairness when they [judges, refs] are all Israelis," said Mandy Schuner manager of the Australian delegation.

Despite its dissatisfaction with the judging, Canada won five medals. Canadian coach Adam Koffler was very happy with his team. "I think we did well, it was tough competition", said Koffler, who has a fourth degree black belt. I'm really proud of our fighters, they put their hearts in it."

Everyone on the Canadian team was a winner: Michal Meroz (light welterweight, silver); Raz Keshles (bantam feather, bronze); Corey Mincovitch (over 80kg, bronze); Robert Kurlender (up to 57kg, bronze); Robert Bradley (68-79kg, bronze).

The teams that participated in the women's fighting were Canada, Israel and Australia. In the mens' fighting, the delegations were Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Israel, Mexico and the United States.

—*V.P.*

Opening day golden for Canuck swimmers

TEL AVIV — The Canadian swim team grabbed four medals in the first day of competition on July 20 at Tel Aviv University's pool.

Sharon Werner put Canada on the scoreboard in the first race of the night when she won bronze in the women's 100-metre freestyle with a time of 100:15. Chantal Harrison followed with a gold in the women's 200m butterfly, clocking a time of 2:20:55, a full second ahead of her nearest opponent.

Danny Heuman won a bronze medal in the 100m disabled race, and Jason Singer gave Canada its fourth medal of the night with a bronze finish in the 800m freestyle.

The swimming events had the crowd on its feet and by the end of the night, five records were broken, four of them by Israelis.

Montrealer Chantal Harrison, 22, who clinched the gold for Canada, is swimming at the Games for her third time. She has won gold in the 200m butterfly race twice before.

"I feel ecstatic," she said after the race, while still trying to catch her breath. "I can't believe it."

Jason Singer, 20, who also swam at the Games four years ago, shares her excitement. "I'm honored to represent Canada."

Singer's race was the most exciting of the night. With the theme-song to *Superman* playing in the background, the crowd cheered the eight athletes swimming in the first-ever 800m freestyle race. When the three medalists — Israel's Miki Halika (8:15:71), Venezuela's Daniel Venez (8:24:39), and Singer (8:33:14) — stood on the podium to get their medals, the crowd erupted with delight.

Those who did not place in the medals but made it in the top eight were: Kevin Gordon, 200m breaststroke, eighth place (2:27:51); Kevin Gordon, 200m butterfly, fifth place (2:13:76); Avi Mednick, 200m backstroke, fourth place (2:12:70); Joshua Kimmer, 200m backstroke, sixth place (2:17:89).

The swimming events continued on July 22 and 23.

—*V.P.*

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Netanyahu opposes east Jerusalem project

By JAY BUSHINSKY and BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — In a tactical retreat from his usual advocacy of an expanded Jewish presence in eastern Jerusalem, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his deeply divided cabinet last week the time is not ripe for the controversial Ras al-Amud housing project.

"The decision to erect a new neighborhood in Jerusalem must be in keeping with government policy," Netanyahu said. "This was not done and right now there is no sense in building at Ras al-Amud."

Meanwhile it was reported that an appeal was filed against the construction, blocking any building until a decision is handed down. The local appeals committee heard a petition by two city councillors Monday and must render a decision within 30 days.

The tract's owner, Miami-based investor Irving Moskowitz, said there should be no delay in construction and that governmental interference in the project would violate his right to buy and develop property in Israel.

Moskowitz contended that to prevent him from building in eastern Jerusalem merely because he is Jewish would be an act of discrimination. "People should be able to live wherever they choose," he said.

Ministers were of two minds, some supporting Netanyahu's pragmatic approach and others contending the Ras al-Amud housing is needed to strengthen Israel's grip on sectors of Jerusalem claimed by the Palestinian Authority as its future capital.

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert dismissed suggestions that the prime minister could intervene to get him to stop the building at Ras al-Amud.

"He can't approach me on this subject. I'm not the one who is building," Olmert said. "It's a private individual who owns the land. I am in favor of him [Moskowitz] doing whatever he wants with his property. Those are the basic rules of a free democratic regime — that the owner of private property can do with it what he wants."

As for his dispute with Netanyahu on the matter, he said: "It is permissible for the prime minister and the mayor to differ. We do not have a contract that requires that we always agree with one another."

Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi refused to take a stand, saying that members of the cabinet "are not dealing with the question" of Ras al-Amud.

Science Minister Michael Eitan not only supported Netanyahu, but also accused Olmert of "concealing the proceedings relative to this affair from the prime minister."

Assessing the issue from a strategic standpoint, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said it is important "to uphold Israel's right to build in Jerusalem and to prove that we have the strength to withstand pressure."

However, he differentiated between the Har Choma project, where there is no direct clash with a resident Arab population, and Ras al-Amud, where the potential for such conflict exists.

Ras al-Amud corridor to Mount of Olives

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Earlier in the year, when the debate raged over construction at Har Choma, that disputed hill was variously described — depending on whether one was speaking to Jews or Palestinians — as situated between Gilo and Ramat Rahel, or between Beit Sahur and Umm-Tuba.

Background to the news

This was no geographical dispute. It was an attempt to place it either in the Jewish or Arab part of the city.

No such debate exists regarding Ras al-Amud. With Silwan directly to the west, and the Mount of Olives to the north, Ras al-Amud is in the middle of eastern Jerusalem. Which is one reason it was likely so attractive to Irving Moskowitz.

Since the late 1970s, Moskowitz — the Miami philanthropist — has written a number of checks for Ateret Cohanim, the group that purchases properties for Jews in east Jerusalem. Beyond the religious and historic significance the group sees in having Jews live in areas like the Mount of Olives and Silwan (the "City of David"), it also has a political and strategic logic as well. Moving Jews into heavily populated Arab areas in the city may well forestall any attempt to give Arabs any form of control over those sections.

The best-known municipal proposal to confer a measure of such control was former mayor Teddy Kollek's idea for dividing the city into boroughs, with the Arabs to receive some type of administrative responsibility over the Arab sections.

Ateret Cohanim's purchase of property, and the movement of Jews into places like the Moslem Quarter of the Old City and Silwan, are in no small part meant to render such plans unworkable.

This helps to explain why Moskowitz bought the Ras al-Amud property in 1990 in the first place.

The 14-dunam plot at Ras al-Amud, with its view of the Old City, was first purchased over 100 years ago by Nissan Bak and Moshe Wittenberg, who represented two local kollels. The land, close to the Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives, was to be used as a cemetery for the people in the kollels.

After the War of Independence, when that part of the city fell under Jordanian control, an Arab man tried to register the land under his name, and began to sell parts of the plot. But in 1963, the Jordanian authority for absentee property filed suit, saying the land was improperly registered, and that it actually belonged to Jews. The Six Day War intervened before this case was worked out in the Jordanian courts.

After the war, the matter was taken up by the Israeli courts, and in 1984 the plot officially reverted back to the kollels, who in 1990 sold it to Moskowitz.

The plan for Ras al-Amud approved by the Jerusalem municipality, calls for the construction of some 70 apartments on the plot. This plan is different from the one approved last December, which called for the construction of 130 units for Jews, and a number of units for Arabs as well. That plan has not yet received the final nod. But Moskowitz need not wait for that plan, and hopes to begin building according to the approved plan.

When plans for the neighborhood were making their way through the various planning channels in the early 1990s, it was backed by the heads of the burial societies in Jerusalem, who saw it as a way to secure the Jewish cemetery at the Mount of Olives, which was constantly being vandalized.

Labor blasts PM's tactics

By MICHAL YUDELMAN and LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Labor leader Ehud Barak said that while everyone agrees on our right to build in Jerusalem, the decision to build on Ras al-Amud "at this time" is a severe mistake, similar to the disastrous Western Wall Tunnel affair.

Members of Barak's Party accused Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of pretending he did not know the Jerusalem Municipality had approved Irving Moskowitz's plans to build in Ras al-Amud, so that he could come out against the move.

MK Dalia Itzik said Labor has solid information from sources in Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert's office that Netanyahu knew about and approved of the building permits to Moskowitz.

"Netanyahu is playing a double game. He knew about the building permits and is denying it. He preferred to let the report be published so that he could pretend to be against it," Itzik said.

She charged the prime minister with "once again raising the Jerusalem issue to the top of the international agenda, causing the Palestinians to react sharply against us, and again making the Palestinians look much better than we do — not to mention that this move endangers the unity of Jerusalem. And all this for tactical, political considerations."

Itzik said Olmert's reactions indicate that the prime minister's bureau knew of the whole affair. "Besides, if the prime minister is really against [building in Ras al-Amud], why doesn't he call Olmert and ask him to raise the topic again in City Council, after guiding its members — among whom Olmert has a majority — to revoke its decision?"

She noted that the council is standing by its decision because its members know Netanyahu's objection is not serious.

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Israel & the Jewish World

U.S. peace envoy expected within two weeks

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross is expected to return to the region within the next two weeks to attempt to bring Palestinians and Israelis back to the negotiating table.

Sources have given a number of reasons for the delay in Ross' arrival: the U.S. plan is still unfinished, and the American diplomats may be awaiting the outcome of European Union (EU) peace envoy Miguel Moratinos' efforts to keep the Syrians in the peace process.

The Spanish diplomat had been expected to confer with Foreign Minister David Levy last week, but the two did not meet. This cast doubt on Moratinos' original plan to fly to Damascus after consulting with Israeli leaders on the Knesset's preliminary vote requiring an 80-member majority for a prospective Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Government officials discounted published reports claiming that the United States is threatening to back away from the Israeli-Palestinian dispute because of the impasse over Har Choma and the alleged expansion of settlements in the West Bank.

"In theory," one official said, "the United States could threaten to withhold political support in crucial UN debates on Middle Eastern issues, or reduce the quantity or quality of military assistance." But this was deemed "unrealistic" and "impractical" from the standpoint of American interests, such as the security and accessibility of the region's oil reserves.

The notion that the United States might suspend its role as the region's principal peacemaker is ludicrous, sources said, adding that this would enable the EU to achieve its undeclared, but apparent goal of overtaking the United States as the dominant diplomatic force in the Middle East.

One of the principal arguments expected to be raised by Ross is the existence of "dangers on the region's periphery," a euphemism for Iran's ongoing arms buildup and the prospect of the Teheran regime being equipped with long-range missiles capable of hitting targets in Israel or Saudi Arabia.

To cope with this scenario, the United States favors an early resolution of the various disputes that are preventing Israel and the Palestinian Authority from entering and completing final-status talks. The strategic value of such an outcome would be to assure the support of the neighboring Arab states — Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf emirates — in an American-led coalition similar to the one that confronted Iraq in the 1991 Gulf war.

Settlers more defiant about leaving homes: poll

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Almost half of the Israeli residents of Judea and Samaria will not accept a government decision to dismantle settlements there "under any circumstances," and 67 percent would refuse compensation in exchange for leaving, according to a poll published Sunday by the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University.

"In contrast to the pessimism expressed by settlers 18 months ago, the Israeli population over the Green Line today believes that it has friends in government," explained Prof. Efraim Inbar, director of the center.

"The settler public believes that [Prime Minister Binyamin] Netanyahu will protect their interests in peace talks. Settlers feel less threatened, and therefore are more defiant in relating to eventualities in the peace process."

The poll also found that 32 percent believe the peace process will crumble and the IDF will retake Palestinian population centers.

The poll on "political views of Israeli residents of Judea and Samaria," published in conjunction with the Nablus-based Center for Palestine Research and Studies, was conducted in June and based on phone interviews with 511 Jewish residents of 79 settlements in the West Bank. It has a margin of error of four percent.

A similar poll was conducted in December 1995, when Labor was in power. That poll found 22 percent of the settlers feared that "most" of their settlements would be dismantled over the next five to 10 years. Today, 62 percent believe that most of the settlements will be annexed to Israel or remain as they are.

Twenty percent of those polled in 1995 said they would abide by a Knesset decision to withdraw from the settlements or have them dismantled; the latest poll showed that figure had dropped to 14 percent.

The poll also showed that about half the settlers oppose or strongly oppose the "Allon-Plus" plan, with just over 30 percent supporting it. More than three-quarters rejected the "Yossi Beilin-Mahmoud Abbas [Abu Mazen]" plan.

Results of some of the questions in the poll follow (figures in parentheses are percentages from 1995):

"What will be the status of the settlements in Judea and Samaria in five to 10 years?"

• Most will be annexed to Israel: 31.2 percent (20.5);
• The status quo will remain: 31.3 percent (18);
• Most will stay within Palestinian territory with extra-territorial status: 16.3 percent (16);
• Most will be under Palestinian sovereignty and the settlers will be allowed to stay as permanent residents: four percent (4.7);
• Most settlements will be dismantled: 6.7 percent (22.3);
• Don't know: 10.5 percent (18.4).

"Given the current status of the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians, where do you think things will be five to 10 years from now?"

• Self-rule will be contained and not develop to become a Palestinian state: 20.4 percent (18.4);
• A Palestinian state will be established in Judea and Samaria: 30.1 percent (38.7);
• The peace process will fail and the IDF will return to control Judea and Samaria: 32.1 percent (26);
• Don't know: 17.4 percent (16.8).

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Fascists rise in Russia

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — They wear black shirts and berets and greet each other with the stiff-armed salute and a battle cry "Slava Rossii," or Glory to Russia.

Their symbol is a swastika combined with a cross, which they claim is a traditional Russian symbol.

They are the members of Russian National Unity, or RNE, the country's most prominent ultra-nationalist group.And their claim that they have penetrated high echelons of power has generated front-page news.

The Stavropol branch of RNE claims about 2,000 followers. "We have a huge number of supporters. Our people are everywhere," the head of the Stavropol branch of the RNE, Andrey Dudinov, told *Izvestiya.*

Dudinov said that RNE supporters can be found in the region's administration, in the Federal Security Service, the successor to the KGB, in the police departments and in the army. The RNE members "do not advertise themselves, but they are doing useful and important work," he added.

Founded in 1990, the paramilitary Russian National Unity group claims to have 25,000 members, though independent observers estimate that membership is much lower. The RNE generally keeps a low profile and has not participated in most federal and local elections.

Experts agree that the RNE, although small, is one of the best-organized groups among Russia's ultr Among other things, RNE has been calling for a ban on interracial marriages.

Those who do not like the new "Russian order" will have to move to other countries, according to their plans. Ultra-nationalists also offer their "solution" to the "Jewish question" in Russia. In an interview with *Izvestiya,* one of the active members of the RNE Stavropol branch said that those Jews who would be "loyal to Russia" will continue a "normal life" under the "Russian order."

"But [the] majority will leave anyway for America and Israel. So nothing terrible is going to happen."

Two Toronto visitors hurt in old Jaffa

CJN News Services

JERUSALEM — Two visitors from Toronto were attacked by a knife-wielding Israeli Arab last week as they sat in a sidewalk restaurant in old Jaffa.

The attack came shortly after Bakr Abu-Radiya of Nazareth drove into a group of British teenagers who were in Israel for a Jewish Agency summer program.

Altogether, a dozen tourists were hurt in the attacks, but none of the injuries was considered serious.

The Canadians were identified as Eilene Muskat, 45, and her daughter Stephanie, 12. They were treated at Ichilov Hospital and released.

Abu-Radiya was arrested by police officer Daniel Kronson, who said the attacker got out of his car holding a sword and a commando knife, approached the visitors and stabbed them. While in police custody, Abu-Radiya denied recollection of the event.

July 21

• The Israeli High Court of Justice ruled that the children of a Jewish woman who converted to Islam and then returned to Judaism will be raised by their Muslim father. This decision overturned a Beersheba rabbinical court ruling.

July 22

• Ami Ayalon, the head of Israel's General Security Service, told a Knesset parliamentary committee that a systemic and developed terrorist infrastructure exists in the territories. He added that Yasser Arafat is acting to block attacks launched from the self-rule areas.

• Israel is pressuring Argentina's Supreme Court to hand over the investigation of the 1992 bombing of the Israeli Embassy to a federal judge, as reported in Israel.

July 23

• The Knesset took a preliminary step toward enacting a law that would make territorial concessions in the Golan Heights very difficult. The legislation would require 80 of the 120 Knesset members to approve any land transfers.

• Israeli media reported that Jordanian police used tear gas to disperse 200 marchers protesting the life imprisonment of Cpl. Ahmed Dakamesh for killing seven Israeli schoolgirls.

July 24

• Israeli unions launched a nationwide strike in support of telephone workers who opposed privatization moves. The strike disrupted communications, transportation and utilities services.

• Israeli military officials condemned the government's decision to slash more than $55 million from the military portion of the Defence budget.

July 25

• The daily, *Ha'aretz*, reported that the Israeli Treasury presented documentation warning that unemployment may reach 11.4 percent by 1999, up from today's 7.3 percent.

With files from the JTA.

A consummate politician

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

David Levy has proved yet again that he is Israel's most consummate politician.

In a recent showdown with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Levy — the foreign minister as well as the deputy prime minister — called his bluff and won a significant political victory.

Levy, whose five Gesher party Knesset seats are crucial to Netanyahu's coalition government, threatened to resign over two major grievances.

Levy feared that he would appoint National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon as finance minister and also bring him into the inner circle of senior ministers who formulate policy in peace negotiations with the Palestine Authority.

In addition, Levy was piqued that Netanyahu, a rival with whom he has feuded, had not consulted him about Sharon's meeting with Yasser Arafat's deputy, Mahmoud Abbas.

A prickly man with a monumental ego, Levy confronted Netanyahu on these issues in a bid to shore up his power. In the first instance, Levy felt that Sharon, his former ally, was encroaching on his turf. In the second case, Levy was aggrieved that he had been excluded from the loop.

In a classic display of force and petulance, Levy retaliated. Much to Netanyahu's chagrin, he absented himself from a no-confidence vote in the Knesset, and he let it be known that he might not remain in the government.

Levy's manoeuvres worked. Instead of Sharon, Netanyahu appointed Yaakov Neeman as finance minister to replace the ousted Dan Meridor. And Netanyahu produced a document confirming Levy's primacy in foreign policy and the peace process.

By common consent, Levy, Israel's premier Sephardic politician, is a formidable infighter. Last summer, he put his job on the line twice and prevailed.

In July, when Netanyahu announced the composition of his government, he conspicuously left out Sharon, who had helped him get elected by arranging a right-wing alliance between the Likud, Gesher and Rafael Eitan's Tsomet party.

Levy, in June 1995, had broken away from Likud over a procedural matter and had formed Gesher with the intention of running against Netanyahu in the first direct election for prime minister. In the interests of denying the Labor party another mandate, Sharon dissuaded Levy and Eitan from challenging Netanyahu. In exchange, the pair were promised second and third place spots in Likud's electoral list and important cabinet posts.

So when Netanyahu tried to exclude Sharon from the cabinet, Levy rebelled, threatening to leave. Netanyahu caved in.

The next crisis occurred in August 1996. Netanyahu's diplomatic advisor, Dore Gold, who has since been named ambassador to the United Nations, upset Levy by holding talks with the Americans and the Jordanians without his knowledge. Compounding the insult, Netanyahu took his first official trip to Amman without Levy.

To compensate Levy for these slights, Netanyahu was forced to draw up new foreign policy guidelines and to create a special steering committee, which has since been disbanded, composed of himself, Levy and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Levy, who immigrated to Israel from Morocco in 1959, has been a member of the Knesset for the past 28 years and a minister since the establishment of the first Likud government in 1977.

Since then, he has been a thorn in the side of two other Likud prime ministers. In the wake of the 1981 elections, he intimated he would not serve in Menachem Begin's cabinet unless he was made deputy premier. Begin succumbed. In 1991, he threatened to resign as foreign minister after Yitzhak Shamir chose to lead Israel's delegation to the Madrid peace conference. Prior to the 1992 election, he resigned, only to return after Shamir gave him the number two spot on Likud's electoral list.

Levy demands respect and ultimately gets it.

Spirit of the games resurfaced at Maccabiah

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Wolman, there as part of a FEDERATION CJA Maccabiah mission, said the tragedy effectively "ruined the games" because the opening ceremonies represented the one moment in which all athletes come together "in the spirit" of the games.

Luxenberg said the tragedy was "devastating;" however, after the first few very difficult days, the spirit level rose anew and paved the way for the Canadian team's best performance ever.

"The focus became the Maccabiah and sports," he said.

Both Wolman and Luxenberg commented on the special role played by Rabbi Sidney Shoham of the Beth Zion Synagogue in Montreal following the tragedy in comforting members of the Australian delegation.

A GAZA MEETING

Israel's Labor Party leader Ehud Barak recently met with Yasser Arafat in Gaza to discuss the stalled peace talks. ***[RNS]***

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Masada bones belonged to Romans, expert says

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The reburial at the foot of Masada in 1969 of ancient human remains found at the top was one of the most impressive funerals the country has ever seen.

Last week, anthropologist Joe Zias, of the Israel Antiquities Authority, suggested that while the persons buried with full military honors may have been heroes, they were probably Roman heroes, not Jewish.

It was the pig bones found at the burial site that had first raised his suspicions.

Archeologist Yigael Yadin, who excavated Masada, had noted in a book he wrote on the dig, said Zias, "that these were the remains of 24 persons thrown into the cave, the last defenders of Masada."

However, in an unpublished report, Yadin recorded the presence of pig bones in the cave in which he found the remains.

Addressing an international congress on the Dead Sea Scrolls, Zias said the presence of the pig bones was not publicly acknowledged until 1981, when Yadin admitted it to a *Jerusalem Post* reporter.

"I spoke to Yadin, and asked 'How could you say they were Jewish?' said Zias. He said 'I never said they were Jewish.'"

According to Zias, Yadin said he had raised the problem with the chief rabbi, apparently Isser Yehuda Unterman, who asked to think about it. When the rabbi called Yadin back, he said that Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto had brought in pigs to deal with the garbage problem. It was the rabbi's suggestion that the defenders of Masada might have had a similar idea.

"I told Yadin that if they had a garbage problem all they had to do was throw it down on the Romans," said Zias. "He looked at me and I think he agreed."

Apart from the pig problem, Zias was unable to find evidence from the expedition's photographs of more than five victims in the cave, not 24.

Convinced that the burial site was from the Byzantine period, several centuries after the fall of Masada, he subjected a piece of textile found alongside the remains to a Carbon-14 test. To his astonishment, the textile dated to the First Century CE, the time of the fall of Masada. Humbled, he acknowledged in his contribution to the official publication on the excavations, that the bones were probably of the Jewish defenders of Masada.

"No sooner was the ink dry" on that publication, said Zias, he came to regret that assumption. What changed his mind was a sentence he read in a book on Roman burial customs asserting that "only when a pig had been sacrificed [in a Roman funeral] was a grave legally a grave."

Roman soldiers, Zias notes, had remained posted on Masada for some three decades after its defenders died.

"I think there is a high degree of evidence, that those declared the last defenders of the Jewish nation may in fact have been otherwise," he said.

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Vatican asked to open archives

By MITCHELL DANOW
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — The World Jewish Congress (WJC) is calling on the Vatican to open its archives for an examination of its wartime past.

The WJC issued the call last week after researchers found a declassified U.S. Treasury Department document claiming that the Vatican had stored 200 million Swiss francs — worth about $500 million today — for Croatian fascists after World War II.

In addition to opening the archives, the "Vatican should establish a commission to look into their wartime past — as 16 other countries have done — in view of this incredible documentation," said Elan Steinberg, WJC's executive director.

"The Pope, who has recognized Israel and condemned anti-Semitism, can exert the moral authority to overcome petty bureaucrats who are trying to keep the archives closed and who, in their reaction to the disclosure, sound like a caricature of a Swiss banker," Steinberg said.

His comments came after the Vatican flatly denied that the declassified document had any validity.

"These reports have no basis in reality," chief Vatican spokesperson Joaquin Navarro-Valls said in a statement.

"The information, which is without any documentation, is only based on 'a reliable source in Italy' which, even if it existed, remains unidentified and of dubious authority," Navarro-Valls said.

This is not the first time the Vatican's role in the Holocaust has been questioned by world Jewish leaders. The Vatican has been accused of helping Nazis escape after the war through a so-called pipeline.

Convicted Nazis such as Klaus Barbie, the "butcher of Lyon," and SS Capt. Erich Priebke, who was just convicted of war crimes in Italy, were among those whose escapes reportedly were aided by the Vatican.

The document in question, dated Oct. 21, 1946, was made public by A&E Television Networks, which said producers had found it while doing research for a documentary.

In the document, U.S. Treasury official Emerson Bigelow stated that Croatian fascists spirited about 350 million Swiss francs out of Yugoslavia after the war and that the British impounded only some 150 million.

The document quoted a "reliable source in Italy" that the rest of the money was held in the Vatican "for safekeeping.

"According to rumor, a considerable portion" of the money held by the Vatican "has been sent to Spain and Argentina through the Vatican's 'pipeline,'" the document said, "but it is quite possible this is merely a smokescreen to cover the fact that the treasure remains in its original repository" in the Vatican.

(JTA correspondent Ruth Gruber in Rome contributed to this report.)

Immigrant ship wreckage sought

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Recent graduates of an Israeli maritime high school have found a novel way to commemorate 100 years of Zionism.

In a project that combines their nautical training with an event in Zionist history, graduates of the Mevo'ot Yam maritime school in Michmoret set sail last week for a small Greek island near Rhodes.

They hope to locate the wreckage of the *Rafiah*, a boat which, in 1946, was carrying more than 800 illegal Jewish immigrants from Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria to British mandated Palestine, when it sank in a storm.

Some 800 survivors were rescued and taken to internment camps in Cyprus. Thirty people were never found.

"We looked for a way to connect 100 years of Zionism with the four years of nautical education," said one of the participants, Shalom Gutman.

"We hope to bring back some historical artifacts. We will erect a monument there for the victims of the sinking."

Since little documentation was available on the incident, students spent the year piecing together the history of the ship's sinking through the stories of survivors.

"We put together the pieces of the puzzle to find where the ship is," Gutman said.

One of the survivors who worked with the students throughout the year is accompanying them on the trip.

"Shlomo Reichma was born a few days before the *Rafiah* sank. When it happened, he was thrown into the water, wrapped in blankets like a parcel," Gutman said. "He hopes to somehow learn what happened there, who caught him and saved him, and how he got to Israel."

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To Your Health

Summer heat can be a problem

TORONTO — Many older people are forced to limit their outdoor activities during cold, damp or icy weather. But summer is also a time to think about avoiding hot-weather health problems.

"Most sun-related problems affecting older people can be avoided by using common sense and taking a few simple, preventive actions," says Dr. Paula Rochon, a geriatrician at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care who is also an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine at University of Toronto.

Here's some advice from Rochon:

Skin protection — To prevent sunburn and reduce the risk of skin cancer, always apply a sunscreen to all exposed areas of skin before going out in the sun, especially between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., when the sun's rays are most intense. Look for a product with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 15. You should also wear light, loose-fitting clothing made of tightly woven fabrics that cover the arms and legs, as well as a broad-brimmed hat to shade the face, eyes and neck. Sunglasses are also important to help prevent eye damage linked to the development of cataracts.

Medications — Certain prescription and over-the-counter medications can make you more vulnerable to the effects of ultraviolet radiation. This reaction, known as photosensitization, may show up as an unusually severe sunburn. Such a reaction can occur days, or even weeks, after taking the drug and being exposed to the sun. Drugs which can make you more sensitive include some antibiotics, including those often prescribed for urinary infections; some diuretics, often prescribed for high blood pressure or heart disease; and certain drugs used during chemotherapy for cancer treatment. If you take any of these medications, it's wise to check with your doctor or pharmacist before going out in the sun.

Avoid overheating — Each year, hundreds of people are treated for heat-related illnesses such as heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Those at increased risk include the elderly and the very young; anyone with chronic illness, especially heart disease; people who take drugs such as diuretics or water pills which can lead to dehydration; and those who consume excessive amounts of alcohol, which leads to dehydration.

There are three basic types of heat-related illness:

Heat cramps are painful spasms in the arms, legs or abdomen caused by exessive sweating and salt depletion. People on salt restricted diets may be particularly prone to heat cramps during hot weather.

Heat exhaustion, caused by dehydration, leads to changes in body chemistry. Symptoms include fatigue, fainting, weak pulse, headache, nausea, weakness, skin which is clammy, moist, pale or flushed, and a slightly raised body temperature (37.5 to 38.5 C.). Such symptoms should always be reported to your doctor. Treatment includes resting in a cool place and drinking liquids.

Heat stroke, the most serious of these, occurs when the body is unable to cool itself. Symptoms include hot, flushed, dry skin, confusion, disorientation, jumbled speech, convulsions and fainting. Heat stroke, which can lead to brain damage or death, is a medical emergency. Treatment includes moving the person to a cool location and using other measures to lower body temperature.

How can you prevent heat-related illness?

• Avoid strenuous activities when the weather is very hot or humid. Clothing should be light-colored to deflect heat, and loose enough so that perspiration (the body's natural cooling mechanism) can evaporate.

• During very hot weather or exertion, drink small amounts of cool water or other non-alcoholic beverages every 15 to 20 minutes to avoid dehydration. Avoid beverages such as cola, tea or coffee which contain caffeine, a diuretic.

• During very hot or humid weather, try to spend a few hours each day in an air-conditioned house or room, or public place such as a library or indoor mall. Electric fans can be useful, but not if the temperature is higher than 32.2 C. (90 F.) with humidity greater than 35 percent.

To Your Health is a regular monthly column prepared by a partnership of Mount Sinai Hospital and Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I do a lot of barbecuing in the summer. How can I prevent food poisoning?

A. Here are some things to do:

• Ensure that you do not use the same plate and utensils to serve cooked food, as you used to put the raw food on the barbecue.

• Never use the marinade or sauce that the raw meat was sitting in to baste cooked meat.

• Keep food in the refrigerator until ready to cook.

• Refrigerate leftovers as soon as possible after eating.

• Defrost frozen meat in the fridge, not at room temperature.

• Always cut meat, fish or poultry on a glass cutting board, not a wooden one.

Q. My 15-year-old daughter was just diagnosed with lactose intolerance. She really enjoys dairy foods and I am worried about the lack of calcium if she eliminates them all from her diet.

A. There is no reason to reduce all of the calcium in her diet. She is at a critical time for building bone mass and needs all the calcium she can get.

People who are lactose intolerant can consume dairy products where the lactose has been fermented. These include soft or frozen yogurts, and all aged cheese. For other dairy products, she will likely have to consume them with pills that provide the lactase enzyme, or she will have to add the lactase drops to her milk. There are also a lot of lactose-free products such as milk, ice cream and cheeses on the market today which are full of calcium.

Q. Which vegetables would qualify as the most nutrient-dense?

A. The top five nutrient-dense vegetables are collard greens, spinach, kale, Swiss chard and red bell peppers.

Q. Are all foods labelled light, low in fat?

A. No! When a product is advertised as light /lite, it can mean, light in taste, weight, smell, color or appearance, not necessarily light in calories or fat. Make sure you read the label to see what you're really getting.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

SUMMER LITERARY COLUMN, PART 1

Welcome to our annual summer literary column, in which we offer capsule reviews of some new and recent works, and news of upcoming titles.

* * *

Tempest in a Shotglass: The literary community is abuzz with opinions as to whether the current *Saturday Night* magazine contravened any ethical standards by fudging the line between advertising and editorial when it published *Barney's Wedding*, a section of **Mordecai Richler's** newest novel.

Absolut Mordecai

The excerpt is from the novel *Barney's Version*, due from Knopf Canada in September. As *Saturday Night*'s display copy makes clear, it was presented by a corporate sponsor, Absolut Vodka, an arrangement that evidently helped bankroll the author's hefty fee for publication in the magazine, reportedly in the neighborhood of $30,000.

The type on the story's last page divides in the middle to form the outline of an invisible bottle, beneath which a large caption reads "Absolut Mordecai." Apparently it didn't bother either Absolut that the author's trademark drink is scotch, or Richler, whose prose was shaped into a blatant advertisement.

Shrugging off the criticism, editor **Kenneth Whyte**, publisher **Maureen Cavan**, honorary publisher **Allan Gotlieb** and Richler himself are likely laughing all the way to the proverbial bank. And why not? What other publishing ploy could have produced so much publicity?

In all the excitement, the mediocrity of *Barney's Wedding* has been overlooked. Can readers really maintain interest in such an unsavory character as the hard-drinking Barney who lusts after another woman at his own second wedding? (His father seems even more unsympathetic.) O Mordecai, what a falling off was there! What became of the brash idealism and winning spirit of younger Richler protagonists like Duddy Kravitz?

* * *

Two-Gun Cohen: Published by St. Martin's Press, this intriguing biography by **Daniel S. Levy** is set for an August release by its Canadian distributor, McClelland & Stewart.

The son of Orthodox Jewish parents, the title character was a con man, card-sharp and pickpocket from east-end London who was arrested, sent to reform school and then shipped to western Canada. Hustling and picking pockets as he wandered from Manitoba to British Columbia, Cohen regularly played poker at a Chinese gambling hole in Saskatoon, where he rescued a Chinese man from burglars.

That selfless act earned him the respect of the Chinese community, the friendship of Sun Yat-Sen and, ultimately, even though he never learned Chinese, Cohen — who sported two pistols wherever he went — sailed to China and became a general in the nationalist army.

* * *

Times Square Rabbi: Proferring an eight-step program based on the teachings of Maimonides, **Rabbi Yehudah Fine** prowls the mean streets of Manhattan seeking young people to redeem from their chosen hells.

Fine's gritty realism rings completely true — and it is: this is a non-fiction account of the streetwise rabbi's attempts to find the lost hope in these kids' lives. It's must reading for social workers and anyone concerned with the growing social problem of young people who take to the streets. (Hazelden.)

* * *

Call It Sleep: What else might one call the hiatus of 60 years that American author **Henry Roth** took between publication of his first now-classic novel (*Call It Sleep*, 1934) and his next (*A Star Shines Over Mt. Morris Park*, 1994)? Now deceased, Roth has left us with six semi-autobiographical novels that are being published in sequence as part of a sextet called *Mercy Of A Rude Stream*.

From Bondage, the third instalment, draws us into the life of Ira Stigman and the bohemian world of Manhattan in the 1920s. The narrator describes a love triangle as seen through a glass darkly and from a variety of perspectives: youth, middle age, old age.

A difficult yet rewarding read, *From Bondage* supposedly fictionalizes the lives of New York literary celebrities like **Hart Crane**, **Louise Bogan** and **Margaret Mead**. It's anybody's guess what the fourth novel will do as an encore. (St. Martin's Press.)

* * *

So many books, so little space. Watch for more book news and capsule reviews in this spot next week.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Canadians reminisce about Growing Up Jewish

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A new book, *Growing Up Jewish; Canadians Tell Their Own Stories,* was launched at the recent Ashkenaz gala at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

The evening of klezmer music, comedy and literature was a fitting venue to launch *Growing Up Jewish* which was inspired by Ashkenaz, according to Rosalie Sharp, the driving force behind the book's publication and a key fundraiser for Ashkenaz, the festival of new Yiddish culture.

She told *The CJN* she had wanted to incorporate the written word into Ashkenaz, which she described as a multidisciplinary cultural event revolving around story telling in Yiddish. "This book is storytelling. It fits right into the festival."

Growing up Jewish is a collection of the reminiscences of 26 prominent Jewish Canadians, co-edited by Sharp, York University professor Irving Abella and lawyer Edwin Goodman. Charles Bronfman, Julia Koschitzky, Ben Dunkelman, Arlene Perly Rae, Larry Zolf and Rosalie Abella are among the contributors who span several generations and represent a wide spectrum of Jewish backgrounds.

The hard cover book has dozens of vintage photographs and offers both humorous and heart-rending stories. Michael Wex's amusing recollections of growing up Orthodox in a small Alberta town are a sharp contrast to Sharp's poignant musings on shtetl life in the '30s as depicted in letters sent to her family in Toronto from Poland. Her mother's parents and siblings, residents of the Polish shtetl of Ozorow, all perished during the Holocaust.

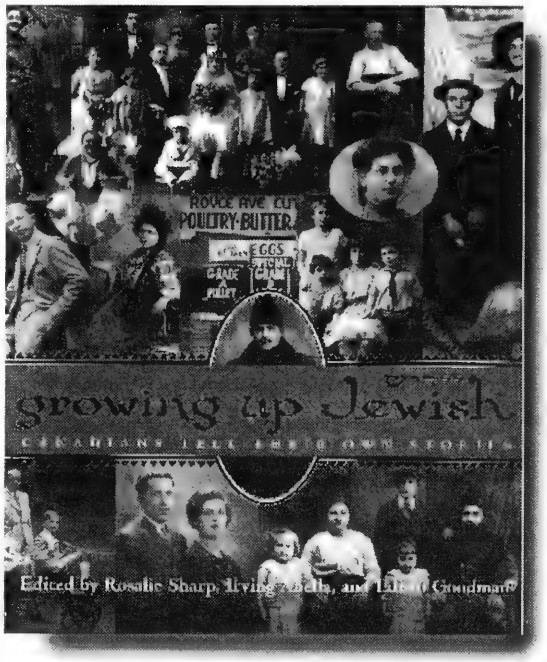
Growing Up Jewish is divided into four parts: the first section covers life in the immigrant community in Canada during the '30s and '40s; many of the stories in the second part deal with Canadian anti-Semitism; the third is about the legacy of grandparents; and the final section focuses on the post-Holocaust era in Canada.

The book was conceived as an alternative to the traditional fund-raising book with ads from well-wishers, Abella said. "We wanted to do something important; something that would have a life beyond the festival."

He said he and Sharp decided to put together a permanent record "outlining the important contributions of Canadian Jewry over the past century." He noted that the three co-editors sought contributions from people who represented various aspects of Jewish life in Canada.

The project started off small and "developed into something quite significant," he said. "Now it's an important historic book."

Growing Up Jewish, published as a public service by McClelland and Stewart, is now available at Jewish and major book stores. All royalties will support Ashkenaz.



This 228-page hardbound book chronicles the reminiscences of 26 prominent Jews from across Canada.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Travel, Arts & Business

Funny lady lampoons family

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Deb Filler is a funny lady, a comedienne whose acerbic sense of humor is bolstered by a talent for mimicry.

These infectious qualities unfold in *Punch Me In The Stomach*, a 72-minute film based on her slightly shorter off-Broadway one-woman play. It will be at Montreal's Cinema du Parc (Park Avenue and Prince Arthur) from July 18 to 24.

Filler is the child of a Holocaust survivor, a Polish Jew who settled in New Zealand, a country she jocularly describes as "the land of no blintzes."

The film, directed by Francine Zuckerman, is essentially an exercise in black humor rendered in Kiwi and Polish-Jewish accents. It skirts the globe, passing over New Zealand, Israel and the United States.

Filler lampoons her extended family, sparing neither her father Sol, a baker, nor her German-born mother. And she caricatures the neuroticism of children of survivors, her own included.

Acerbic sense of humor

In an ironic tone, she recalls her status as the only Jewish student in her school, as well as her hellish time in a rain-swept Habonim camp somewhere in the wilds of New Zealand.

To her regret, Israel does not turn out to be much better. A march in the desert, a defining moment, reminds Filler of the camp back home she disliked.

She visits America, and an aunt in New Jersey unburdens herself of the observation that New Zealand is a "cultural desert." Filler probably agrees, judging by her decision to settle in North America.

At the invitation of her father, she accompanies him on a tour of former concentration camps in Poland.

Deb Filler

Considering her perennial exposure to Holocaust stories, Filler's immediate reaction to Auschwitz is not all that strange. She feels as if she has been there before, as if she has known this symbol of unmitigated evil all her life.

And yet Filler's perceptions differ from that of her father. During the course of their trip, she sees a town square, while he envisages Nazis herding Jews into a truck. She glimpses a pristine field of flowers, but he remembers the execution of a French girl.

One does not expect levity in Auschwitz, but Filler somehow finds it in a restroom with a broken toilet chain.

Filler portrays an array of characters in her sketches, which run the gamut from the poignant to the absurd. She is clearly a talented performer, and in *Punch Me In The Stomach* she is in top form.

Waxman shines in theatre classic

By CELINE MIGDAL
Special to The CJN

STRATFORD — *Death of a Salesman*, written 50 years ago by Arthur Miller, remains a classic of American theatre.

Canadian actor Al Waxman in the pivotal role of Willy Loman turns his Stratford Festival debut into a personal success. A recent performance of the play elicited three curtain calls. The applause was loudest when Waxman remained on stage, alone.

Portraying the travelling salesman in pursuit of the American dream, Waxman shows how the disillusion of this dream can destroy a man and his family.

Fitting easily into the role, he slowly enters the stage at the opening, carrying his worn sample cases, the embodiment of a man totally spent and defeated by life.

He leaves the stage at the end of the play, planning to kill himself, because he's been fired after working all his life for one firm. He wants to make life better for his favorite son, Biff, who would collect on the insurance policy and make a new start in his own life.

Biff comes to the self-realization at the end of the play that it's his own dream that counts, not his father's. "He's had a false dream of success, all his life — it's what's inside of you, that counts, who you are," he says.

This theme is echoed by Willy's friend and neighbor Charlie who says: "A man is more than just a salary."

Willy's devoted wife, Linda, beautifully interpreted by Stratford veteran Martha Henry, says almost the same thing, when she begs her sons Happy and Biff to pay attention to their father. "A man is not just a piece of fruit that you can discard — attention, attention must be paid to his needs."

The play is still as relevant today as it was 50 years ago because the premise of building one's life on a false dream and devoting it to the company in the hope of success seems just as futile.

Waxman is superb both as the garrulous salesman and proud father, teaching sons, Happy and Biff, his secret of success — "being well liked" — and the lost soul, who tries to plant a garden before killing himself, because "that's the most important thing a man can do."

Waxman is ably supported by Henry, Geordie Johnson as son Biff and Graham Abbey as the younger son Happy.

The simple but effective set is a two-storey open section of a house. Most of the action takes place in the kitchen and the two bedrooms above.

Different lighting is used to separate the present from the flashbacks, giving the play a dream-like quality and making the audience wonder what actually takes place and what's simply in Willy's mind.

The effect is to create a psychological puzzle within a highly political play about capitalism and it's effect on society and family life.

The play continues at Stratford until Nov. 8.

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Saul Korman bullish on Greektown

Saul Korman is a quality clothier with customers around the world. He is also a goodwill ambassador for Greektown on the Danforth; and much of the publicity he has given Greektown has enhanced the public image of Korry's Clothiers.

In 1994, the Danforth business community presented Saul with an award to thank him for his efforts in promoting their neighbourhood. At Greektown events, he is often Master of Ceremonies. His live commercials on six radio stations not only make Korry's Clothiers known across the city, but also tirelessly promote the Danforth's wonderful restaurants and shops. This fact obviously endears him to his fellow merchants on the strip, but

The vibrancy of the Danforth

it springs from his genuine conviction that the Danforth is **the** place to be. Talk to him in the privacy of his office, and he'll tell you the same things he tells his readership and listening audience. "You'll find fine restaurants across the city," he says, "but you'll never find so many good ones in one place. And how can you duplicate the atmosphere? You can't. If it isn't the Danforth, it isn't Greektown. This street has *tachles*. Show me a mall that has *tachles*."

Malls do have free parking, but that only reinforces the Danforth's attractiveness, he says.

A street with *tachles*

"People tell me that on Thursday and Saturday night, it's hard to find parking down here, even with all the public parking lots we have. Sure it's hard — this is where everyone wants to be. So you circle the block, and you find a spot. Uptown, you eat and you go home. It's over. Here, you eat and you linger, because you have *reason* to linger."

Restaurants aren't the only attraction on the Danforth, he continues. It's a veritable "gold mine" of fine ladies' wear stores, gift shops, and home accessories boutiques. Almost all of these stores are one-location-only and owner-operated, which helps give the Danforth its inimitable personality.

Saul has seen the Danforth evolve from a fledgeling immigrant neighbourhood to today's vibrant community with its Greek and Eastern Mediterranean flavor. He is quick to praise the hard work and skill of the restauranteurs and other entrepreneurs who have made this community prosper.

"Take a walk along the Danforth," he suggests; "if you're thinking of travelling to Greece, talk to those who were born there."

A walk along the Danforth, of course, is incomplete without a visit to Korry's. It's a welcoming place, and though it's definitely a showcase for fine garments, the attitude is down to

Suit sales brisk even in summer

earth, the ambience relaxed. Like its owner, it's always charged with energy and activity.

Saul has enough space and staff to handle his growth in trade, while keeping the personal touch. He employs six alteration staff year-round, even in summer when some dress more casually. "Suits sell, whatever the season," he smiles. He himself spends plenty of time with customers, and supervises the buying of every garment and bolt of cloth.

Korry's has many famous customers, and testimonials from sports and media celebrities. He's often consulted by film and TV wardrobe planners. They know that he can achieve the near-impossible in supplying and fitting — on short notice, meeting the tight schedules of their

Reasons to come back

industries. But if having actors buy their suits from him is a feather in Saul's cap, his greatest testimonial is the large number of men from all walks of life who seek him out in the knowledge they'll get both expertise and value for their men's wear dollar.

Good suits are long-wearing; so, for people to come back soon and often, Korry's offers top service and variety of product. Quality lines sold here include Canali, Hugo Boss, Arnold Brant, Versace Classic V2, and two-for-one suits under Korry's private Roberto label.

"The customer," says Saul, "is the final inspector. His or her satisfaction is paramount."

Saul is grooming his son Michael as his successor, but he's a long way from retirement. "I'm too busy looking forward to look back," he says.

Saul and his staff at Korry's look forward to meeting you and comparing notes, and welcome the opportunity to clothe you in style. Above all, says Saul, "Enjoy the summer; enjoy the Danforth. There's no other street like it."

No shrinking violet: a Danforth pioneer, Saul Korman isn't shy about extolling the virtues of his favourite street

KORRY'S

569 Danforth Avenue
(416) 463-1115

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

Garden of culinary delights

With its striking red brick facade laced with warm green trim, the Athenian Garden is a familiar Danforth landmark.

Indoors or out, the "Garden" exudes casual comfort. From its shady terrace outside to its airily spacious interior dotted with green plants and comfortable wicker chairs, it's a natural, soothing setting in which to enjoy a fine meal.

Partner Andrew Petrou is actively involved in the day-to-day operations of this family restaurant, and takes great pleasure in every facet of the business.

Besides well-known Greek dishes like moussaka and souvlaki, the Athenian Garden offers delectations like *Exohiko* (baby lamb in filo pastry with romano and feta cheese), *Ortykia* (quails marinated in olive oil lemon sauce), and *Stithos kotas* (marinated spiced chicken breast). There is an Italian touch in the fettuccini selection; you will also find a fine choice of appetizers, and an extensive wine list.

Monday to Thursday, "Two Can Dine for $19.99". This special, a menu in its own right, has proven extremely popular for good reason; you'll be hard-pressed to find a comparable dining value anywhere.

You'll find the Athenian Garden at 526 Danforth, 3 blocks west of Pape; open 11 a.m. to 12 midnight daily, Friday and Saturday to 1 a.m. There is a smoking area. Call for reservations, especially on weekends: 465-4001.

Athenian Garden

TWO CAN DINE FOR $19.99

You get:

- One small cold appetizer combo for 2 (tzatziki, tarama, houmos) including garlic bread

Plus you each get one of the following:

DAILY SPECIAL (Moussaka, Exohiko, or Gyros Dinner) or SOUVLAKI DINNER includes rice, oven-roasted potatoes & fresh Greek salad or FETTUCCINE Choose from various selections

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All the *Colori* of the rainbow

Colori, as you might guess, is Italian for "colors"; a single visit underscores just how well the name fits. The decor, while slick and sophisticated, is a happy, playful medley of children's colors — warmly vibrating primaries, pastels and jewel tones as bright as young voices in a summer playground.

The exterior is a sunny yellow, with awnings in deep blue and green over a patio shaded by friendly green plants. The interior is rich orange with contrasting mango and grape trim; the tabletops are in deeper contrasting colors; and the floor varies from gleaming black-and-white tile to warm, burnished hardwood. Stained glass in bright blue, green and yellow borders the tall, wide windows.

In so stunning a setting, anything less than exceptional cuisine would disappoint . . . Colori doesn't. In two short years since its opening in 1995, this little bit of Italy on the Danforth has earned a legion of followers and an enviable reputation for innovative cuisine.

Besides a large antipasto, pasta and pizza selection, Executive Chef Marco Spalvieri's menu offers many bold departures from standard Italian fare. Among the pastas, for example, partner Nick Angelucci recommends *Penne San Remo al Cartoccio*, a medley of pine nuts, smoked sun-dried tomatoes and infornati olives in a sweet plum tomato sauce, wrapped in parchment paper and baked. Among the entrées, extremely popular is the simple, tasty Oven-Baked Chilean Sea Bass, resting on a brussels sprout and celeriac fricassee.

Colori

cafe ristorante

561 Danforth Avenue

(416) 466-6231

For fabulous colours, superb cuisine and a relaxing atmosphere, visit Colori, at 561 Danforth on the south side, just West of Pape. Courtesy valet parking is offered Friday and Saturday evenings. Colori is open for lunch Sunday to Friday, and for dinner seven days a week. Please call for reservations: 466-6231.

Megas big on taste and value

True to its name, *Megas* — a splendid new addition to the Danforth's wonderful collection of restaurants — proves that good things sometimes come in big packages.

Awash with light and colour, Megas is big in all the right ways. Sprawling and spacious, it greets you, open-armed, with a festival of authentic Greek delights. Everything is generously-portioned and reasonably priced, from the appetizers (over 50, including all your traditional favourites) through the salads, entrées and desserts, all prepared from scratch and cooked to perfection in an open kitchen. This is Greektown dining at its finest.

Even Alexander the Great, from whose name "Megas" is derived, would have been impressed by the portions served here

In addition to the offerings you'd expect in a fine Greek restaurant, like roast lamb, a variety of shish kebabs and fresh fish daily, Megas boasts a number of refinements you *wouldn't* expect, like salads dressed with extra-virgin olive oil they import themselves from Greece, and homemade desserts including fresh baklava and an exquisite cheesecake that owner Nick Kostis proudly proclaims is "the best in town." The menu also includes vegetarian specialties, pasta dishes and kids' items.

Megas seats 180 comfortably, and features an outdoor patio and handicapped washrooms. Daily specials are available for both lunch and dinner, and the wine list is extensive.

When it comes to fine Greek cuisine, Megas has all the answers. Which leaves you with one question: Who needs a Megacity when you've got a *Megas?*

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Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

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So much to eat, see, hear and do at this year's Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth!

The Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth, now in its 4th year, has grown from its first year attendance of 5,000 people to 250,000 people expected over the weekend this year.

Follow the Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth "Tasting" Umbrellas located in front of participating restaurants. Each restaurant is offering a "taste" from their menu for $1, $2 or $3. Purchase your "taste" using the Royal Bank "Tasting" Coupons and 20¢ of every dollar coupon is donated to the Toronto East General Hospital. Royal Bank "Tasting" Coupons can be purchased from the roving volunteers along the Danforth or from tables located at Pape/Danforth, Logan/Danforth, Carrot Common or Broadview/Danforth.

As Alex Alexakis, General Manager of Krinos Foods Canada Ltd. says, "We are proud of our Greek heritage and, of course, our foods. We invite people of all backgrounds to the Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth. Try something new or enjoy an old favourite, listen to some music or dance, and live life as it was meant to be lived!"

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Astoria defines the Danforth

Think "Danforth", and you're liable to think "Astoria." In the 20 years since it opened, this venerable "institution of higher dining" has come to symbolize the culinary qualities the Danforth is known for: great food, great quality, and great value.

Indeed, many of Astoria's original customers are still regulars two decades later, and wouldn't dream of going anywhere else.

The reasons for this loyalty are manifold. First and foremost, the food: your favourite Greek dishes are cooked to perfection and served up in staggering portions. Astoria's now-famous "souvlaki window", always a beehive of activity, is an indelible image of Danforth life. In fact, Astoria has become so well-known for its souvlaki that "people sometimes forget we have a complete Greek menu," says personable manager George Baboulas. Like an actor who plays a part so well he becomes typecast, Astoria has come to be defined by the shish kebob, perhaps hiding other jewels on the menu like its hearty moussaka, exquisite broiled sea bass and salmon steaks – and Greek appetizers like kalamari and saganaki, if you can keep your souvlaki craving at bay long enough to sample them.

Location and atmosphere are other Astoria assets. For a big restaurant, it's remarkably cozy, due to its corner location, dual outdoor patios (the Danforth's largest), and quiet, rich green-and-chestnut-brown interior, ingeniously compartmentalized to offer small-room intimacy with a large-room ambience.

Favouring tradition over trends, Astoria has nevertheless introduced a cappuccino machine and a dessert menu. (The fact that it's thrived for 20 years without offering dessert tells you just how much people love the food here).

Heading eastbound on Bloor, you know you're on the Danforth once you hit Broadview; but you don't really *feel* it until Astoria's white facade with its pale blue trim leaps joyously into view, bidding you "Welcome to the Danforth" in words that the food lover in you understands so well.

Astoria
"Toronto's Original Shish Kebob House"
Beef & Lamb Souvlaki • Kalamari • Saganaki
Chicken filet • Greek salads
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463-2838

In Avli, Greece courts Asia Minor

In many North American ethnic communities, it has recently become fashionable for cooking styles to marry Old World and New; but in the Old World, this blending has gone on for generations. At Avli, owners Sharon Murray and Lambrinos Vassiliou regale you with a blend of the Greek islands and Asia Minor, in the cuisine of Constantinople (also called Istanbul).

In chef Lambrinos' varied menu, cinnamon, balsamic vinegars, black currants and pine nuts flavor many dishes. House specialties include kleftiko lamb pie and lamb shank in sun-dried tomato and wine sauce; the growing seafood menu is fresh daily. Vegetarian dishes include delicacies like lentils with Italian cheese and walnuts.

Main courses are prepared individually for you. The pies are specially cooked, served in individual clay dishes; order them or the lamb shank early. Avli makes its own exquisitely-textured filo pastry — far superior to the prepackaged variety. The wine list is greatly expanded, and the homemade desserts are heavenly. The *pièce de résistance* is the *bougatsa*, a generous slice of baked custard, apples and pears wrapped in filo pastry, topped with icing sugar and cinnamon, and served with fresh whipped cream and berries in season. The *crême caramel* is also highly recommended.

Avli is Greek for courtyard; fittingly, the ambience is peaceful and relaxed. The walls are whitewashed, with shelves holding artifacts in classical Greek style, candle lanterns and bright flowers. Avli is open from 5 p.m. to midnight or later, every day. If you come Friday or Saturday, it's good to make reservations; call 461-9577.

AVLI
restaurant
401 Danforth Avenue • (416) 461-9577
"This is a restaurant with ... attention to detail ... and food that tastes of personal commitment."
— Cynthia Wine, *Toronto Star*
"Avli is Greek perfection .... Chef Lambrinos and his partner Sharon Mary Murray offer food that is poetry."
— Sara Waxman, *Toronto Sun*

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

Home-made ice cream creates force field at 400 Danforth

You're walking along the Danforth, minding your own business. Suddenly, you're being served a "Life Sentence" Belgian waffle with chocolate chip ripple ice cream, topped with bananas, fudge brownie, fudge and peanuts.

You're now just another inmate "doing time" at Demetre's Desserts – swallowed up by a vortex of irresistible cones, sundaes, splits, gourmet coffees, cakes — and the best ice cream you ever tasted.

Relax. It's a crime so common that the dessert emporium sells "over 2000 litres of ice cream a week" in peak season, according to partners Dino, George, Jim, and Themy. The fact that it's home-made the old fashioned way (no additives, no preservatives) reduces somewhat the guilt of this unbelievably pleasurable indulgence. Demetre's is one of the very few places you'll find this "Real McCoy", and ice cream connoisseurs from all over Toronto seek it out.

You've served your life sentence, but there's no rest for the wicked. It's time for a "Sweetcar Named Devour" crêpe, with cocoa-chocolate ice cream topped with fresh strawberries and fudge. Wash it down with a cappuccino, espresso, frappé, steamer, or freshly brewed coffee (40 varieties in all).

What a place to pop the big question! Sweeten up your prey with a "Romancing The Cone" Banana Split (white chocolate, cocoa-chocolate ice cream and praline hazelnut ice cream smothered with fudge toppings, capped with a cone). And get the ring ready.

Now that (s)he's said yes, celebrate with an Aristo-crème dark chocolate truffle sundae (2 scoops of cocoa-chocolate ice cream rolled in chocolate curls, served on a bed of fudge with chocolate chunks and sprinkled with Dutch cocoa powder).

Now that you've enjoyed the main course, it's time for dessert . . .

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400 DANFORTH AVE. 778-6654

Mezes rooted in family values

With its bubbling fountain, elegantly pillowed wrought-iron benches, courtyard effect and Greek pottery, Mezes echoes a faraway world that is still vividly etched in owner Sue Zindros' memory. "Growing up, we would sit around the table and share both the day's events and the variety of dishes my mother had lovingly prepared. Sometimes it was just feta cheese, olives and watermelon, but it didn't matter. Forks would fly across the table, but somehow everyone ended up consuming equal amounts. To me that was ideal, because my mother never really knew if I ate all my vegetables." It is through Mezes, Sue says, that she and her sister Christine (the head chef) are able to share these treasured memories with guests.

In keeping with the family spirit, the staff work as a team and exude a genuine affection that is immediately apparent. Mezes is also very child-friendly; don't be surprised if Sue asks to hold your baby and take it for a stroll, or if a staff member engages your youngster in a lengthy chat.

Both Sue and Christine are on the same culinary wavelength — namely, that all dishes be prepared fresh daily to ensure consistently high quality.

The fruits of this teamwork are joyously abundant and evident on your first bite. Try the superbly seasoned fresh whole red snapper or sea bass. Vegetarian dishes are a Mezes forté; highly recommended is the whole grilled eggplant, peeled and sprinkled with feta cheese and green onions and drizzled with extra virgin olive oil. Among the appetizers *(mezes)* for which the restaurant is named, the feta cheese saganaki (pan fried and flambéed in ouzo) is unsurpassed. And their chicken kleftiko is melt-in-your-mouth delicious: succulent chucks of grilled chicken, topped with spinach and feta cheese, wrapped in filo pastry. The tastes will have you closing your eyes in bliss and comparing them with favourites from your own past.

Mezes

AUTHENTIC GREEK CUISINE

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(416) 778-5150

Mezes is open daily, and supper is served until midnight Sunday to Thursday, until 3 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Reservations are recommended. Mezes is also happy to cater your office parties and other functions.

Mezes is a business, to be sure; but by treating it first and foremost as a vehicle for sharing their cherished experiences, the two sisters have succeeded in going forward by looking back. Whatever your perspective, you'll taste the difference that caring and quality make.

Byzas sets standard for elegance, value

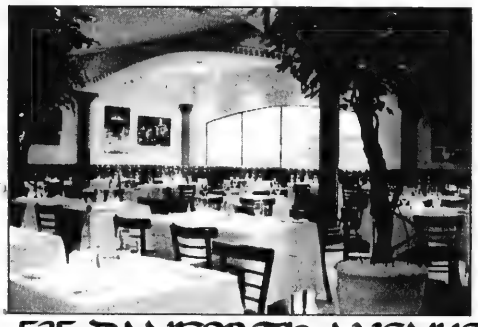
To say that Byzas (derived from "Byzantine" but pronounced "Bee-zas") boasts Toronto's most compelling restaurant interior is no overstatement. A full description would exceed the bounds of this space; suffice it to say that you simply have to see it to fully appreciate it. In the past year alone, scenes from four major motion pictures have been shot there.

Ironically less populated by movie stars than its sister restaurant, Christina's, Byzas nevertheless sees its share of celebrities. World heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield, among others, was recently "roped in" by the Byzas experience.

Those too intimidated by the visual grandeur to venture in are missing out on some of Toronto's finest food values. A case in point is the Roast Rack of Lamb in a three-mustard cream sauce; at only $15.95, served with roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables, it's a culinary "Brinks job". Another steal is the Chicken stuffed with Porcini Mushrooms ($12.95) served with Marsala and Mashed Potatoes. The Byzas Greek Salad ($6.95) with mustard greens, arrugula and baby red oak leaf is a delightful departure from the traditional Greek salad, which is also offered.

On Friday and Saturday nights, Byzas swells with song; a variety of live international music ranging from Greek to Maritime breezes through the dining room and out onto the large open patio. It feels like freedom, and you'll love every minute of it.

BYZAS



The calm before the storm: Byzas' exquisite dining room before the supper hour

535 DANFORTH AVENUE 778-1100

Christina's: from cravings to star gazing

Some define a restaurant merely by its ability to satisfy their food cravings. For others, ambience is paramount. Still others insist on live entertainment. A few even like to gaze at the stars (either the celebrity or the celestial variety). It's rare to find one place that combines all of these attributes; but for many Torontonians, Christina's is that place.

Food cravings. In addition to traditional Greek fare — including the best plate of lamb chops you'll find on the Danforth — Christina's solves your Greek/Italian culinary dichotomies by offering wonderful pasta/souvlaki combos. Their filet of sole in a killer garlic sauce is a must-try. And their treatment of salads (romaine and organic baby green lettuce are used instead of leaf and iceberg) is typical of a menu-wide provision of quality ingredients. This is not a fast-food restaurant; you may wait a little longer for your food to arrive, but the wait is well worth it.

Ambience. Christina's oozes character from every pore. Much of that character, of course, comes from the clientele, which echoes Christina's universal appeal; on any given night, you'll find almost as many ethnicities and walks of life as there are patrons.

Live entertainment. Live music and belly dancing are offered on Friday and Saturday night, but the best show is the spontaneous conversation that seems to spread from table to table like wildfire.

Star gazing. Toronto's original late-night spot, Christina's is still open until 4 or 5 a.m. on busy nights, and many entertainment celebrities gravitate to it. Recent sightings include Kirstie Alley, Tony Danza, and Alicia Silverstone of "Batgirl" fame. Those who prefer gazing at the "Big Dipper" will find that Christina's patio, while not the largest on the Danforth, is certainly the most popular; come early if you want to grab a strategic spot.

A Danforth institution most definitely run by the inmates, Christina's is a crazy, wonderful place; until you've done it, you haven't really done the Danforth.

CHRISTINA'S

492 DANFORTH AVENUE 463-4418

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

North America's Largest Greektown launches 4th annual Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth

Toronto's Greektown will kick off the Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth on Friday, August 8. Running until Sunday August 10, the event is now in its fourth year. Last year, the event attracted over 200,000 visitors. This year it has expanded to require closure of part of Danforth Avenue, from Broadview to Jones Ave.

Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth is a food festival that involves the Danforth's many restaurants and cafés. The emphasis is on Greek cuisine, with the Toronto's Danforth boasting North America's largest Greektown. But with Toronto known worldwide for its cosmopolitan makeup, even Greektown features Mexican, British, Chinese and Italian cuisine.

During the Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth, more than 70 restaurants will have a featured menu item for sale just outside their door, for just $1 to $3. Patrons use special $1 Royal Bank coupons for their purchases, with 20% of each coupon being donated by the restaurant to the Toronto East General Hospital and other charities. Royal Bank Sampling Coupons can be obtained from the Royal Banks located from Lake Ontario to Eglinton, Don Valley to Victoria Park for two weeks prior to the event. They will also be sold by Toronto East General Hospital volunteers on Danforth Avenue during the event.

There's more to the Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth than just great food. It's a family event with a children's area, a sports arcade, four beer and wine gardens, and live music. A variety of buskers and other streetside entertainment rounds out the experience.

Enjoy the music. Try your hand at the batting cage, shoot a hoop, sink a putt — or just enjoy the sights, sounds and shopping along the Danforth, fast becoming known as a centre for European fashion in the city. Or win a Trip for Two to Greece compliments of Regent Holidays and Papas International Travel and Tours.

If you're looking for a souvenir, take home a special "Taste of the Danforth" cookbook, with proceeds going to the local community college whose design students produced it.

The Danforth is served by Toronto's award-winning TTC, and even by special tourist trolleys that pick up from the major downtown hotels. Taking the subway or the trolley is definitely the better way.

With over a quarter of a million visitors expected this year, the Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth is one of Toronto's signature events. Admission is free, the food is exquisite, plentiful and inexpensive, and there's activity, music and plenty of local colour to round out your visit. *Opa!*

For information on band lineups, call (416) 469-5634.

The Palace exceeds expectations

What's in a name? In the case of The Palace, everything. Though "palace" suggests something splendid, the reality is actually a little better. On the main floor, a warm, cozily stuccoed room girded by massive pine beams fairly glows with the promise of a superb feast. On the second level above, the same wonderful ambience is bathed in natural light from all directions — sprawling skylights above, and huge windows wrapping the room on two full sides. This space accommodates 15 to 100 people for birthday parties, graduation parties, and other happy occasions. Throughout the restaurant, the warm glow of pine is omnipresent, from the window trim to the massive railings to the comfortably upholstered solid wood chairs. Accents of leather and wrought iron enhance the coziness, as do the many pieces of original art that festoon the walls.

THE PALACE RESTAURANT
722 Pape Avenue at Danforth
(416) 463-3393

The entire place, in fact, looks like a picture from a children's fairy-tale book. It's a fitting scenario, since partners Peter Hadjis and Napoleon Zacharakis have devoted their 50-plus years in the restaurant business to making customers' culinary dreams come true.

Fresh fish and seafood are a specialty, and here you'll find the largest selection on the Danforth. Filet of sole, red snapper, salmon steak, rainbow trout, sea bass — you name it, The Palace has it, all grilled or broiled to perfection. Seasonal offerings include fresh halibut, swordfish and grouper, and calamari is available both as an entrée and as an appetizer.

The rest of the menu offers an embarrassment of riches. Try the oven-baked stuffed lamb, and you'll know you're in heaven. The moussaka is also exquisite. The Palace even offers a selection of special entrées that must be ordered in advance, including many non-mainstream dishes you won't find anywhere else.

Attention to detail is the keynote here, and it speaks of caring. You can feel it in the way you're greeted when you enter; you can see it in the physical environment, even in the menu itself: thick, richly-textured paper as opposed to the usual plastic. Finally, and most importantly, you can taste it in each and every dish you order.

A world unto itself, The Palace is nevertheless conveniently located right across the street from the Pape subway station, and offers a richly rewarding dining experience.

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
28 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
83 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
163 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
183 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
193 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
336 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

348 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
435 LEASING
436 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
498 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
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Custom built – unique in every way. Offers lrg. principal rms., 32' l/r., main den, atrium kitchen, circ. oak staircase, 3+1 bdrms., 4 baths, lovely garden, modern and charming. Exceptional Lower Village Location. **Syma Solomon***.

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$749,000. Custom built 4,300+ sq. ft. on prestigious court. Great quality & design, 4 bdrms., 4 baths, finished lower level. Beautiful ravine in harmony with nature.
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BATHURST/CLARK
This is it!! 3+1 bdrm. Fab. layout 4 baths, mn. flr. fam. rm. Lg. kit. Fully fin. bsmt. w/second Pesach kit. CAC & CVAC, Asking $299,500. Please call
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SUTTON GROUP
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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

BATHURST & CENTRE - STUNNING CUSTOM HOMES FROM 3,600-4,300 SQUARE FEET
Private lots, mature area, top quality construction, will build to suit! *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin.

LESLIE & BANNATYNE - A REAL BEAUTY!
3-4 bdrms. plus fin. lower level, w/o to deck, large lot, quiet crescent, only $479K. *Shows to perfection!" *Sarah Rovet.

"ROSEDALE NORTH" $389,000
Large 4 bedroom, main floor den & family room, new kitchen, income rental from basement with sep. entry. *Ted Waxman.

BAYVIEW-JOHN STREET - PRICED TO SELL!
Huge lot, 3 bdrm. bung., reduced to $389,900. *L. Wronzberg.

CLANTON PARK AREA - JUST LISTED!
4 bedroom sidesplit, fin. basement, close to all! *Mary Fenyes.

CLARK & ATKINSON - ONLY $309,000
Fabulous "Spring Farm" area, 4 bdrms., family room & finished basement, double garage, shows well! Spotless! *Helen Winer.

"SPRING FARM" BEAUTY! SHOWS GREAT!
Det. 3 bdrm., fin. bsmt., updated kitchen. *Larry Wronzberg.

BATHURST & CLARK $279,900!
3+2 bedrooms, large kitchen with pantry, professionally finished basement, close to everything! *Carey Rosenzweig.

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST-STEELES - MUST SELL QUICK! LARGE 3 BEDROOM + SOLARIUM ONLY $207,900!
Great location! Panoramic view! Approximately 1,400 sq. ft., 2 baths, parquet, ceramics, huge kitchen, very motivated! **Berta Kogan, (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248.

BATHURST & STEELES - 2 YEARS OLD!
Exquisite 2 bdrm. "Casita", fin. basement with rec room & bedroom, one of the largest models. Shows great! *Ted Waxman.

BATHURST & DREWRY ONLY $142,000
Bright 2 bedroom condo with parking, ensuite laundry, ensuite locker. *Helen Winer.

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LOWER VILLAGE FURTHER REDUCTION
Totally renov.., 4 bdrms., just move-in! D. Wagman* 488-2875

HAZELTON/YORKVILLE/MODERN 7 RMS.
3 baths, pr./gar./drive 2 w/o, $539K. Goldie Kay* 226-1987

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Totally renovated 4 bdrm. 2 stry. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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Gorgeous 5 bdrm. stucco, spa in bsmt. F. Sversky** 488-2875

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3 bdrm. bung. bsmt. apt., private dr. gar. J. Lerner* 226-1987

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2 stry. Avenue-Lawrence, up to $350K. Judy Hendler* 488-2875

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CUSTOM BUILT BAYVIEW-YORK MILLS $879K
Unique contem. 5 bdr., fam. & lib., gour. kit. J. Lerner* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

AURORA GOLF COURSE-CRANBERRY LN.
$429K, 2 storey, 4 bdrm., 4 bath. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

SKYMARK "ELEGANCE" 1775 S.F. APPROX.
Exec. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, fam. rm. & sol. S. Train* 226-1987

1ST AD! CLARK & HILDA $259,900
2 bdrm., approx. 1780 sq. ft. Marion Davis* 226-1987

TRENDY COLLEGE WEST CONDO $125K
8 sty. blt. around Historic church site. K. Monahan** 488-2875

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

BATHURST/SHEPPARD - Condo Apartment $159,000. 2 bdrm. + den, 2 washrooms. Spectacular Ravine view!!
BATHURST/MILNER - Great family home!!! $284,000.00, 2 storey, 4 bdrm. + family room, main fl. powder & laundry rms., finished bsmt.
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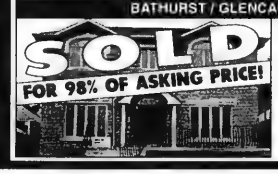
BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Brand new 4,000 sq. ft. of luxury + fin. basement, exquisite library + fam. room, dream maple kitchen, 6 bdrms., fabulous location. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712. SOLD

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN

Spacious ranch bungalow on 60 x 132 ft. lot, 3 + 1 bedrooms, huge family room, beautifully finished basement, hot tub, sauna, asking $429,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — NEW LISTING
Huge corner lot in desirable location, 54 x 138 ft., spacious ranch bungalow, surrounded by luxury homes! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / HILLMOUNT
Spacious family home! 3,700 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. Bright open concept, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, sauna, hot tub, only $469,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK
A real charmer! Gorgeous 3 bdrm. on 50 x 155 ft. lot, spacious deck, asking $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED!
Estate sale! Spacious ranch bungalow on gorgeous 60 x 117 ft. lot, asking $439,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

TRULY PICTURESQUE!

Magnificent setting! Spacious side-split on 80 x 200 foot lot, in prestigious area, near luxury homes, only $489,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / LAWRENCE — HOT NEW LISTING
51 ft. frontage in demand location, fab. bldg. lot near Avenue Road, only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

PRESTIGIOUS HILLHURST BLVD.!

2-3 bdrm. spacious units + in-law suite in bsmt., elevator — live in one unit, collect rent from the second! Steps to Cortleigh Park. ACT NOW! Asking $479,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT — FABULOUS RENOVATION!
3 bdrm., 2 storey, eat-in kitchen, new baths, thermopane windows, 50 x 140 ft. lot, $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

HILLHURST — A RARE GEM

Spacious + renovated 5 bdrm. side-split, huge family room, gleaming hardwood floors, modern European custom kitchen, prestigious location, only $449,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN - STORE FOR SALE - REDUCED!
Popular retail strip, good opportunity for user, only $199,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK — SPACIOUS 4 BDRM. BACK-SPLIT — REDUCED
Fam. room, library, renovated kit., gorgeous deep lot, only $419,000. Call Esther Rubenstein or Michael Klugman (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / PRUE — EXQUISITE EXECUTIVE HOME
Custom-built, luxurious upgrades throughout, exquisite finishes, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, huge rosewood-panelled family room, prestigious location. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712 for details on this very special home!

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Distinctive home for the discriminating buyer. 4+2 bdrms., 6.5 baths. Gourmet kitchen, enclosed outdoor pool.
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SHEPPARD/WILMINGTON
$319,000. Spacious 6+ bdrms., 5 bths., liv. & din. combined, oak up-to-date kit., blt.-in appl., fin. bsmt., 2 car gar. Don't miss!

• • •

BATHURST VILLAGE
4 bdrm., 3 bths., modern kit., sep. liv./din., w/o bsmt., dble. dr. gar.

• • •

TRIPLEX!
Lawrence/Allen Rd. Subwy., 2-3 bdrms., 1-1 bdrm. apt. balcs., bths. ensuites, fully rented, steps to all.

• • •

BATHURST MANOR
3 bdrm. + den, liv./din. combined, kit. w/w/o deck, dble. dr. gar.

• • •

STORE & APT. $248,800
Bath./Wilson, busy location, fully rented. Don't miss this great buy.

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YONGE & CLARK: GREAT LOCATION! Beautiful 4 bedroom home with large family room. Finished–basement, top of line, new broadloom! Freshly painted! Double garage.
For further info. please call **Ralph Nardi (416) 743-2000**

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Arnold Ave., beautiful prop. 100' x 180' with house, prime loc., highly treed. A must see! 905-886-7152. **NO AGENTS.**

Bath./Baycrest, lrg. lot, 3 bdrm bungalow, fin. bsmt, w/o deck. **Private.** (416) 782-1984.

Bath./Steeles, 3 bdrm bung, lge crnr lot, many extras! $286.9K. Call 416-223-8856 or 905-458-5414. **PRIVATE.**

18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT

St. Clair/Bath, 3-4 bdrms, kosher,1 yr.-$1800/mo. 651-8500.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Finch, Savoy, comr, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bths, whirlpl, marble,extras galore! 736-8007

Fabulous 1 bdrm. condo., mins. from Queen's Univ., all appls., whirlpl. ensuite, pkg., etc. Call 633-6455.

Bath. Manor, Sale by owner, gorgeous, spac. updated home, 6,000 s.f. of liv. space, 5 bdrms., 5 bths. 416-630-2721.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

Gideon Waichenberg
Sales Representative
(416) 520-5700
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(2) $129,850.00; 2 Bdrm. + spacious LIV room, Dr - Balcony, Parking.
(3) $132,900.00; 2 Bdrm. + Laund. Enst., Parking, Balcony, Shabbat Elev.
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Coldwell Banker Pinnacle Real Estate
(416) 485-2299
COLDWELL BANKER PINNACLE REAL ESTATE

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Antibes, 3 bdrms, avail. Sept. 1/97, $1325.- All incl. (416) 785-7166, evgs.

Bath/Finch Savoy, lux 2 bd, 2 bth, prkg, $1350 incl. 630-9449

38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp,spac. condo, furn, 1 bdrm + den, upscale bldg, balc, pool, pkg, $950. inclusive. 416-444-4813.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

U of T student, male, shomer shabbat, seeks accommodation in Toronto, near Jewish facilities, pref. south of Lawrence. Willing to rent, share or board. 1-613-224-5786.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

2 bdrm to share, Bath./Egl., pref. young prof/grad student, 23-29, kosher. Jonathan 783-5928.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Looking for female roommate to share semi-furn. apt., Mt. Pleasant/Egl., for Sept. 1. Call Tammy, 485-1019.

Roommate wanted to share 3 bdrm. apt, furn, in Toronto's Yonge/Finch area. On subway line, close to York Univ. Call 416-221-5335.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

A beautiful 1 bdrm. bsmnt. apt., furn., pkg., sep. entr., near shul & TTC. For a middle-aged Jewish couple or a student, n/smkrs, n/pets. 789-5980.

Ave. Rd./Lawr.,bright jr. 1 bdrm bsmt apt, pkg, n/smkr, female, Sept. 1, $595+. 905-731-030.

Lawr./Bath., bach. bsmt apt, $450. + hydro. 785-9490.

Moshav Noam Non-profit Cooperative Housing Corp. - Community Living.... Applications are now being received for the waiting list for 1 & 2 bdrm. units for co-op apartments. Regular rent: 1 bdrm. $640./mo., 2 bdrms. $787./mo., plus cable: $22.45/mo., und. pkg. $35.00/mo. if req'd. Centrally located in the Lawr./Bath. area. Close to shopping, schools, subway. Bldg. is 2 yrs. old. **To apply: Call 416-780-1233,** Mon. - Fri., 10am - 4pm.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

SANDRA ROTH (BOTNICK)
Associate Broker
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
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5 "SPECIAL" Reasons to buy in Belle Ewart

Magnificent 104' Lakefront - dbl. lot, 4 bdrm-cottage, concrete breakfront, boathouse – **$469,000. *Make an offer!***
2 Adjacent Lakefronts - 62.5' each (total 125'), existing boathouse & garage/carport, motivated vendor- **$259,000 each**
Indirect Lakefront - Great 4 bdrm. insul. reno. - **$144,700.**
Across from Lake - 3 bdrm. on 75' lot, well maintained. **$125,000**

WALK TO THE ONLY SYNAGOGUE IN MUSKOKA AND ENJOY LAKE OF BAYS TOO.
Family compound extraordinaire, 3 separate units EACH with 2 baths, fireplace and 5 appliances for a total of 10 bedrooms and 6 baths. Large central deck, Muskoka Room,Tennis Court, air conditioning, fully winterized with year round access. Level sandy shoreline with south exposure on beautiful Lake of Bays A terrific situation for the extended family. **Offered at $549,000. Please call Donna Freberg, Sales Representative, Lakes of Muskoka Royal LePage Realty, 705-767-3131. (Please call collect).**

ANITA LATNER

NEAR CAMP AGUDAH 233' SW Henshaw Lk., 2-bdrm./beach $99K.

• • •

ESTATE-SIZE lot. 5-possible severences. 1,070' Lk. Muskoka. 26-treed acres $349K

• • •

SPARROW LK. $519K
PARKER'S PT. $395K
SUNSET BAY $249K
WHITEHEAD $225K

• • •

MUSKOKA COTTAGE LINE
705-687-2879

Muskoka - modern 3 bdrm, scrnd porch, on lkefrnt, safe, sandy beach, Jewish community, 905-731-4466, evgs.

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Collingwood, lux. 3 bdrm cottage, waterfront, $650. Weekly, avail weekends. 905-731-4528 or 416-540-8841.

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, lkfrnt,scrnd porch,90 mins. from TO, $750./wk., $2500/mo. 416-487-6050 or 705-428-4534.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boca Raton, Century Village, 2 bdrm,2 bth,furn,secur.225-9555

Hollywood, South Ocean Dr. Prestigious HALLMARK of HOLLYWOOD lux. condo - 2 bdrm, 2 bth, extras, gar, pool, elegant lobby, etc. Social, recreation, facil, shops, services on premises. 24 hr. concierge, secur, valet.
Sacrifice $88K U.S.
905-294-1785, fax: 7920.

Longboat Key-Seaplace; Gulfview, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth, loft unit, lge. tiled balc, sandy beach, tennis, 2 pools, health club, secur, turnkey furn. $129,900. U.S. Call 416-489-7133 or U.S. (941) 388-4447, Jennifer.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hallandale, 1 bdrm conv., 2 bths, for Dec.-March, on intercoastal, across the St. from ocean, highrise bldg., gorgeous view, fully furn. & equip. $1500./mo. U.S. + util. + taxes. 908-247-6744.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Pompano Beach, Palm Aire, bldg. 52, 3 bdrm, 2 bth, on golf crse, secur entr. Dec.-Mar., longer if desired. 204-477-8353 (evg) or (day) 204-956-2063, Robert.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

VILLAGES OF PALM BEACH LAKES, WEST PALM BEACH, FLA., sunny, 3 bdrm, 2 bth, "Key West model home" for sale and/or winter rental. Open kit, fam rm & lanai, mstr with jacuzzi, built 1994, gorgeous water view on canal, 3 community pools, tennis & basketball, golf & beaches nearby, many extras! Call 561-471-8516.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

West Palm Beach
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT

Senate 2/2	$52,000
Highrise 2/2	$72,000
Tower 3/2	$160,000
Consulate 2/2	$185,000
Envoy 3/3	$310,000

Call for further details
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140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

3 bdrm apt, Dec. 12 - Jan. 3, on ocean, Hemisphere to Summit area, for 1 family. 446-6988.

Hallandale, Towers of Oceanview, 1 or 2 bdrm, facing intercoastal, mid-Jan. - Mid-Mar. 787-6983.

150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

Responsible, careful driver avail. to drive your vehicle to Florida. Homeowner. Refs. on req. 905-845-4044.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

Tel Aviv, best area,3 bdrm. lux. apt., fully furn, pkg, 24-hr sec, long-term from Sept. 1/97. $1300. U.S./mo. 416-638-1933

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

BIG BAY POINT, LAKE SIMCOE south of Barrie. 117' prime waterfront, 1500 sf quality bung, stone flrs, 2 sided F/P, 4 bdrms, 3 bths, guest cabin, most furniture, 1/2 share in back lot. Close to private golf/tennis. $450,000. **BIG BAY POINT,** 100' on KEMPENFELT BAY. Exquisite 2 yr. old Exec. waterfront, open concept, 4 bdrms, 3 bths, oak & pine flrs, granite counters, turreted solarium, prof. decor. 3/4 acre treed & private. $885,000.
Pattie Harper, Sales Rep.
The Prudential Andrews Realty Group
416 - 213-7224 / 800 - 254-3695

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

"SNOW OR SUNBIRDS" Delux Beverly Hills (L.A.) condo, 2 bdrms, 2 bths, Aug. & Sept., also Dec. & Jan., or monthly. All amenities - pool, terrace, gym, valet pkg, full secur. bldg. 310-854-7703, 212-581-3890, Ellen, day or eve.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

RESTAURANT FOR SALE
European cuisine. North central location. Great lease. Owner willing to train. Established 7 years.
JOHN KOMLOS,
905-764-7111
CENTURY 21 HERITAGE GROUP LTD.

Business Wanted. Indiv. with over 15 yrs. mgmt exper. & successful family bus. seeking estab. small to med. size bus with intention of future ownership. Strict confidentiality. Evgs. 905-524-2585.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

***Shomer shabbos* woman** to join female religious staff at Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel. To apply, call Mrs. Fishberg at 663-9060

E.C.E. TEACHER
For Day Care in Thornhill, Hebrew & JK exper. an asset. Call **(905) 731-2797.**

Salesman with paving exper., 20% comm. or salary + comm. Leads provided. 293-1313.

Secretary Wanted
Observant Jewish school in Thornhill is looking for an exper. full-time school secretary. Must be able to type Hebrew & Yiddish, have good comm. skills & be able to manage school office. **Fax résumé to: 416-650-9404, Attn: School Dept.**

A fast-growing toy manuf. is looking for a perm. p/t indiv. to work in our accts. rec. dept. Ideal candidate should possess a min. of 5 yrs. exper. & knowledge of the Macola acct'g. program (pref. but not essential). **Please fax résumé to: 416-787-1695, Attn: C. Trujillio.**

247 DAY CARE

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

***Golden Care has qualified & exper. live-in/out help for seniors,HCA's RN's, cleaners. Bonded, refs. Good rates. 416-665-4229.**

An Orthodox Israeli girl (27) who keeps Shabbat & Kashrut is looking for a job to take care of an elderly lady or children. Please contact me: 011-972-3-6185122 (after 9pm Israeli time)

Cleaning lady avail. for homes/apts. Refs. 469-5332.

Cleaning lady avail. Mon.-Sun. at afford. rates. Call 656-5345.

Cleaning lady, mature, exper, honest,for days work.747-7543

EC Access Employ. Agency
(filipino owned & operated)
Low fee/nanny/housekeeper
Also overseas sponsorship/no fee/min. wage. **905-475-2518**

European cleaning lady avail. Call Martha or Joanna 636-2366.

European cleaning lady avail., own car,refs. & exper. 239-6586

Excellent housekeepers, companions, nannies & nursing aides. Please call **Flor De 'Liz International Employment Agency.** 416-533-5905, 241-8673 or 537-6108. Fax: 416-533-5905. **No Employers Fee.**

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Exper. lady with HCA Certif. seeks job looking after elderly, also cleaning/driving. 690-9761.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
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• We have a 100% Approval rate!
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RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
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226-4325

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Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
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• Elderly Companions
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• Proven reliabilty
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• Training/workshops/seminars
(416) 656-2352

Lady avail. for cleaning work, days,homes,exp/refs. 745-2530

Resp. mother avail. to watch kids, 15 mos. - up. 8:30 am - 1pm, brkfst & lunch, strictly kosher home. 905-889-0258.

Live-in caregiver with 6 yr. old son seeks employment. Eva, 905-450-5845.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee to employer. **Excellent Placement Agency, 222-4912.**

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs.416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Reliable babysitter avail, Wed, Thurs, Fri.Call 535-5992 after 6.

258 HEALTHCARE

2 loving, reliable, honest HCA's will work in nurs./retir home, or in your private home, looking after your loved one. Please phone Jackie at 416-425-1367 & Yvonne at 416-498-5921.

RN's, RPN's, seek job in priv. homes, to offer quality nursing care, foot care & palliative care. Affordable Rates. Call 391-0582

Exper. HCA seeks work with elderly,days/evgs,refs,658-4615

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

1 match can light a fire! At least 1engagement/mo.Bringing People Together 905-731-5204

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1410** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee.** 483-4151

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

RENATE GOLDHAAR, née Seelenfreund born in Rendsburg, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on December 4th, 1934, is cordially requested to contact me under the following address: **Eva Hoffmann, Hans Böckler-Str. 78, 65199 Wiesbaden, Germany.** It would be equally appreciated to hear from any other person who can help with information regarding **Renate Goldhaar.** My name is Eva Hoffmann. I was born in Stettin in 1932 and I attended school in Rendsburg from October 1939 - 1953. As a journalist, I have worked and lived in Wiesbaden since 1962. At the end of the eighties, I made a documentary film about Jewish families who had lived in Rendsburg during the Nazi time. Memories of these families were still vivid in the minds of some citizens there. Since 1994, I have been studying History & Jewish Studies in order to enable me to deal with the Jewish History of Rendsburg, in a scientific way. I frequently visit Rendsburg and have my second place of residence there. **Please send all correspondence to my following address: Hans Böckler - Str. 78, 65199 Wiesbaden, Germany.**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attr. prof. Jewish female into meditation, counselling & spiritual healing, seeks supportive male, 39+. Only males with similar interests need apply. 691-6270.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

A good looking, funny, classy, stylish producer, 44, seeks a bored, shapely,gorgeous knockout for romance, passion, travel, excitement & laughter. No negative baggage or head cases please. 724-3401.

Attr, tall, athletic, prof. male, 38, seeks female for serious relationship. 633-1728.

Apologies! Incorrect tel.# printed previously.
A wish to reciprocate qualities of respect, intelligence & humour, is put forth to a mensch by a 34 yr old girl who is warm & caring, fun & fit, family & goal oriented. Our best is yet to come! 416-208-0315 (voice mail).

SJM, early 30's, athletic, caring, sensitive, n/smkr, blonde hair, hazel eyes, seeks a lovable woman, 25-35. CJN Box 6948.

Man, 85, would like to meet a Jewish woman for marriage. 416-781-1611.

I have a beautiful brother, 41, attr., gentle, with a slight disability, who dreams of meeting a sensitive, caring woman. 691-6270.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
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North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Retired, hard of hearing widow, seeks other similar ladies for bridge, lunches, & friendship. CJN Box 6945.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jewish Couples Bowling League. Bowling every other Saturday night (starts September '97) is looking for new couples age 35-50.
Call 905-731-9269

285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anne and Neil Solomon and **Tammy and Solomon Herszkowicz** are thrilled to announce the engagement of their children, **Jodi** to **Jeffrey.** Thrilled sister & brothers are Jennifer, Michael, and Lorne. Proud grandparents are Harry & Florence Solomon, Mania & the late Ben Miller, Bella & Sidney Lisak, and Abraham and the late Mala Herszkowicz.

BLEIWAS-BEIGEL. Carol and Aaron Bleiwas are thrilled to announce the engagement of their son, **Steven Andrew** to **Nicole Anne,** daughter of **Jocelyn Beigel and David Beigel.** Proud grandparents are Evelyn Gudofsky, Albert Bleiwas, Rena Snipelisky, and Izzy Snipelisky.

DRESSLER-KAY. Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Dressler of Brandon, Manitoba are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Gina** to **Jonathan Kay,** son of **Heather Kay-Buckhalter** of Toronto and **Harvey Kay** of Florida. An October wedding is planned.

GREEN-PUKIER. Albert and Sabina Green and **Henry & Paula Pukier** are thrilled to announce the engagement of their children, **Joanne Gail** and **Brian Mitchell.** Proud grandparents are Irving & Sarah Green, Abram & Bela Pukier.

330 OBITUARIES

Charles Lea, Q.C. After a lengthy illness, Charles Lea passed away peacefully on Saturday, July 19, 1997, survived by his loving wife, Jean, and daughter Gloria, his sister Lilian Goldstein, & brother Irwin Lea. He will be sadly missed by nieces, nephews & friends. He was just recently installed in the Hall of Fame at Osgoode Hall Law Society. A gentle, loving man who was willing to help others, loved by all. A special thanks to the staff of Baycrest-5 West. Memorial donations may be made to Baycrest.

SILVERMAN, Ruth - on June 27, 1997, late of 555 Cummer Ave.
STEIN, Mae - on July 3, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
RABIN, Len - on July 3, 1997, late of 130 Centre South, #307.
UNTERMAN, Jack - on July 8, 1997, late of 527 Rushton Road.
JACKSON, Jean - on July 8, 1997, late of 30 Stafford Road.
ZIMMERMAN, Freda - on July 11, 1997, late of 81 Burncrest Drive.
BLEJWAS, Maurice - on July 11, 1997, late of 712 Glencairn Ave.
DORSEY, Henry - on July 11, 1997, late of 89 DeQuincy Blvd.
RITCHIE, Sarah - on July 11, 1997, late of 55 Ameer Ave., #505.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

FREEDMAN, Wilhelm - on July 12, 1997, late of 7 Townsgate Drive, #1109.
SILVERBERG, Harry - on July 12, 1997, late of 25 Canyon Avenue, #906.
ASHLEY, Arlene - on July 13, 1997, late of 22 Elkhorn Drive, #3.
BORTS, Arnold - on July 14, 1997, late of 7 Michael Drive.
HOFFMAN, Lillian - on July 14, 1997, late of 569 Sheppard Avenue.
BLUSTEIN, Gayle - on July 15, 1997, late of 10 Torresdale Ave., #602.
SOKOLOFF, Bessie - on July 15, 1997, late of 65 Spring Garden Avenue, #811.
FINKELSTEIN, Audrey - on July 16, 1997, late of 682 Glengrove Ave. West.
KEYFETZ, Cari - on July 16, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MORANIS, Morris - on July 16, 1997, late of 65 Skymark Drive, #807.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

MERRILL, Dara Rhoine - on July 7, 1997 late of 59 Highmore Ave.
SHTEIMAN, Sheina - on July 8, 1997 late of 3560 Bathurst St.
GRIFFEN, Alexandra - on July 9, 1997.
SIGNER, Sophie - on July 9, 1997 late of 4981 Bathurst St.
SKLAR, Hannah Lena - on July 9, 1997.
FEDERMAN, Molly - on July 10, 1997 late of 45 Clifton Ave.
HOFFMAN, Esther - on July 10, 1997 late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SCHNEIDERMAN, Jenny - on July 10, 1997 late of 15 Rockford Rd.
DALE, Samuel - on July 11, 1997 late of 6200 Bathurst St.
WEISBLOTT, Sarah - on July 12, 1997 late of 22 Shallmar Blvd.
RELLE, Alexander - on July 13, 1997 late of 14 Glengowan Rd.
DUFF, Anna - on July 14, 1997 late of 601 Finch Ave. W.
GELB, Adolph - on July 16, 1997 late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
LANDMAN, Nissan - on July 16, 1997 late of 61 Tangreen Circle.
SLUSER, William - on July 17, 1997.
NESKEL, Jack - on July 17, 1997 late of 18 Codsell Ave.
GOLDMAN, Eva Esther - on July 17, 1997.
STERN, Silva - on July 17, 1997 late of 4854 Bathurst St.
BRODACZ, Sylvia - on July 18, 1997 late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SILVERBERG, Rachelle - on July 18, 1997.
ZAGE, Esther - on July 19, 1997 late of 21 Hendon Ave.
GRUNFELD, Michael - on July 19, 1997 late of 333 Clark Ave. W.
BARRS, Ida - on July 19, 1997.
WEINBERG, Yaacov Jacob - on July 20, 1997 late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
SHAPIRO (SZAPIRO), Elizabeth - on July 20, 1997.
SIMIN, Nochim - on July 20, 1997 late of 6161 Bathurst St.
BENOLIEL, Leon - on July 21, 1997 late of 27 Hetherington Cres.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

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This ad courtesy of Vera and Larry Finkelstein

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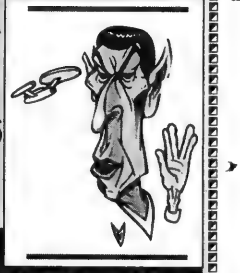
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Canada records best-ever Maccabiah showing

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Maccabi Canada's (MC) 300-member team "rose above the tragedy" of the opening ceremonies bridge collapse and put in their best team performances ever at the 15th edition of the Maccabiah Games, MC officials reported.

The highlight for the Canadian team seemed without question to be the gold medal in hockey, featured at the Games for the first time.

But the Games also included team gold medals in men's basketball (against Great Britain) and men's softball (against Mexico), and silver medals in water polo and men's tennis doubles.

"There's no doubt about it. Canada was the talk of the games," said MC national athletic committee chair, Bob Luxenberg, from Israel. "These are types of medals we've never had before.

"These games will go down as having had a horrible tragedy, but also as being the best for competition."

After the first puck was dropped by hockey legend Jean Béliveau, the Canadian pucksters, coached by former Montreal Canadiens coach Jacques Demers, virtually cruised to the gold in round-robin play against Israel, Ukraine and the United States, going undefeated in five games.

The hockey series included one rout, 19-2, against Ukraine and a come-from-behind victory against the Americans after being down 3-0. The Canadians outscored the opposition 57-10 over the five games.

The final game, a 6-1 victory over the U.S. before hundreds of Canadian supporters at the Canada Centre in Metulla, included three goals by Florida Panthers rookie and team MVP David Nemirovsky, three assists by his brother Mikhail, and a goal for the fourth straight game by Cory Pecker.

Jamie Sokolsky, who plays for the Ontario Hockey League's Owen Sound Platers, was named the best defenceman of the tournament.

The men's basketball team which won a gold medal was coached by Concordia University's John Dore and assisted by Johnny Elias.

In the final game against Great Britain, Alex Bougieff scored 28 points and was named tournament MVP. He was backed up by Andrew Bier, with 15 points, and Victoria, B.C.'s Seth Adler, with 12.

For Luxenberg, there were many other highlights, including:

• Montreal swimmer Chantal Harrison's third straight Maccabiah gold in the 200-metre butterfly;

• A first Canadian silver medal in men's tennis doubles, garnered by Montreal's David Abelson and Toronto's Charles Wright;

• A gold medal in women's tennis doubles for Ontario's Paula Marcelli;

• A gold medal in fencing for Montreal's Dandro Di Cori;

• A first Canadian bronze medal in women's single's tennis by B.C.'s Shiera Stuart;

• A first Canadian silver medal ever in water polo;

• A gold in judo for Winnipeg's Olia Berger;

• And a gold and three silvers in the triathlon event.

Other very strong events for the Canadians included swimming and track and field, wrestling, rowing and tae kwon do.

But other efforts fell a bit short of aspirations. The soccer team, for example, finished sixth out of seven teams because of a loss to the Russians in the quarter-finals. The Russians eventually won the gold.

There were also high hopes for the mini-football team; but it finished fifth out of six teams.

Sport by sport in the open senior category, the results were:

• Men's basketball — team gold.

•Fencing — Sandro Di Cori, gold.

• Ice hockey — team gold.

• Judo — Olia Berger, gold; Andrea Mendell, bronze.

• Rowing — Adam Berger, silver and bronze; Felix Soibelman, two bronzes; Ari Taub, two bronzes and a silver; Jeremy Gould, bronze; Roman Elinson, bronze; and Nanci Schipp, bronze.

• Sailing — Jason Kobrick, bronze; Rolf Wagschal, bronze.

• Softball — team gold.

• Swimming — Saròn Werner, two silvers, two bronzes; Chantal Harrison, one gold, two silvers, two bronzes; Barbara Bonder, two silvers, three bronzes; Debbie Werner, two silvers, one bronze; Jason Singer, two bronzes; Danny Heuman, one bronze; Michael Weber, one bronze; Avi Mednick; three bronzes; Peter Ackman, two bronzes; Kevin Gordon; one bronze; Aaron Lightman, one bronze.

• Tae kwon do — Michael Meroz, bronze; Robert Kurlender, bronze; Robert Bradley, bronze.

• Tennis — Yael Stel Stuart, bronze; Shiera Stuart, two bronzes; Charles Wright, silver; David Abelson, silver.

• Ten-pin bowling — Penny Lyons, gold; Paula Marcelli, gold, bronze; Lisa Abush, bronze; Linda Kornblum, bronze; Fran Pomerantz, bronze, Marlene Tuehmayer, bronze.

• Track & Field — Leslie Heller, silver; Deborah Adelman, bronze; Ilana Block, bronze, Emily Kerner, bronze, Sandra Zagury, bronze.

• Triathlon — Joanne Kay, gold, silver; Allison Meadow, silver; Shawna Novak, bronze; Syd Kastner, silver.

• Water polo — team silver.

• Wrestling — John Matile, two golds; Oleg Ladik, gold; Jeremy Podlog, gold, silver; Amichai Tsarfati, bronze.

WE'RE NUMBER ONE!

Canada's Maccabiah hockey team celebrate their gold medal win in traditional style. They were supported by a motley assortment of hockey fans who sported their allegiance close to the chest (bottom). In other sports, Canada's beach volleyball duo of Jack Serlin and Dan Padva finished out of the medals, though they managed to beat Venezuela 15-6 in this match. The women's basketball team, making its debut at the games, also failed to win a medal. They lost to Israel, 54-43, despite this player's stylish layup. Meanwhile in track and field, junior athlete Jesse Sternberg cools off after winning the 200-meter event. Greg Hutner prepares to wack the ball in junior squash while Michael Matthews shows off his golf technique. [Israel photos]

The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

בצומת הציונות

במבט לאחור, במבט להווה, ובתחזית קדימה, אין הסכמה אידיאולוגית-הגותית בין הכותבים אודות שנת המאה לציונות ויובל להקמת המדינה.

בקובץ הימני נגלה את ספרו של משה שמיר, זרקור לעומק זהותנו היהודית - מורשת ואתגר,הוצאת דביר. הספר הוא קובץ מאמרים פרי עטו של שמיר מאז שנת 1967. לפנינו הבטים מהמחנה הרעיוני הימני, הקיצוני, בארץ במהלך 30 שנה.

משה שמיר אינו חוסך בלשונו הבוטה. את הערבים הוא מתעב ואת השמאל הישראלי הוא שונא. הוא מוזמם את הכיפות הסרוגות. הערבים סתם אשפה והשמאל יהרוס לנו את מסד המשפחה ואת כל העולם בנוסף על מדינתנו. הוא מאמץ את תושבי הרובע היהודי בעיר העתיקה ומצידו שהגויים, עלובי הנפש, ילכו לכל הרוחות.

הפתוס מלווה את כתיבתו של שמיר החל מהכותרת "זרקור לעומק זהותנו..." ועד למשפט החותם את הספר: "בלא פריצת כוחות החיים האמיתיים ממעמקי יצר הקיום של העם - לא יהיה לנו משיח." יש למגר את תופעת השמאל (ואת הערבים) ולהכיר באורם המשיחי של צעירי המפד"ל והם בלבד, בהנהגתם,יובילו את מדינת ישראל, בנתיב מימוש הציונות' הטהורה, האמיתית, הנשגבה.

לגבי שמיר, השמאל הישראלי, היהודי, מטרתו אחת היא: לחבל בקיום העם היהודי. את הנצרות, האיסלאם ואת כל המזרח התיכון מאחד מוטיב הגזל והשקר. סאדאת והיטלר - אין הבדל. אצל היהודים נקי, בחצרות הערבים מלוכלך.

בקיצור: ספר מבהיל. (אותי.)

ובצד שכנגד, ספרו החדש של פרופי יחזקאל דרור, חידוש הציונות, הוצאת הספרייה הציונית על יד ההסתדרות הציונית העולמית.

יחזקאל דרור, הוגה חשוב בתחום מדעי המדינה, דן בחישרדותה ומעמדה של הציונות, זו הציונות שידעה הצלחות לא מעט.

פרופי דרור סוקר חמישה גורמים המהווים איום על הציונות היום: א)חשיבה אנטי-ציונית ב)שחיקת ומחדל פוליטי ג)איסלאם עויין ד)נשק השמדה בידים עויינות ה)התבוללות. עד כאן, אין חידוש רב. הייחודיות באה בניסוח מצע לציונות המחר; חזרמת דם ערכי חדש לעורקי הציונות.

נשמע פשטני אך אין זה כך. בין השאר, אימוץ מצע זה מצריך החלפת ערכים ישנים בחדשים. למשל, עת לנשל את ערך העבודה העברית כפי שנתגלם בתקופת היישוב. או עוד להמיר את מושג וגולה במושג יהודי התפוצות. יש להשריש התייחסות ערכית לעם היהודי באשר הוא חי, כאשר אין וותור על מרכזיותה של הארץ. תולדה מעשית לחשיבתו של דרור היא למשל המלצתו להעניק לישראלים השוהים בחו"ל זכות הצבעה. אכן בסולם הערכים הציוני של דרור, יש לשיתוף הפעולה בין יהדות א"י ויהדות התפוצות חשיבות רבה. אך, בראש סולם הערכים הציוני נצבת האהבה לישראל כחברה מוסרית וסובלנית. אין אצל דרור וותורים לגבי ערכה המקודש של הדמוקרטיה. בענין בטחונה של המדינה, במקום ראשוני מציב דרור את בטחון המדינה בתחומי הקו הירוק, וערך השלום מועדף על ערך מאבק דמים למען ירושלים השלימה.

וכך בונה יחזקאל דרור בספרו חידוש הציונות מדד ערכי ציוני חדש שעל-פיו יבחנו כל השיקולים הפוליטיים, בעד או נגד סיפוח, בעד או נגד ירושלים השלימה, בעד או נגד תהליך השלום.

ימין ושמאל, שמיר ודרור ואף אנו, דבקים בעמדות נוגדות. ובכל זאת, אולי נסכים כולנו שיוזדקה של חיים הזז טעה. זה יודקה שהיה אומר שיהודים אינם עושים היסטוריה; את ההיסטוריה עושים הגויים בשבילם. יודקה לא צדק, אנו עושים וכותבים את ההיסטוריה שלנו.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

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HAWAIIAN SALAD

For a dramatic effect, serve this in pineapple shell halves. Yield: 4-6 servings. You may increase or decrease fruit and lettuce as desired.

8 cups mixed greens	2 cups strawberries, halved
2 cups pineapple, in chunks	2 kiwi, in cubes

Dressing:

1/4 cup oil	2 tblsp. sesame seeds
1/4 cup white vinegar	2 tblsp. poppy seeds
2 tblsp. lemon juice	2 tblsp. green onions, chopped
2 tblsp. honey	1/2 tsp. salt

Blend together and pour over salad

Recipe courtesy of Beth Tikvah Sisterhood "All In Good Taste" Cookbook.

About families

Dear Susan,

My mother-in-law has recently become widowed and we are planning to take her with us on part of our family vacation. She tends to play the martyr and is acting quite disinterested in the trip, but I am convinced that deep down she is flattered to be coming. Do you have any suggestions about how we can get her more enthusiastic and involved?

Dear Reader,

I think it is wonderful that you are taking your mother-in-law on part of your vacation. Your willingness to include her in activities that would normally be reserved for yourself, your spouse and your children shows an enormous amount of love and generosity on your part, and on theirs.

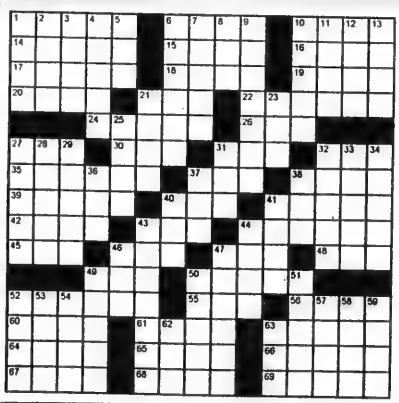
It is quite likely that your mother-in-law's apparent lack of enthusiasm is related to her need to grieve the recent loss of her husband. She may even believe that she would be a burden to your family. There is also probably a certain amount of fear and perhaps guilt, given that she would be taking her first vacation since the death of her husband. The first year following the death of a spouse can be very traumatic, with conflicting, confused emotions.

You may want to acknowledge her reluctance and confusion in the light of your father-in-law's recent passing. This will give her permission to examine and express her feelings. Acknowledge the difficult transition she is going through, and how personal landmarks over the coming year, such as her anniversary, birthdays, the Jewish New Year and Passover, will be especially tough. Assure her that you and your family are there to support her as she moves through the healing process. Above all, don't rush her, as bereavement is a complex process.

You may want to coach your children as to how to approach their bubbie. Grandchildren can have a wonderful and unique ability to comfort and console that can prove invaluable.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Jane Priesand
6. Niels Bohr research
10. Catcher Moe
14. Lil __, Capp cartoon
15. Teva offering
16. Wiesel
17. 50 to the Jubilee
18. Actress Madeline
19. Benjamin to Jacob
20. Like shiva clothes
21. Shikker's choice
22. Dan and Gad to Menassah
24. Verschtunkineh (Eng)
26. What?
27. Enjoyed Latkes
30. Harpo's hairdo
31. Kosher must?
32. Long before
35. Singer Boloton alias
37. Biblical measure
38. World (Heb.)
39. Edom nobles
40. Portion (abv)
41. Join
42. Talmud, __ Law
43. Levenson to friends
44. Chess champion
45. Not: comb. form
46. 1,200
47. Slang affirmation
48. Eat (Yid)
49. Aaron's co-leader
50. Bandleader Miller
52. Dead Sea Kibbutz
55. Golden __ of Spain
56. Cleo killers
60. Israeli city __ Sheba
61. Investment in Israel
63. Sixth minor prophet
64. Competent
65. Writer Feiber
66. Israeli city
67. "Purim" or cast __
68. Crest
69. Items on Schindler's List

Down

1. Moses' horns?
2. Cain's victim
3. ___ Brak
4. Lahr and Parks
5. Internal Revenue Service
6. Like the second son
7. Todah (Eng)
8. Vav with a dot
9. Violinist
10. Greps (Eng)
11. Airline
12. Make aliyah
13. Divorce documents
21. Improve
23. Dreidel letter
25. Like Noah's cargo
27. Judge of Israel
28. Rhode Island synagogue
29. Sculptor
31. Leaf for Adam
32. Similar
33. Dung and Jaffa
34. Measurements
36. Archaeological mound
37. Tsitsit site
38. Switch positions
40. Pouch
41. Reform Judaism Org.
43. Sophers
44. Tardy
46. Ahava offering
47. Service closer
49. City of Dan
50. Desert food
51. Israeli port city
52. Israeli mountain
53. Moses' last mount
54. Dreidel winnings
57. Singer novel
58. "__ of Settlement"
59. Political party
62. HaLevi specialty
63. Sixth day creation

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 31.)

Open Monday, August 4
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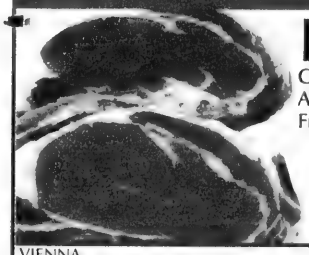

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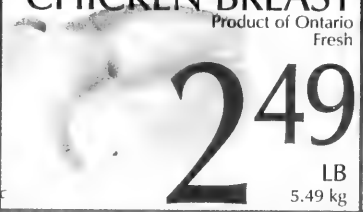

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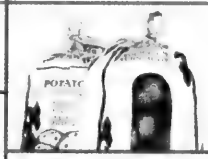

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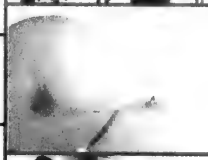

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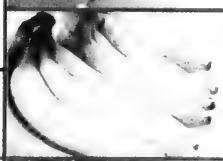

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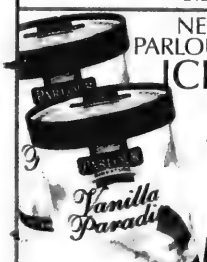

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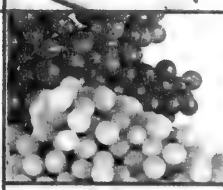

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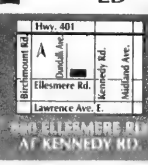

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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

CJC complains about allegedly discriminating remark by Federal Court judge. *Page 5*

A 'fly-on-the-wall' look at JF & CS workshops. *Feature.* *Page 6*

Toronto teen a finalist in international science competition. *Page 7*

National

Reconstructionism growing by leaps and bounds, leading figure in the movement says. *Page 22*

Montreal resident launches effort to build memorial at site of one of Romania's worst pogroms. *Page 24*

Business

Monopoly Game: Running a franchise operation is much like the popular game. *Profile.* *Page 33*

Index

GTA	3
Editorials and Letters	8
Perspectives	9
Opinions	10
The Kirshner File	11
Jewish Life	12
What's New	18
On Campus	20
Just Between Us	21
International	25
Health	29
Travel, Arts & Business	30
CJ Kids	34
Classified	35
Sports	38
Crossword	39
Ask Lisa	39

Shabbat Chazon: Devarim
Candlelighting: 8:12
Av 5, 5757
Havdalah: 9:17

Carnage in Jerusalem

BY VIVA PRESS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — At the time that the two bombs went off at Machane Yehuda, I was sitting on bus 14 on my way to Jerusalem's new central bus station.

The bus had just passed Hamashbir, a shopping area on King George Street, and it was making the turn onto Jaffa Road, just a short ride from the Machane Yehuda shuk (market). When the blasts sounded, I assumed the air force was training and that airplanes had broken the sound barrier.

It was only when the bus turned the corner that I realized it could not have been airplanes that had made the noise. As the bus continued up Jaffa Road, a convoy of police cars wailed past us. Behind them were the army jeeps, and following them the ambulances.

View from a bus

The people on Jaffa Road were running — some towards Mahane Yehuda, others away from it. When the bus stopped on Jaffa, some people got off and others got on. A man in a pink shirt and wearing a white knitted kippah was noticeably shaken as he walked down the aisle of the bus telling the passengers that there had been explosions in Mahane Yehuda. By this time, we didn't need him to tell us; the scene unfolding on the streets outside the bus told us what was happening.

When the bus reached the Jaffa and Kiah intersection, it was stopped by the police, who were trying to redirect traffic and stop it at the same time.

A soldier got on the bus and instructed the driver not to let anyone off. Then the soldier got off and returned to helping the police clear the

Continued on page 26

People pause while shopping in Machane Yehuda, near the stalls where 13 people were killed. A large pile of shoes, part of the rubble from the bombings dominates the area. In the background are death notices posted by some of the mourners. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Nothing has changed: caught in a trap

By YOSEF LAPID
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

This week's double suicide bombing in Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda market said it all, yet told us nothing. It said that we're damned if we do and damned if we don't.

After the funerals are over, our grief and pain for the killed and-maimed, the fury we feel toward the terrorists, and our own seething impotence will all give way to sober reason and reflection.

At that point, it will become clear that nothing has changed, that the security and peace situations remain as they were. In other words, it is a situation of deja vu.

The Right will be justified in claiming that peace is not possible as long as even one single Palestinian does not renounce these heinous acts of terrorism; the Left will be justified in claiming that attacks like last week's aim to derail the

Commentary

peace process, and we shouldn't give the terrorists what they want. We're caught in a trap.

Whoever sent the suicide bombers to Machane Yehuda was well aware that the market is a right-wing stronghold. The lethal message they delivered was a warning to Benjamin Netanyahu: Beware the boast that terrorism has stopped. It was also a signal to Arafat: Don't think you can eradicate terror to curry favor with the Jews.

In the Knesset and the cabinet, it will be claimed, vociferously, that the Oslo accords were a mistake, a fata morgana. We made a bargain:

Land in exchange for no more terrorism – but they didn't deliver.

Arafat's condolence telephone calls to Netanyahu are useless. He can't stop the attacks, or he won't; it's all the same.

The Right will say we must tell the Palestinians that the Oslo accords are null and void,

Continued on page 26

INSIDE

Are there secret codes in the Bible? Prof. Barry Levy of McGill University considers the question. *Please see page 9.*

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Collapsed bridge a revealing symbol — please see page 10

The News in Brief

CANADA

Tel Aviv U. Conference

TORONTO — Tel Aviv University is coming to Toronto in the fall. The city will be the venue for the university's third annual North American Conference starting Sept. 18.

The four day conference, sponsored by The Canadian and American Friends of the University, will feature a number of internationally renowned scholars and leaders.

A Night at the Opera

WINNIPEG — Rosh Pina Synagogue and the Manitoba Opera held a joint fundraising concert on June 22.

The event was a musical first for music lovers in Winnipeg featuring a mixture of cantorial and operatic offerings from Cantor Hesh Meyersdorf and from more than 60 singers from the Manitoba Opera who shared the stage.

Getting Credit for Hebrew

MONTREAL — Dawson College in Montreal is one of a handful of universities in the United States, Canada and Australia to participate in a special "credit" program allowing students to learn Hebrew and to take courses in Jewish studies at Ulpan Akiva in Netanya, Israel.

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, as part of their ongoing efforts to promote world understanding, granted a number of scholarships to facilitate short- and long-term courses in the program.

ISRAEL

The National Budget

JERUSALEM — The Israeli cabinet last month approved an additional budget cut of NIS 800 million (approximately $400 million Canadian) despite strong opposition from some ministries, in particular, the Defence Ministry.

The JAFI Budget

JERUSALEM — The Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) approved a budget for 1997 totalling $494,821,000 (US). Of this amount, $159,384,000 is allocated to Immigration and Absorption and $21,800,000 for activities within the former Soviet Union. JAFI is carrying forward a deficit of $84,442,000, which is $20,478,000 lower than had been anticipated.

Out of the Caravans

JERUSALEM — All Ethiopian immigrants living in caravan housing sites are to be moved out by March 1998 according to a plan announced by the Prime Minister's Office last month.

The plan will not apply to the the group known as Falash Mura, Jews from Ethiopia, whose ancestors or they personally converted to Christianity. Many have since returned to Judaism.

Taxing situations

JERUSALEM — A Finance Ministry report revealed that in 1996, almost half of Israel's wage earners paid no income tax because their income was too low.

At the other end of the scale, five percent of Israel's wage earners paying the top 50 percent rate, accounted for 53 percent of all the income tax paid in 1996.

No Change in Rate

JERUSALEM — The Bank of Israel announced there would be no change in its key lending rate. In June, the bank cut the base rate by 1.2 percent to an annual rate of 12.7 percent. The drop led to a depreciation of about four percent in Israeli currency.

WORLD

Montrealers Appointed...

...Moscovitz

NEW YORK — Bernie Moscovitz was appointed executive vice-president and chief professional officer of UJA effective immediately.

A native of Montreal, Moscovitz enjoyed a successful career as an advertising agency executive and marketing strategist before turning his attention to the Jewish Federation world.

...Urman

NEW YORK — The America-Israel Friendship League last month appointed Stanley A. Urman as its senior executive vice-president. Based in New York, the league undertakes missions and programs which attempt to enhance relations between the United States and Israel.

Urman, a native of Montreal, served recently as the executive director of the Ottawa Jewish Community Council.

Graves Desecrated

BELGRADE — Nine massive Jewish monuments were pulled down or damaged in a Jewish cemetery in a Belgrade suburb governed by right-wing ultra-nationalists.

The monuments together weighed more than 25 tons, "which indicates it was not the act of an individual," said a spokesperson for the Belgrade-based Federation of Jewish Communities of Yugoslavia.

Outreach to Australia

NEW YORK— Zvi Engel of Cote St. Luc, Quebec, is one of nine students from Yeshiva University in New York to volunteer for a special outreach program for students in Australia this summer.

The volunteers will lead various learning and identity-raising retreats for high school students in cooperation with Mount Scopus Memorial College in Melbourne and Carmel School in Perth.

Mandela Condemns Fire

JOHANNESBURG — South African President Nelson Mandela recently joined religious and political leaders in condemning the fire bombing of a Jewish home in Cape Town.

Gasoline bombs were thrown at the home of Ivan Maron, an observant Jew. No one was hurt; however his home was severely damaged.

The fire bombing took place only days after a crowd of Muslims marched on the Israeli Embassy in Cape Town shouting anti-Semitic slogans.

The Canadian Jewish news

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 15 (2,861)

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,711 copies
Average net paid circulation per issue: 45,109 copies
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997.

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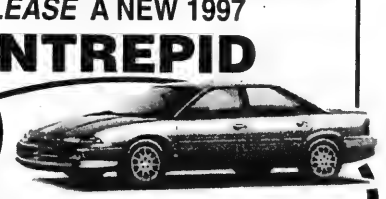

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Historian to probe Nazi gold allegations

By STEPHEN BINDMAN
CJN Correspondent

OTTAWA — The Bank of Canada has appointed an Ottawa historian to further probe allegations that its vaults were used to launder thousands of kilograms of gold plundered by the Nazis during World War II.

The central bank's swift action brought immediate praise from Jewish leaders, though serious questions remain about the complex paper transactions that took place in 1942 and 1944.

Irving Abella, former president of the Canadian Jewish Congress and incoming president of the Canadian Historical Association, lauded the Bank of Canada's decision to hire Carleton University history professor Duncan McDowall to investigate its wartime transactions in the laundering of gold looted by Germany.

"He's a very reputable historian. He's worked on financial institutions and has written three books. He's a trustworthy man and I'm pleased he was chosen," Abella said.

McDowall told *The CJN* he hopes to finish his investigation by mid-October but won't be pressured by anyone.

"I will be finished when I feel I have covered all the bases," said McDowall, who has written several books, including an award-winning history of the Royal Bank.

McDowall praised the Bank of Canada for being "completely open" and said he has been promised full access to 50 cubic feet of ledgers, correspondence and internal memos.

"While I think they probably are displaying a basic Canadian integrity and decency which we're all usually fairly proud of in this country, I think they're wary of the public relations disaster that has befallen the Swiss commercial banks. Although they would have done that in the first place without the Swiss example, they don't want to tread that path."

The forensic historian said his probe won't be a vendetta or a witch hunt, but a "salutary investigation."

"We are trying to reconstruct the events of a half century ago. If there's any kind of malfeasance involved here, the intent I would think would be that it not be replicated again."

Finance Minister Paul Martin also threw his weight behind the investigation. In a letter to Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Martin pledged that his department will cooperate fully with McDowall's probe to ensure that "all the pertinent information is reviewed in a coordinated and transparent fashion."

The investigation was triggered by a series of declassified U.S. intelligence documents discovered by the World Jewish Congress which revealed the central banks of Portugal and Switzerland swapped tonnes of gold looted by the Nazis for clean gold held in the Bank of Canada and Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

A preliminary investigation by the Bank of Canada confirmed part of the transaction described in the U.S. documents and added three new players: the federal Finance Department and the central banks of Sweden and England.

It found:

• Gold owned by the Bank of England was moved to Canada before and during the war for safekeeping in the vaults for the Bank of Canada because England feared an invasion.

• To raise needed cash for the war effort, ownership of a portion of this British-owned gold was transferred from the Bank of England's account in Ottawa to the account of the Swiss central bank in exchange for Swiss francs. Later, ownership of the gold was transferred to the Portuguese central bank's account. In all, six tonnes of gold were transferred from the Swiss to Portuguese accounts.

• Further transactions transferred ownership of the gold to the account of the Swedish bank. "All of the transfers were paper transactions on the accounts of the Bank of Canada. At no time does this gold appear to have left the vaults of the Bank of Canada — only the ownership changed."

The review also confirmed some federal involvement outside the Canadian central bank — Finance Department approved the opening of the gold account for the Portuguese central bank before the gold was transferred there from the Swiss account. Finance officials were concerned about the possibility of gold falling into enemy hands and imposed a series of restrictions on its transfer.

But the preliminary report said there was so far no evidence that Canada physically received gold from Switzerland or Portugal, nor shipped gold to those countries during the war.

(With files from Sheldon Kirshner)

Students mourn victims

By REVA KAISER
Student Intern

TORONTO — Last week's suicide bombings in the Machane Yehuda marketplace prompted a quick response from university students in Toronto.

The impromptu memorial was organized by Moshe Morris and David Moscovitch, the political action coordinators of the Jewish Student Union of University of Toronto.

"We've come here to condemn acts of terror and violence…and [to support] a peaceful resolution to the Middle East conflict," Morris said in the opening remarks of last Wednesday's memorial.

The memorial service was punctuated by a prayer for peace for the State of Israel, Shir Lamaalot (Psalm 121) and the K'El Maleh Rachamim, the latter two recited by Rabbi Benjamin Jacoby.

Irit Waidergorn, consul of Israel to Toronto and Western Canada, spoke briefly and then lit 12 yahrzeit candles laid out in a row. A moment of silence was observed followed by the singing of Hatikvah for the latest casualties of the "peace" process.

Seen in the accompanying photo montage are, clockwise from left, Irit Waidergorn, consul of Israel to Toronto and Western Canada, Moshe Morris, David Moscovitch, two unidentified participants and Michael Bloom.

[Photos by Dave Gordon]

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From the editor's desk

Despite slaughter, we must reject despair

I write these words barely hours after the two Jew-hating murderers served their God yet again in Jerusalem in the all too familiar Hamas way – by taking Jewish life; barely hours after the first broadcasts of the stomach-wrenching scenes of severed limbs and blood-splattered pavement; barely hours after the first fury of outrage and the first sigh of revisited sorrow.

Outrage and sorrow, it seems these past many months, have been the constant companions of our hopes and aspirations, constraining them, confining them, ensuring they do not rise into any nearby horizon.

But hopelessness is despair's footman and despair, defeat's guarantor.

If Jewish history teaches us anything, it is to abjure despair. With all our strength and all our will, despite the repeated shedding of tears, despite the surrealism of normal life in the middle of slaughter, and despite the absurdity of sun and blue sky against a backdrop of terror-stricken mayhem and shredded bodies, we must always abjure despair.

* * *

In the wake of the killings at Machane Yehuda, words seem more vanity than imperative. But as a way of personally abjuring despair, I offer readers the following items that recently came across my desk.

* * *

I recently received a letter from a friend, a survivor, in which she enclosed a copy of a small piece of prose which she had read on the Internet.

The prose is a poignant personal account by someone reflecting on how words of the Holocaust can enter one's ear.

It was entitled *A Horrible Beautiful Place*.

My friend sent it to me because, in her words, "it is a testimony to all those aging volunteer survivors who share their painful story..."

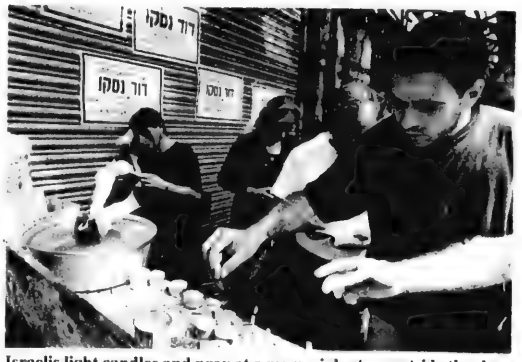
I reproduce part of that prose.

"My introduction to the Holocaust was typical of most kids growing up in Canada. It consisted of that one film they showed in history class from about Grade 9 on into Grade 13. It showed the bodies of the Jews being bulldozed into mass graves. The image remained with me, but the whole thing was unreal. It was just some film.

"I guide canoe trips during the summer. This past summer, I guided a trip through Algonquin Park's Barron River. The river winds through one of the deepest canyons in Ontario.

"There were two sisters along with us. One of them sat in the bow of my canoe. She seemed about 70 years old and as we passed through the magnificent canyon she began to talk. Not so much to me, because I was unseen in the back of the canoe, but to these huge granite cliffs that have been scarred by glaciers. She spoke in a whisper but because of the depth of the canyon her words echo.

"She said in a heavy accent: 'My father would love this place. He was a naturalist. I would hike in the mountains with him and my sister... When the Nazis came in '39...they put us in the ghetto six months later, and then my sister and I were sent to concentration camp. I never saw my father again...'



Israelis light candles and pray at a memorial set up outside the shop of David Nesko, one of 13 people killed in the twin suicide bombings in Jerusalem's central market.

"I stop paddling and let us drift by the walls of the canyon. That image of the bodies being bulldozed into the mass grave comes back to me. Her father...a man who would love this place like I do, was in that pile. That movie is now very real to me. That horror is now a part of me.

"We slip past the rocks. Her words echo as we move and there is only one other noise. It is in the distance and it serves as a drum beat to her lyric. The Barron River is also known for its proximity to the artillery range at the Petawawa military base. This Holocaust survivor's words enter my ears at the same time as the sounds of an army practising for war. Artillery punctuates her tale. The canyon has become a horrible, beautiful place.

"The evil of war has become real to me and still haunts this woman even in one of the most beautiful places on earth."

A Horrible Beautiful Place is testimony to the power and the importance of testimony.

* * *

The July 24 issue of the *Jerusalem Report* contains a small article on the demographics of the Jewish people.

The very first paragraph is like a punch to the solar plexus. It makes one catch one's breath.

"The world Jewish population will never again reach the pre-World War II total of 16.5 million, according to research at the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University...

"According to...projections, world Jewry will not recover numerically from the Nazi-era death of the six million. It has grown from a postwar total of 11 million to 13 million...but while Israel's Jewish population is on the rise, Diaspora numbers are falling."

For those of us who cherish our Jewishness and who hold as a high privilege our sense of belonging to this people, such authoritative projections are very worrisome if not devastating.

In contrast to feelings of worry and devastation is the apparent attitude of Mordecai Richler.

In a republication of a column which first appeared in the *Montreal Gazette*, the *Toronto Star* carried a piece by Richler on July 28, in which the noted humorist shared his thoughts on that very same subject, namely, the future of the Jewish people.

Richler's stock-in-trade is irreverence and satire. Sometimes it works; sometimes it does not.

In my opinion, in the instance at hand, in the column which the headline writer entitled *Declining Jewish birthrate isn't my fault*, it fails miserably.

He crosses the line, trading with his favorite stereotypical coin of "What will the gentiles think?"

His irreverence spills over, like a frothing drink incapable of stopping at the top of the glass, into affront.

In the process, he proves the very point at which he was attempting to scoff. MBD

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CJC, Cree group file complaint over judge's remarks

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress has joined in a complaint to the Canadian Judicial Council over a remark by a Federal Court judge that allegedly discriminates against Jews and native people.

The complaint, originally filed by the Samson Cree Nation of Alberta, focuses on a statement made in May by Associate Chief Justice James Jerome in which he said he would not appoint a Jewish judge to hear a case involving war crimes or an aboriginal judge to hear a case involving aboriginal matters.

"If these alleged remarks were made, they were indeed discriminatory and displayed an unwarranted bias towards aboriginal peoples and members of the Jewish community," states a letter of complaint to the Judicial Council from Congress president Goldie Hershon.

"This is a very serious matter," said Bernie Farber, Congress' national director of community relations. "It feels like there should be a religious means test" to determine which judge should hear a case. "Where do you draw the line? Does that mean that women can't sit on a case dealing with sexual assaults?"

Mel Buffalo, consultant to the Samson Cree Nation, said "there was a perception from our side of racist overtones...We thought it was ludicrous. It's something we never heard of happening in the past."

Buffalo, who also serves as president of the Indian Assocation of Alberta, said Supreme Court of Canada judges who worked as corporate lawyers do not refuse to hear cases involving corporate law. "There are probably other examples," he said.

Jerome is no stranger to controversy. He was the judge hearing a case involving three alleged Nazi war criminals. The case became sidetracked following a stay application by lawyers for the three suspects.

The stay application was granted by Judge Bud Cullen after it was revealed that a senior Justice Department official met with Federal Court Chief Justice Julius Isaac to complain about the slow pace of proceedings in Jerome's court. Jerome later withdrew from the case. Cullen's decision was overturned. The case is now before the Supreme Court.

As associate chief justice, Jerome has responsibility for assigning judges to cases. The case involving the Samson Cree Nation dates to 1989 when the native group took the federal government to court for alleged breach of trust obligations in the management of oil and gas resources.

In May, 12 weeks before the trial was finally to begin, government lawyers asked that the judge assigned to the case, Douglas Campbell, be removed because he was acquainted with three members of the Samson Cree Nation. It was during discussions with lawyers for the parties about that request that Jerome made the remark about Jewish and aboriginal judges.

Although she would not discuss the Jerome complaint specifically, Jeannie Thomas, executive-director of the Judicial Council, said the judges' group has the authority to order a formal investigation into complaints of serious misconduct. However, the Judicial Council does not have the power to impose penalties or other sanctions. In a case of the most serious judicial misconduct, the most it can do is recommend to parliament that the judge be removed from the bench, she said.

CBC apologizes for offensive remark

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The CBC and one of its commentators have apologized for an on-air remark in which the color analyst used the term "Jewed" to describe a monetary transaction.

The remark was made by freelance announcer Bob Tallman during coverage of women's barrel racing at the Calgary Stampede.

The comment prompted a slew of apologies that began during the initial broadcast. Moments after Tallman made the remark, CBC host Ron Maclean went on the air to apologize. A day later, the CBC issued a public "Notice of Apology," in which it described Tallman's remark as "offensive and inappropriate." The same day, Alan Clark, head of television network sports for the CBC wrote to Bernie Farber of Canadian Jewish Congress again apologizing.

'It struck us as heartfelt. They saw that an error had been committed.'

The letter included a statement from Tallman that acknowledged, "It is very unfortunate that I said something during the Stampede coverage that was so offensive. I have commented and promoted rodeos in Canada for 23 years and by no means would I want to hurt anyone. For that I am deeply sorry."

Hal Joffe, national chair of Congress' community relations committee, said the apologies should put the matter to rest.

Although Congress would have preferred that Tallman go on the air during a sports news broadcast and apologize himself, Joffe said, "We're pleased the way the CBC dealt with it...It struck us as honest and heartfelt. They saw that an error had been committed."

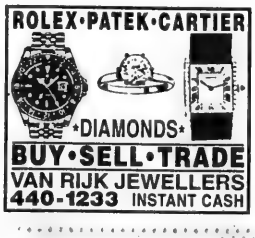
He suggested, however, that "the fact this phrase is in [Tallman's] lexicon shows the need for education."

Tallman's remark was not the first anti-Semitic slur that has been made during a live broadcast.

A few years ago, CFRB sports announcer Bill Stevenson made an anti-Semitic remark on air and apologized for it only minutes later. TV personality Dini Petty used the term "Hymie" in one of her shows and also apologized the next day for the comment.

Joe Bowen of The FAN all-sports radio used a fictitious Jewish name when describing the high cost of parking near SkyDome. It took eight months for Bowen to apologize.

"That was an example of how not to deal with the situation," Farber said.



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JF&CS workshops lend helping hand to those in need

Over the course of several recent weeks, CJN *reporter Ron Csillag was permitted to observe four different ongoing workshops conducted by Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS).*

The sessions exemplified some of the services the agency provides, dealing with the broad scope of problems within the Jewish community. The identities of the participants are not revealed, in keeping with an agreement with JF&CS.

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Six abused Jewish women sit in a semi-circle, sipping coffee and nibbling cookies. They range in age from their mid-30s to late

Feature

50s. At least one is Orthodox. There's a discomfort in the air when they are told a reporter from *The CJN* is sitting at the back of the room as a "fly on the wall," to observe the session.

At first, a tense silence hangs in the air like a fog. Then, little by little, the women begin opening up, prodded gently by social worker Gail Gould. Hesitatingly, they start with bits and pieces of what happened over the past few days and weeks, speaking calmly and nonchalantly about events many of us would consider a nightmare. Physical, verbal, sexual, emotional abuse, and even death threats from spouses, combine with harrowing tales of police indifference and a maddeningly complex bureaucracy.

Throughout, there's a distinct subtext: that somehow, all this shouldn't be happening among Jews, that Jewish men don't hit their wives and that shalom bayit (peace in the home) should prevail.

"We cover up for the sake of appearances," says one women.

Responds another, with a cynicism that shoots through the entire session, "Well, we're Jewish. We do it so well."

Some of these women have been in abusive relationships for two years and the weekly two-hour session is an opportunity to vent spleens to empathetic ears. JF&CS says its caseload averages 300 abused women at any given moment. The incidence of abuse in the Jewish community is no lower than in the general population, and an estimated 10 percent of cases go unreported.

Most of these women are at the end of their rope. Through a haze of tears and rage, they describe a pastiche of horror: beatings, emotional blackmail, using children as bargaining chips and withholding money. They are angry. One confesses to being angry at God. But they all agree that abuse is not about violence or hatred. It's about control.

Cultural differences come into play. One older woman says her extended family has told her that her husband's abuse is her fault for not fulfilling her role as a "traditional Jewish wife."

Scoffs a younger woman: "As long as you do their laundry and cook, they don't leave."

Special contempt seems reserved for lawyers and inactive police. The women speak with authority about which police precincts are sympathetic and which brush off the problem without laying charges.

Facing penury

Divorce is never easy. Courts move at a snail's pace. Soon-to-be ex-husbands erect obstacles, like forcing the women to cough up old tax forms and other hard-to-find documents. A *get* (a decree of divorce issued by a beit din) is a special problem. In the meantime, the women, who have depended on their husbands for so long, face penury. Some have had to borrow money from parents, family and friends.

The children seem to be the ones most adversely affected by all this. The women have noticed marked changes in their kids. Many are having trouble at school and at home and are themselves showing signs of self-destructive and abusive behavior.

Throughout the hellish maze of furtive emergency room visits, expensive legal bills and a Jewish community that in large measure is still in denial when it comes to abuse, the women say their own physical and mental health is deteriorating.

"What it comes down to," sighs one woman just before the session wraps up, "is a lack of control. I'm just out of control."

* * *

A lone sock lying on the floor can be a source of tension. An interrupted favorite TV show can trigger fireworks. Never mind when one of you is on time and the other is perennially late.

A six-week JF&CS marriage workshop gives young Jewish couples about to tie the knot a little *forshpeiz* of what to expect once the wedding guests leave.

It may look like a touchy-feely exercise, but the seven couples seem to benefit from the 90-minute evening session, this one dedicated to good communication — the key to a healthy union.

Social worker Nancy Kumer leads the group, all in their mid to late 20s, in a freewheeling exploration of communication. Poor communication is cited, she says, as the leading cause of marriage breakdown.

After a game of broken telephone, in which half the message is lost, the couples begin to appreciate the importance of communicating clearly. A central theme is "blocking" — inhibitors to effective communication, like ordering, judging, moralizing and saying "yes, but..."

"Active listening" is stressed. Partners face each other and one speaks about something that is troubling him or her, without the other interrupting. The roles are then reversed and some conversations get quite animated. Things get a bit heated when one couple actually gets into an argument over tardiness; the man had arrived late for the workshop while the woman sat, steaming.

The couples then delve into a touchy area: each other's shortcomings, both real and perceived — accusations of nagging, being dismissive of one's feelings and division of housework. Surprisingly, there's little discussion of sex and money, traditionally considered the most contentious issues in a new marriage. Rather, the workshop stresses the need to air dirty laundry quickly and effectively. Even trivialities, if left untended, can fester into major sore points.

Despite the seriousness of the subject, there's laughter and joking throughout the session. Said one couple, "It's fun and light-hearted, but we do learn a lot about each other and what we can expect inside our marriage. We think we know each other, but often, we don't."

* * *

The 18 adults around the large board table in one of the rooms at the Lipa Green Building are doing something they rarely do — shmooze.

For two hours, members of the Bagel Club exchange small talk, drink coffee and, of course, eat bagels. The banter is mostly jovial, revolving around everyday matters like shopping and bus routes. Coming Jewish holidays are also explored.

These people are described as isolated. They don't get out much and have problems in social situations. But one would barely know it from this session. Everyone seems reasonable, even down to the jokes about medication. *The CJN* reporter is constantly offered another bagel and refills on coffee.

Members hardly look up when two of the men get into a verbal fray about seating arrangements and a spilled drink. One of them then shouts some recriminations, vows never to return and leaves, slamming the door.

"It happens," says social worker Tammy Mahl. "It's more important for these people to get out of their homes and have someplace to go, to talk and socialize." It's not therapy, she stresses, just a simple exercise in human contact.

* * *

Wearing extra-baggy jeans, tight-fitting tops and baseball caps pulled down tightly over their eyes, the seven boys and five girls in the Youth in Care group are jaded, even for people twice their age. As Crown wards and society wards (temporary, voluntary care), these kids, ranging in age from 13 to 20, have already experienced more problems and difficulties than most of us do in a lifetime.

The session begins with issues typical of teenagers: school, dating and part-time jobs, and the patter is replete with teen lingo. But things soon escalate into heartbreaking stories of foster parents, group homes and general feelings of rootlessness.

Half the group live in foster homes and the other half, the older ones, live independently. Those in care have been shunted from one foster home to another for years — not exactly conducive to lasting relationships.

"I've been moved around so many times," says one boy, "that I'm tired of making relationships."

Offers an older girl: "You just can't get too attached."

Other emotions range from professing love for foster parents to vows of never returning to a foster family.

They come from varied backgrounds, but all have experienced dysfunction at home, whether violence or their parents' inability to care for them. For years, they've been exposed to a social welfare system that's tearing apart at the seams and to a constant shortage of Jewish foster homes.

Social workers Ian Wine and Cindy Smolkin acknowledge these young people have have plenty on their plates.

One young woman, mature beyond her 18 years, sums up the relationship between foster parents and foster children: "We're not their kids. Foster parents should know the kid they're getting has problems. No kid is perfect."

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Canadians heading to 'Olympics of the Mind'

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Alan Rashkovsky had to slog through two multiple-choice science exams and a bowl of whipped cream to find out he had been selected as a finalist in the Olympiyeda International Science Talent Competition.

The whipped cream, his sister's idea, hid a plastic-encased message: "Alan, you made it!"

Out of hundreds who wrote the initial exam, Andrea Heckler, 16, of Montreal, and Rashkovsky, 15, of Thornhill, are the only Canadians among some two dozen Diaspora teens (mostly North American, with three from England) to have won a three-week trip to Israel, including a 10-day summer science camp at the Technion — Israel Institute of Technology.

About half a dozen summer participants, of whom there are an equal number of Israeli and Diaspora teens, will be chosen to enter the finals, to be broadcast on Israeli television.

Olympiyeda, also known as

Andrea Heckler

Alan Rashkovsky

Olympics of the Mind, is sponsored by Haifa's Israel National Museum of Science for 9th and 10th-grade students. The name of the contest combines the idea of the Olympics with the Hebrew word for knowledge.

Instituted in the late 1980s, the competition was originally designed for Israeli students, in conjunction with the Weizmann Institute of Science and Israel's ministry of education.

Three years ago, the New York-based American Friends of the Israel National Museum of Science began to expand the program a few cities at a time, to make it an international event.

"We believe that the Olympiyeda can serve as an important vehicle, not only for discovering and nurturing creative young scientists, but also for helping American Jewish young people establish contact with Israel, and strengthen their Jewish identity," said Judith Rubin Golub, executive director of the American Friends group.

The first exam in the competition series tests general scientific knowledge; the second (written locally, like the first) is based on a university-level information package on a specific subject. This year's topic, communication, included subcategories such as electronics, frequencies and amplitudes.

Rashkovsky, an alumnus of Bialik Hebrew Day School, is entering Grade 11 at University of Toronto Schools, a private school for gifted students. He expects the trip will be "a great learning experience. I'll meet a lot of interesting people from everywhere, but most important, I'll be learning."

Such enthusiasm doesn't mean he welcomes homework with cries of delight, he explained — he also enjoys extracurricular activities such as sports and music — but "I think I really do enjoy a challenge."

As a little boy, Rashkovsky used to like to take things apart. Now he prefers to fix them. For a science project he spent 10 weekends building a steam-powered car with a friend. He has also participated in a gold medal-winning school team at a city-wide science competition and has parlayed a computer hobby into a small consulting enterprise.

"One of my dreams is to make an easy computer," he said. "Before pen and paper become obsolete, computers have to be as easy, and as quick and easy to learn."

Although he's keeping his career options open, Rashkovsky would like to go to Massachusetts Institute of Technology and "work on nifty space things."

Heckler, entering Grade 11 at The Study, a private girls' school, "for sure" wants a career in science, perhaps medicine.

Since she entered The Study after completing Grade 6 at Solomon Schechter Academy, Heckler has worked on ambitious science fair projects, earning annual participation in the Montreal Regional Science Fair.

This year's effort, done with a partner, concerned bacterial bioluminescence. An earlier project (Grade 8) concerned the effect of acid rain on building materials.

Science itself is what motivates her to work so hard, she said. "It's one of my favorite subjects."

Although, like Rashkovsky, she has a heavy load of schoolwork, she likes to be busy. A skier and swimmer, Heckler also plays clarinet and was on her school's track and volleyball teams. "And I talk on the phone a lot."

While she didn't find the Olympiyeda qualifying exams too difficult, she didn't actually expect to make the cut, she said.

"I thought if I made it to Israel, it would be an amazing experience. I'm so excited."

CORRECTION

Jewish Women International's (JWI) five-minute spot on the *Shalom Show, 100.7 FM* is at 10:45 a.m. Friday mornings, not Sunday morning as indicated in the July 31 article on JWI services. *The CJN* regrets the error.

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1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont. M3B 3K4

Hatred will destroy

In less than a week we observe Tisha b'Av, a day set aside by history and by fate for introspection and remembrance. On this day in every generation since the fall of the Temples in Jerusalem, we have turned our minds and focused our collective memory on the fragile nature of human existence generally and on the determined perseverance of Jewish existence specifically.

"Weep through the night, that your tears be without comfort as they fall on your cheek." These are words from the first of the *kinot*, the special lamentations. We recite them on Tisha b'Av. But with a terribly sad irony, they have even more meaning this year after the bombings last week in Machane Yehuda.

Once again, in a sudden deadly inferno, human lives were destroyed, blown to bits by the craven hatred of the holy warriors of Islamic fanaticism. This time, 13 people were killed; more than 150 were injured.

What words are there left to say more insightful, more comforting about this latest carnage that have not been said before? How many will die next time? For there will surely be a next time as long as hatred rules in the hearts of the Palestinian extremists.

Israel can take steps and already has taken steps to try to protect its citizens better. Indeed, as of this writing, in the 48 hours since the bombings, Israeli security forces have arrested more than 50 Palestinians and were "poised" to re-enter the Palestinian-controlled areas if necessary, to track down the haters and murderers intent on destroying Jewish lives.

But Israel is powerless to abate and ultimately turn aside the hatred. Only the Palestinians themselves, and their leaders in particular, can do that. Yasser Arafat must do that. And though it is a task too great for him to complete, it is a task too important for him not to begin. It is a two-stepped process. He must root out the murderers. Then he must publicly, forcefully, plainly, in Arabic and to the entire Arabic world, renounce hatred and all its evil manifestations: namely murder and violence.

Since the signing of the Declaration of Principles between Israel and the PLO on Sept. 13, 1993, 231 civilians and soldiers have been killed in 73 different terrorist attacks in Israel.

Given these figures, even the most supportive of the Oslo peace process in Israel is losing confidence in its future and is justified in doubting the bona fides and the capability of the PLO leadership in trying to eliminate terrorism.

As we have pointed out on a number of occasions, without the confidence of the majority of Israelis, there will be no peace treaty between Palestinians and Israelis. Without a treaty there will be no independent Palestinian state, or self-ruling entity of any kind. Thus, with the attack in Machane Yehuda, self-rule of whatever sovereign form is further away than ever from the Palestinians.

But then, this was one of the murderers' aims: to murder peace as well as Jews.

Hatred destroys. That is, after all, its sole method and its sole purpose. Knowing nothing other than destruction, it ultimately turns on itself too. Yasser Arafat probably understands this even though he does not yet convincingly show any public signs that he does.

But eventually he will. For not only will the hatred of the fanatic destroy him, it will also destroy the dreams and the goals of his entire people.

"Weep through the night, that your tears be without comfort as they fall on your cheek."

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"Jews were emancipated in Europe not from an inner necessity, but in imitation of a political fashion, not because the people had decided from their hearts to stretch out a brotherly hand, but because leading spirits had accepted a certain cultured idea which required that Jewish emancipation should figure also in the Statute book."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

Dry Bones
THEY ARE NOT THE "ENEMIES OF PEACE"
THEY ARE THE ENEMIES OF THE JEWS.
AND SIXTY YEARS AFTER THE RISE OF THE NAZIS...
YOU'D THINK THAT THE WORLD COULD UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT.

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

August 5, 1949 the first official representatives of Israel, Avraham Harman, Consul General in Ottawa and Arie Ben-Tuvim, Consul in Montreal, arrived in Canada. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

PA has responsibility on violence

The actions of one troubled and misguided woman in defaming the Prophet Mohammed was understandably upsetting to all followers of Islam. Israel's political and religious leaders issued an unqualified apology for her actions and she has been charged for her racist remarks and will be brought to justice and punished according to law. No matter how abhorrent her conduct, there is absolutely no justification for the rioting in the West Bank nor the burning of Israeli and U.S. flags in Arab countries.

It surely must be understandable that, if such a singular incident provokes violence of such dimension, then Israelis will be fearful of any land settlements, because then the rioting and the uprisings will be righ in their backyards. Surely it is necessary for the Palestinians to establish that they are trustworthy neighbors who can understand that the Israeli government is helpless is preventing irresponsible incidents before they happen. The Palestinian Authority must ensure that its population is law abiding instead of aiding and abetting rock-throwing street gangs.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Don't do me any favors

Re: "Jewish Groups urge Race Relations Policies," (*CJN*, July 10).

Once again Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith are dabbling naively and self-righteously in the witches brew of "multicultural" and "anti-racism" politics.

They are, in effect, suggesting to the general public that they are the definitive voice of the entire spectrum of Jewish opinion, in a battle whose principle beneficiaries are not exactly friends of the Jewish people.

Unexamined lip service to "motherhood and virtue" causes like "multiculturism" and "anti-racism" are not necessarily synonymous with Jewish interests or Jewish dignity. Most members of "vulnerable" and "visible" special interest groups follow a *"Tut mir nisht kein toivas"* (Don't do me any favors) attitude toward their well meaning Jewish knights in shining armor. *They* are both realistic and practical.

N. Roth
Toronto

Searching for relatives in Canada

I am searching for Ilse and Trude Weiss, formerly from Tost/Obernschlesien, Germany. They were my neighbors and I heard that they came to Canada. Their father had a drugstore. Anybody knowing their whereabouts, please call me collect: 516-333-4211.

Ruth Wolff
Westbury, N.Y.

* * *

Sonya Mazelev (Mendelevna) and her husband and family of nine children left Priluki, Ukraine, for Vancouver early in this century. Until World War II, we kept in touch, but in the war the family was exiled to Siberia and contact was lost.

After the war, we resumed contact briefly, and then, because of the Communist repression, contact was broken off. I was a sister to Sonya.

Please write or call me, c/o Shirley Segev, 34 Hopperton Dr., Toronto, Ont., M2L 2S6. Tel. 416-446-1062; fax 416-444-8596.

Eva Gerdin
Bat Yam, Israel

* * *

My father and I are looking for our relatives, who live in Canada. My grandfather, Ilia Ruvimovich Garber, was born in 1893 and lived until 1914 in Belovezskaya Puscha (now Belarus). He was a soldier in World War I at the Turkish front and then, after 1917, lived in Rostov-on-Don. He was killed in 1941 fighting against the Nazis.

His two brothers (who may have been textile workers) left Russia, probably from the Ukraine region, in around 1905 to 1910 and lived in Canada beforeWorld War II. They corresponded with my grandfather until 1940.

Can anyone help us find our relatives? I can be reached directly by e-mail: [garber@garber.saratov.su] or through the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University e-mail: [michaelb@yorku.ca]; phone: 416-736-5823).

Ilia Garber, PhD
Saratov State Economic Academy

Strict rules deny justice to victims

In response to your July 3 article concerning additional compensation to Holocaust victims, I would like to direct the readers' attention to a reality which is reflected in the refusal of my own claim, as well as those of many others, which do not conform exactly to conditions set forward by the Claims Conference in line with the German government. For example, a very short time missing for the stipulated period to have been spent in a ghetto or camp, or in my case, having been hidden, was, according to decision-makers, not enough suffering, as if being a Jewish child in Hitler's Germany in itself was not "unmentshlich" (inhuman) enough to merit assistance now from the German government for someone who lives on a limited income (another condition for eligibility).

Should the inheritors of the Third Reich not feel privileged to be able to help those few people still alive to have a richer, more dignified old age? At this point we know and they know that many of their fellow Germans who killed and tortured our families now receive splendid pensions from that same government, even those who found refuge in Canada.

Charlotte Lintzel
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Are there secret codes in the Bible?

By B. BARRY LEVY

Throughout the millennia, people have always delighted in seeking out and claiming to find secret mesages encrypted within the text of the Bible. Efforts at decoding the Bible have been the subject of several recent books, including M. Drosnin, The Bible Code *(New York: Simon and Schuster, 1997), and R. M. Haralick and M. Glazerson,* The Torah Codes and Israel Today *(Jerusalem: Lev Eliyahu, 1997).*

The CJN asked *Barry Levy, Professor of Jewish Studies at McGill University and Dean of McGill's Faculty of Religious Studies, to comment on the phenomenon.*

In this issue we publish Part I of Levy's commentary. Next week we will publish the conclusion.

Part I

For thousands of years, readers have found the contents of the Torah meaningful. For much of that time, too, numerous halachic authorities have admitted that the text of the Torah contains minor spelling flaws. Since the Torah makes sense as it is, it should be read, understood and applied (if one so chooses) in as straightforward a manner as possible. We may disagree about how to do this — or whether we should do it at all — but the student of any text must avoid certain pitfalls, one of which would be regrouping the text into new words in order to scour it for highly anachronistic references.

Yet, this very procedure is being carried out by computer-aided mathematicians who assume the Bible text is letter-perfect and able to provide limitless information on both past and future events. Such thinking is not unprecedented and may be entertaining, even inspiring, but it cannot be sustained in the face of reasoned challenges. Why, then, has this decoding craze captured the attention and imagination of so many unsuspecting Jews and Christians?

Every generation of readers has left its own unique imprint on the Bible; some have created highly innovative interpretative strategies. These often resulted from applying their era's best thinking to the Bible and producing what, at the time, seemed like the most advanced understanding possible. Thus, some writers combined the Bible with essential elements of Greek thought; others added from the sciences of their ages; still others, from the humanities.

Each generation has helped clarify the Bible, but anyone schooled in the history of its interpretation can easily identify the intellectual context in which almost any extensive sample of interpretation was produced. Like art, interpretation reflects clearly and distinctly the cultures and contexts of individual interpreters, the schools they represent and the creative worlds in which they worked, including their cutting-edge ideas, interpretative tools, fads and erroneous beliefs.

Some interpretative efforts are based on permanently valued modes of analysis, but even they sometimes lead to inappropriate results. Academic preferences change quickly. While the rabbinic world is less capricious, there, too, one is confronted by an interesting dilemma. What should be done with interpretations produced by millennia of learned, pious thinkers, works that are no longer popular or even defensible? Some moderns would consign them to the bibliographic scrap heap and indeed, this is the fate of much contemporary scholarship. But a similar reaction cannot serve rabbinic interests.

To be sure, many rabbinic writings have little or no long-term impact, but theoretically they remain available to potential readers. And what of the erroneous ideas they and other

A sofer at work writing a sefer Torah.

more popular works contain? Once they have been worked into the fibre of rabbinic thought, many rabbis are reluctant to consider their rejection. Some are happy to expunge the scientific parts of pre-modern Bible commentaries because old science is bad science and its presence is somehow seen to discredit a commentary's timeless appeal. Some are also willing to censor critical-sounding notions in rabbinic works either by carefully avoiding them or by actually removing them from specific editions or translations, because critical thinking is unfashionable in much of the Orthodox community. Only marginally better is a strategy that allegorizes no-longer-acceptable notions, in order to avoid challenging or rejecting what appear as the literal intentions of authoritative writers.

A third response accepts the legitimacy of all these teachings and merely assigns them complementary positions in a poorly defined hierarchy of interpretation. This may appear respectful of the interpreters, but it actually casts aspersions on the texts they all labored to explain, because the defence of dozens of outdated or inferior interpretations does the primary text no credit and complicates any serious effort to understand it. Adding to this the belief that the Torah is divine produces an even stranger result, for the belief in God's omniscience is often taken to suggest that all these interpretations offered by centuries of pious interpreters must, of necessity, have been intended by God and consciously associated with the text.

To be sure, many rabbis argued endlessly to defend or to defeat particular interpretations and rejected outright those with which they disagreed, but this spirit of challenge, debate and resolution is often lost on latter-day students of sacred texts. Moreover, it is self-evident that texts can carry far more than one meaning, but this acknowledgement may have gone too far. At least since the 16th century, mystics have spoken of not two or seven or 70 theoretical interpretations of the Torah, as did the ancient or medieval rabbis, but 600,000, and in some cases, 2.4 million.

The radical post-modern notion that a text is only what the reader finds in it goes even further, because it legitimates limitless, ill-defined interpretations. These infinite numbers of Torah interpretations, all deemed to be of divine origin, allow anything to be said in the name of the text, and only the stout-hearted dare disagree.

Over the years, astronomy, mathematics, biology, philosophy, linguistics and physics have all had an impact on Bible study, but so have astrology, alchemy and numerology. Because the last three are based partly on science, they have found a hallowed place in some classical interpretations, where they remain and continue to influence popular thinking. It is in this context that one must consider the recent rush of books and articles devoted to decoding the Bible.

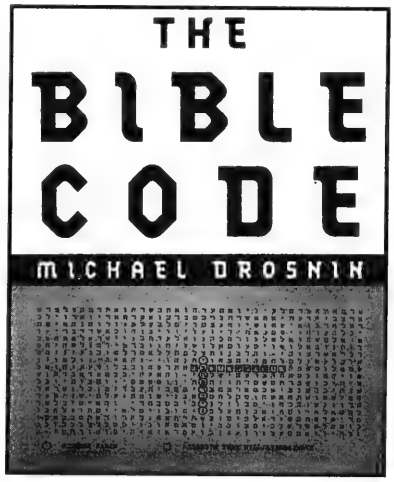
The decoding strategy is relatively simple. One omits all the spaces between the words and reconfigures the text in grids of varying sizes thereby juxtaposing letters originally found at recurring, often very extensive intervals. This creates new combinations of letters that — when read frontwards, backwards or diagonally — can be interpreted as words. Counting every nth letter from various arbitrary starting points seemingly reveals allusions to Napoleon, AIDS, Israeli and American politics, the Holocaust, and other contemporary figures and events. Christians also are decoding Hebrew Bible texts and finding references to Jesus and christological themes.

It is claimed that reconfiguring the texts this way also allows people to predict the future. "Yitzhak Rabin" was decoded together with a reference to murder, which led some bibliomancers to predict his assassination; "Benjamin Netanyahu" was decoded in close proximity to "chosen," which let them anticipate his election, despite polls to the contrary. Predictions of mass destruction were decoded for 1996, 2000, and 2006, but the uneventful passing of the first date has challenged this disclosure and forced decoders to consider that their predictions may be only possibilities, not certainties.

Decoding generates limitless letter combinations, some of which resemble words, but attributing meaning to them requires accepting many dubious assumptions. The decodings must have statistical validity and not be random coincidences. Also, one must agree that when the Torah text was formed, detailed knowledge of the future was possible, available and actually encoded in it — that some higher intelligence intended what is perceived as encoded information; that transmission of the Torah text has been so accurate that these messages are still intact; and that the decoded combinations of letters are valid representations of the people, dates and events with which they are associated.

Despite the simplicity and clarity attributed to the decoding process, making sense of the alleged messages requires no small amount of ingenuity and subjectivity. (The data on Rabin, for example, also could suggest he was a murderer.)

God is often assumed to be the encoder, which reinforces the Torah's sanctity and authority and may sound quite pious to some readers, but not to all. Predestination is an ancient idea, but far from universally accepted by traditional Jewish thinkers. It undermines the notion of free will, the belief in reward and punishment, responsibility for sin and the ability to repent. One response suggests that all decoded predictions do not happen; so sin and repentance remain real options. Another is that the decoding process and its underlying assumptions are badly flawed.



(Next week, Part II)

Opinions

Collapsed bridge a revealing symbol

A leading Israeli philosopher, Assa Kasher, was right in describing the five different debates in the aftermath of the "bridge disaster," the colloquial name for the horrifying collapse of the temporary bridge at the Maccabiah opening ceremonies. The first three, he said, are unfortunately silent. Little has been told about the lives of the three casualties or the scores of wounded athletes; little has been said about their grieving families; and little has been said about the bravery of the police, who responded swiftly and rescued so many from death or serious wounds.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

However, there have been two public debates in the three weeks since the tragedy. The first is the investigation into the responsibility for the faulty construction of the bridge. The committee of inquiry has completed its work and indictments are expected soon.

The second public debate is ongoing, and is both fascinating and disturbing in its insight into Israeli society. The collapse of the bridge has been seen as a metaphor for all the ills and flaws in Israeli society. As many philosophers as engineers have commented on the tragedy.

The irony of the situation is not lost on anyone. A country that can launch missiles and build a nuclear reactor is incapable of constructing a dependable bridge over the Yarkon River, the country's national sewage carrier.

The public outcry has focused on the "you can count on me" (*s'moch alay*) syndrome that is characteristic of its attitude to too many tasks.

In a round table discussion held several days after the bridge collapsed, several prominent social scientists commented on the origins and impact of this careless attitude. Moshe Lissak, a sociologist, attributes it to the experience of minorities that have to survive in difficult circumstances. To do so, they have to develop ways of circumventing "the system." However, says Lissack, circumventing the system also resulted in norms of shortcuts, rounding corners, disregard for the law and contempt for regulations. The line between unconventional thinking and amateurish conduct has become blurred, concluded Lissak, and this has led to more than one tragedy.

Effi Ya'ar, another sociologist, went even further. Israel, he said, is close to being anomic — a society in which norms are ignored and disregarded. In the Diaspora, and even under British rule, disobedience of the law was not immoral; in fact, it was a condition of survival. The behavior weakened the distinction between what is legal and what is illegal, and Israel's political leaders have historically done little to provide moral leadership in this regard.

Political scientist Yaron Ezrachi railed against the reluctance to assume individual responsibility. Every single person associated with the tragedy "passed the buck" when investigated, and Ezrachi bemoans the forgiving, defensive character of a society that sees it all as taking place "in the family."

Other philosophers and historians saw the origins of the "you can count on me" syndrome in Israel's military past, when the chain of command required confidentiality and total loyalty to one's superiors. In a democracy, said Menachem Brinker, there is no place for such thinking. A democracy requires transparency and accountability. The "syndrome" has become one of Israel's greatest enemies.

The fear of many is that the lessons of the Maccabiah tragedy will not be learned and that in Israel's very short memory, the episode will be quickly forgotten.

In a week in which Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faced several no-confidence motions in the Knesset, budget cuts for 1997-98 were voted upon, and a new American strategy on the peace process was discussed, the tragic loss of life of the Maccabee athletes had to fight for attention. Good people are concerned, but they have no answers as to how they can keep the lessons of the bridge alive for the future. How does one change a mentality that is disparaging to those who "go by the book"?

There was a poignant Canadian angle in the debate. A visiting Canadian engineer told an Israeli colleague why all Canadian engineers wear an iron pinkie-ring. They are made, he said, from the remnants of a bridge that collapsed in Quebec. Every Canadian engineer received one with his or her licence. We need no better reminder, he concluded, of our responsibility for human lives.

The collapsed bridge should become a symbol of where Israel has gone wrong, and it should generate a serious self-examination. But for this to happen, more than philosophers and sociologists will have to join the debate, and take action.

Jews and the wide world of sports

The tragic deaths and injuries suffered by the Australian athletes at the recent Maccabiah Games in Israel have given the Games a visibility they might ordinarily not enjoy and prompt some reflections about the somewhat surprising 20th-century love affair between Jews and sports.

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

Let's go back to the beginning. In the Bible, various characters demonstrated forms of physical prowess, courage or strength, with David and Samson among the better known. But following the Dipsersion and under the sway of rabbinic Judaism, sports, athleticism and physicality in their broadest sense became alien from normative Judaic thought and Jewish life. It is not a coincidence that when we think of styles of wrestling, we think "Greco-Roman" and not "Litvak-Galicianer."

Things began to change with Emancipation. European Jews eventually found themselves fighting in armies, experiencing sports in public schools and forming Jewish sports clubs affiliated with Zionist and other ideological or youth movements.

Jews in Europe and the Yishuv began to challenge the prevailing stereotype which labelled them as incapable of fighting, farming and athletic competition. The Maccabiah Games themselves are among other things a celebration of the "new Jews."

This reached its peak in the New World, particularly in the United States. The children of Jewish immigrants streamed into public schools and learned to embrace American culture, including sports. The local YM-YWHA's and Jewish summer camps were important settings that introduced Jewish youth to all manner of games.

The most popular Jewish sport in the prewar period was basketball. Jews became champions in basketball, as well as in more "manly" sports like boxing and wrestling. Over the decades, Jews went on to excel in all manner of sports, from baseball to swimming to tennis. (Trivia question: Name four Jews who won baseball's MVP award.)

Today, as Jews have become more upscale in their tastes, the love affair continues in a different form. Squash, tennis, biking, golf, skating, and most prominently, aerobics and fitness classes are popular with Jews. Jewish children in North American suburbs are playing many team sports as well as doing the obligatory swimming, gymnastics or judo. Perhaps only in the ranks of the very elite professional athletes has Jewish representation thinned, a result of their increasingly middle class status.

So we can now pose the question: How ought we interpret all this Jewish participation in athletics and sports? Despite the best efforts of Jewish community centres, there is a sense in which this is all one aspect of a slow process of assimilation. Traditionally ultra-Orthodox Judaism continues to look askance at what has been called bitul Torah or a waste of time better spent on Judaic study. And even among some secular Jews, the "Jewish intellectual" resonates as a more appealing image than does the "Jewish jock."

If we are concerned mainly with Jewish survival, then the ultra-Orthodox are right. No sports will serve to directly reinforce Jewish identity, learning and observance. All else equal, the celebration of sports and the "body" is more pagan than Judaic and it does detract from the elements of study and spirituality that together define the essence of Judaism.

But that is not the whole picture. For many Jews, what counts is that they play baseball or golf or tennis *with other Jews*. In this sense, sports can reinforce the elements of Jewish community, of Jewish peoplehood. In many ways, a daily fitness class at the Y serves the same important social and communal functions as a daily minyan.

I remember playing baseball in Hebrew in Camp Massad in the Laurentians in the 1950s and 1960s. How many Hebraists know the Massad-invented word for shortstop? That experience subconsciously taught us that Jewish identity was not incompatible with North American sports and fun. And just recently, I have seen adds urging Canadian Jewish kids to attend a two-week summer camp — in Israel!

Despite the dangers, most Jews and organized Jewish communities have figured out a way to harness the attractions of sports in a positive manner. While sports will not produce Judaic scholars, they can be used to build community — as well as healthier Jews. This is also what the Maccabiah Games do, as they represent the zenith of achievement for so many local Jewish sports clubs around the world.

The four Jewish winners of baseball's MVP award were Hank Greenberg, Al Rosen, Sandy Koufax and Rod Carew (he is a convert). The Massad-invented word for shortstop was "otzar" from the Hebrew root meaning to stop or to block.)

Organization brings people together

In a recent column, I wrote about the need for person-to-person contacts as a small but important contribution to ending the seemingly intractable Israeli-Palestinian standoff. The basic argument was, and is, that ultimately political resolutions depend on the readiness of people on both sides to stop demonizing each other and instead begin to see their opponents as human beings who are essentially like them — albeit with different lifestyles and different goals.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

I have recently been made aware of such an effort to contribute to the peace process in the Mideast by small steps of personal involvement. I had never heard of Earthwards Network, based in Bainbridge Island in Washington State. The aim of this small organization is to bring the people of Israel and the Palestinian Authority closer together. Its advertising brochure lists some of its objectives: "The Mideast Citizen Diplomacy Project is based on the belief that ordinary people have tremendous power to effect change at the global level. Since its inception in 1990, we have led 11 people-to-people delegations into the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"Travelling to the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, we have learned firsthand from our hosts about their lives, struggles and perceptives. Through practising the fine art of listening, we discussed many ways to directly support Israelis and Palestinians working for peace and justice. We also plan an important role at home by communicating their ideas and efforts to audiences in our home communities, thereby increasing international understanding on the critical issues.

"But perhaps our most significant accomplishment is having helped break down walls of fear, ignorance and stereotyping which keep Palestinian and Jewish people separate. Many of these friendships have had a transformational effect on both sides."

Dr. Barbara Landau, a Toronto lawyer, television personality and head of Co-operative Solutions, also emphasizes the need for interpersonal relations on every level of the human life. She points to the fact that conflict resolution has become a major player in many areas, from politics to business to marriage. If it works there, why not on the international scene?

The Earthwards Network is not involved only with Israeli-Palestinian projects. Founded in 1982, it has worked in various areas, including award-winning projects with veterans-to-veterans programs that brought together U.S. and Vietnamese veterans and has contributed to seemingly irreconcilable conflicts in Africa and other places.

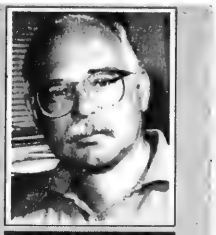
To be sure, we still need politics and politicians, but in the long run they alone cannot do the job. It is the opinion of the Earthwards — an opinion I share — that people on both sides of an emotion-filled conflict are not eternal haters, but deep down want to be neighbors and, if possible, friends.

The next trip is planned for April 1998. If you would like some information, write to Earthwards, Box 10697, Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110; Fax: 206-842-8918. In Canada, you may reach Barbara at 416-223-5111, Fax: 223-5359.

The Kirshner File

Arab journalist describes Mideast peace-making

Endless strife has convulsed the Middle East for decades now. In spite of the violence and the bloodshed, there have been covert and overt attempts to settle the Arab-Israeli dispute through peaceful means.



By Sheldon Kirshner

Several of these episodes in peace-making have dominated the headlines of late. Others are still shrouded in obscurity.

One observer who is well acquainted with the history of Middle East peace negotiations is Mohamed Heikal. He is one of the most prominent journalists in the Arab world. Heikal, a confidant of Gamal Abdel Nasser, was editor-in-chief of the Cairo daily *Al-Ahram* from 1957 to 1974 and, as such, possessed an insider's view of the direct and indirect contacts between Israel and its Arab adversaries.

In *Secret Channels* (HarperCollins, $47.95), Heikal elaborates upon these probes, beginning with the Jewish Agency's efforts at reaching an accommodation with Trans-Jordan (later Jordan) and ending with Israel's rapprochement with the PLO.

As might be expected, Heikel is not a neutral witness. He is an Arab nationalist who not only opposed Anwar al-Sadat's historic trip to Jerusalem in 1977, but is deeply skeptical of the Oslo accords, which he describes as "a bandage rather than a cure."

Be that as it may, Heikal is a fount of knowledge and information, and even if some of his judgments are tainted by partisanship, *Secret Channels* is a book well worth reading. Call it an interesting point of view.

The first case study Heikal deals with is the Jewish Agency's relationship with Abdullah, King Hussein's grandfather. He agreed to work with the Jewish Agency — the embryonic, pre-state government of Israel — because it served his interests.

In exchange for financial aid and a Jewish Agency promise to work for U.S. recognition of Jordan, Abdullah was prepared to turn a blind eye to the partition of Palestine, an act of treason to virtually all Arabs. According to Heikal, Abdullah's assassination in 1951 cut short his goal of signing a peace treaty with Israel.

Heikal's account of Israel's attempts to make peace with Egypt, before and after the Six Day War, forms the core of *Secret Channels*.

In the wake of the 1952 coup in Egypt, David Ben-Gurion, Israel's prime minister, read a statement welcoming the revolution and hoping for a new chapter in relations with Cairo. Within a few weeks, Israel began sending conciliatory messages to Egypt via a host of intermediaries ranging from Richard Crossman — a British member of parliament — to Albert Einstein, the distinguished scientist.

In a word, Nasser, the president of Egypt, was disinterested. Heikal claims that his attitude was predicated on the belief that Israel had violated United Nations-brokered ceasefire arrangements and therefore could not be trusted. And, Heikal adds, Nasser regarded the Negev, sovereign Israeli territory, as a requirement for Egypt's own security.

The contacts, though, continued through the premiership of Moshe Sharett, Ben-Gurion's successor, but were frozen by the 1956 Suez war, Heikal writes.

John F. Kennedy, the American president, initiated a new round in 1961 with a letter to Nasser. He hinted that Egypt could expect major U.S. aid if it loosened its ties with the Soviet Union and recognized Israel. Nasser's reply was not encouraging. He rebuked Washington for its role in Israel's creation and claimed that Israel was an imperialist tool of the great powers.

On the eve of his death in 1970, Heikal notes, Nasser refused an Israeli offer to return the whole of the Sinai to Egypt in return for a peace treaty. Unfortunately, Heikal does not elaborate. Just a year later, Sadat recycled Israel's proposal. But this time around, Israel refused.

During the Yom Kippur War, Heikal tells us, Sadat transmitted a message to the United States informing Israel that his goals were limited and that Egypt was ready to take part in a peace conference, provided Israel was prepared to withdraw from the territories.

As it happened, the Yom Kippur War was a turning point in Israel's troubled relations with Egypt. By 1977 Sadat was thinking in terms of a full-fledged peace treaty with Israel.

Heikal credits Nicolae Ceausescu, the Romanian leader, with convincing Sadat that Israel was sincere in its desire for peace. He informs us that Hafez al-Assad, the president of Syria, was adamantly against Sadat's precedent-shattering trip to Jerusalem. "This is treason," Heikal quotes Assad as having said. "The Arab nation will never forgive you."

Heikal's account of Sadat's meetings with Menachem Begin — Israel's prime minister — is intriguing. Sadat went to Jerusalem in the mistaken belief that Israel had accepted the idea of a full withdrawal to the pre-1967 lines.

Heikal explores at length the PLO's shifting policy toward Israel. He claims that Yasser Arafat's 1974 speech to the United Nations was "the first public hint" that a debate had begun within the PLO leadership about alternatives to armed struggle.

By the end of the 1970s, he writes, the PLO had split into two camps. "One part ... was groping in the dark for an unknown partner in Israel, while another part was trying to thwart the efforts of the first."

Heikal's reportage of Israel's unofficial links with the PLO in the 1980s is of interest. But his analysis of Israel's secret talks with the PLO in 1993 is less compelling.

Heikal, who is clearly opposed to the current peace process, believes that Israel has outwitted the Arabs.

In his view, Israel has weakened Egypt, expelled the PLO from Lebanon, divided the Arab world into rival camps and drawn Jordan into accepting its conception of peace. Israel, he thinks, had no master plan for these events. Israel exploited Arab weakness and projected military power to achieve these objectives.

As I said earlier, you may not concur with all of Heikal's assessments. But they are surely worth pondering.

Dry Bones' best in new anthology

Readers of the *Jerusalem Report* magazine are familiar with the humor of Ya'akov Kirschen, the fecund creator of the Dry Bones comic strip. Witty, ironic and irreverent, Dry Bones pokes wicked fun at politicians, bureaucrats, institutions and shibboleths.

Carried by 35 newspapers in North America, including *The Canadian Jewish News*, Dry Bones made its Israeli debut in the *Jerusalem Post* on Jan. 1, 1973, supposedly the first political cartoon strip in Israel.

If you appreciate Kirschen's wit, you'll surely like *What a Country!* (The Jewish Publication Society), a catalogue of his finest work of the past two decades. A New Yorker who settled in Israel in 1971, Kirschen is fearless, shrinking from no worthy target. The result, as you can imagine, is gratifying.

Yossi Klein Halevi, a *Jerusalem Report* writer, provides a lengthy and rather useful introduction.

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Rabbinic Reflections

Leadership styles vary but goals are the same

By RABBI JAY KELMAN

One of the critical issues facing the Jewish (and non-Jewish) world today is finding the right people for leadership roles. In addition to having the ability to spell out a vision, plenty of patience and Solomonic diplomatic skills, one must deal with the invariable complaining of others, whose criticism is often far from constructive. Two of our greatest leaders, namely Moses and Aaron, were not spared the bickering of an often "unhappy public."

Moses' leadership is epitomized by uncompromising truth. We are taught that *"Moshe emet v'Torato emet"* — Moses is truth and his Torah is truth. Truth does not allow for compromises and consequently demands perfection. Moses could not tolerate a "golden calf" and reacted by smashing the tablets containing G-d's law. The Jewish people in his eyes were not fit to receive such a gift. This is what truth demands.

When the Jewish people complained that there was no water, Moses rebuked them, calling them a "rebellious people," which was the truthful description of their behavior. In despair at one point, Moses even asked that his name be removed from the Torah, as he did not want to be associated with a people whose behavior left so much to be desired.

Aaron, on the other hand, represents compromise, the striving for peace at almost any cost. He is the *"ohev shalom v'rodef shalom"* — lover of peace and seeker of peace. He therefore did not berate the Jewish people for wanting to make a calf — rather, he tried to offer an alternative approach.

Both types of leadership are necessary and have their rightful place. They are different approaches to a similar goal, namely to inspire people to strive to greater heights in all spheres of life so that they can reach their potential.

As inspiring as they were, however, even Moses and Aaron could not elevate the Jewish people beyond their "slave mentality" and it would take another generation (with different leaders) for the Jewish people to enter Israel.

As most of us are aware, the rabbis in the Talmud linked the destruction of the Beit Hamikdash to sinat chinam — needless hatred amongst Jews. The Talmud (Gittin 56a) places the blame for sinat chinam squarely on the shoulders of the rabbis and leaders of that generation.

In describing the paradigm case of hatred, the Talmud describes a party in which a mistakenly invited guest is tossed out despite his offering to pay for the entire event in order to prevent personal embarrassment. The leading rabbis of the day witnessed the entire event and said nothing — in essence acquiescing to this act.

When the aggrieved party incited a plot to gain revenge, the rabbis knew about it, but again did nothing. In the words of the Talmud, they were concerned with *yomru* — what people would say. Instead of being concerned with what was right, they were concerned with the image that would be presented. No wonder hatred was rampant.

Leadership is a challenging role. True leadership means doing what one really believes to be right even if one must act alone. By displaying this type of leadership, we can lay the foundation of a society which will be based on ahavat chinam — loving all Jews without reservation.

Rabbi Jay Kelman is the associate rabbi at Beth Jacob Anshe Drildz in Toronto.

Climbing Torah's ladder

JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

By ELLIOTT MALAMET

Judaism is about doing, and in anything Jewish that you are doing, *include the kids*, even when they are little. When you light Shabbat candles, the kids should be there and they should help (setting up the candles, learning the blessing). Stress to them that a candle is lit for each child, that each Jewish soul is indispensable and loved by God. Judaism can be an incredibly nurturing experience for a child.

The children should be included when you make Kiddush on Friday night. As soon as they begin to talk, they should be taught how to say it, starting with the blessing over wine.

Give your children a tzedakah box that is their responsibility, their home project. Take kids to visit people in the hospital and expose them early in life to the idea of moral obligation to others. Children feel empowered by our expectations that they have Jewish responsibilities, which they are capable of carrying out.

But all this presupposes that there is some practical Jewish activity in the parents' lives. Let us take, for example, the onset of Shabbat. It is Friday afternoon. What happens in your house? Does Mommy and/or Daddy come home earlier from work that day? Do the children see in any tangible way that Shabbat is coming? Is there Jewish music on the stereo? Are there visible preparations for this holy day? Or is it business as usual?

Perhaps part of the problem is that our generation — not just kids, but their parents too — often associates religion with boredom. Tell the children Jewish stories, play Jewish games, show Jewish videos. And let's reward them for getting involved.

Bribe the children to learn about Judaism? Well, that's the advice of our sages, who recommend that children be given encouragement and incentives to get involved in Jewish learning and practice.

In his commentary on the Mishnah, Maimonides writes the following: "A child does not understand the perfection which he can achieve by means of Torah. Of necessity, therefore, the teacher ... must bribe him to study by means of things which the child loves in a childish way. Thus the teacher may say, 'Read, and I will give you some nuts or figs; I will give you a bit of honey.' With this stimulation, the child tries to read. He does not work hard for the sake of reading itself, since he does not understand its value. He reads in order to obtain the food."

Maimonides adds that this is the way the child climbs, rung by rung, up the ladder of Torah. "As the child grows, his mind improves. What was formerly important to him loses its importance while other things become precious."

While Maimonides terms this state of affairs as "deplorable," he also cautions that is "unavoidable." Written in the 12th century, his words ring true to contemporary parents. As children grow older, they can be guided to a path that is less contingent on tangible rewards, but the most important factor in exciting young kids about Judaism is that they learn to develop positive associations. Pleasure is not a dirty word; if it's not pleasurable, you will soon find that their heads and hearts will easily gravitate to something else.

Jewish Life

Tisha b'Av a reminder to confront responsibilities

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

Tisha b'Av is approaching and once again we are reminded of tragic moments in our nation's history. Both the Jewish Temples were destroyed on this date, resulting in the exile of the Jewish people from our land. Being dispersed among the nations with no internationally recognized land to call home led to countless persecutions and further destruction on mass levels. We still live among witnesses to the most recent horror, the Holocaust.

Jews often struggle with the question of where God was during all our trials. What happened to the Protector of Israel? The pivotal moment in our relationship with God is traditionally viewed as the destruction of the Temple and all the questions can be collected into a resounding cry of "why?" Yet the Book of Eichah, written by the prophet Jeremiah and read on Tisha b'Av forces another question to the forefront.

The book begins with Jeremiah viewing the devastation of Jerusalem and uttering the haunting words "*Eichah yashvah badad*," often translated as "Alas — she sits in solitude!" The midrash, Talmud and classical commentaries debate the translation of the opening word, *eichah*. Some commentaries understand it as "why this?" — in effect echoing the question of "why."

The midrash claims *eichah* is an exclamation of anguish and thus the English uses "alas." The literal meaning of the word is not "why," but "how." The midrash has captured the essence of the word, for the question of "how" is in fact an anguished outcry. It is not the passive grief conveyed in the word "alas;" it is the active demand that is called out in the anger of "how." Jeremiah is not confronting the Creator demanding an explanation or justification from God. Jeremiah is directing his words to the very people to whom he directed his prophecies: his fellow Jews.

The rabbis in the Talmud state that the second Temple was destroyed because of baseless hatred. The Jewish people of the time could not find unity amongst themselves. They could only see their differences and they allowed these differences to tear the nation apart.

Jeremiah witnessed the destruction of the first Temple, but his question remains valid for the future as well. To ask "why" is to invite a theological debate with God over history and promises and covenants. To ask "how" is to confront the people and force them to acknowledge responsibility. To ask "how" is to hold a mirror to his listeners and force them to look into it.

The Jewish people today are challenged by serious internal conflicts. We question Jewish continuity, recognition of diverse interpretations. Some Jewish leaders are beginning to question financial contributions to the state of Israel because of political agendas. It is our differences that have become our focal point and we are allowing these differences to tear us apart.

Jeremiah, being a true prophet, issues his warning every year as we read his words on Tisha b'Av. May we never sit in the future and have our children turn to us and have to ask us "how."

Mourning laws and customs available on the Internet

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Next Monday night, Jews observe Tisha b'Av and remember the destruction of the Temples and many other calamities that have befallen our people **[http://www.virtual.co.il./city_services/holidays/3weeks/]**.

Tisha b'Av is unique among the holidays because on this day everyone adopts the rituals of mourning. So I felt that this would be an appropriate time to see how the Jewish Highway deals with a difficult subject: death. From the moment of death to the burial to the remembrance, Judaism provides many traditions and rituals. Understandably, this is the kind of information people rarely discuss. The Internet is a good place to find it.

For a very good overview about death in Judaism and care for the dead, see **[http://user03.blue.aol.com/jewfaq/plain/death.htm]**. Congregation Shaarey Zedek of Southfield, Mich., has also prepared a comprehensive Bereavement Guide **[http://uscj.org/michigan/s-fielcs/bergde.html]**. And Rabbi Ari Mark Cartun, of Stanford University Hillel, has compiled a Web site on Jewish Mourning Laws and Customs **[http://hillel.stanford.edu/Being_Jewish/mourning.html]**. In addition to reviewing some of the basic laws, he also takes a look at the Jewish perspective on cremation, embalming, autopsies, suicide and "the mitzvah of donating organs."

I was very moved by Steven Weintraub's Taharot Procedure Description **[http://www.pswtech.com/~stevenw/jewish/taharot.html]**. He has included a fascinating article detailing the preparations for burial by the members of a chevra kadisha. What comes through in this article is the sanctity with which the deceased is treated. For example, the writer never refers to the "body," but to the "person," since "the deceased is still a person, and all due respect should still be given the person during the procedure." A truly sobering article.

What also becomes evident is the selfless dedication of the chevra kadisha. The International Burial Society based in Jerusalem wants to encourage the use of Jewish burial customs worldwide and, in an interesting use of new technologies, to get its ancient message out **[http://www.shemayisrael.co.il/burial/letter.htm]**.

One of the most interesting places that I have visited is Liberal Judaism's Death and Dying discussion area **[http://www.compclass.com/mlj/category/c13.html]**. There were discussions about everything from non-Jewish burials in Jewish cemeteries to the proper yahrzeit candle glasses. One particularly heartbreaking exchange looks at how victims of parental sexual and physical abuse should observe their parents' yahrzeits **[http://www.comp class.com/mlj/subject/s2438.html]**.

Next week, the Jewish way of remembering the dead.

***

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Jewish Life

Rabbi links science with messianic expectations

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Scientific discoveries can help us see that redemption is near, asserts Rabbi Shimon Silman, director of the Rabbi Yisroel Aryeh Leib Research Institute on Moshiach and the Sciences.

Rabbi Silman was speaking at a program on Science and Technology in the Messianic Era, sponsored by the International Campaign to Greet Moshiach, a group of Lubavitch supporters who believe that the late Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, is the Messiah.

The event was held at B'nai Torah Synagogue in North York.

Contrary to what some people believe, the rabbi said, science and Torah are not mutually exclusive.

"It says in Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) that everything G-d created, He created for His glory – not just the earth, stars and sun, but physical and intellectual creation as well. Science, reason and logic are a creation of HaShem, to reveal His glory and honor to the world."

Anyone who sees a conflict between science and Torah, Rabbi Silman said flatly, "hasn't done enough scientific research."

Science "is preparing the world for the coming of the Messiah."

On the most basic level, he said, advances in technology "can be used to bring the knowledge of HaShem to the world," such as through satellite communication, and now, the Internet, "where you can join a shiur [class] on Gemara, or on Tanya [seminal writing on Chassidus]."

Science can also help us understand the ways of G-d: "A tiny video camera can film everything we do and replay it years later. How much more so can G-d watch what we do and remember."

Most importantly, Rabbi Silman said, science "shows the world that there is unity in nature."

Before 1840, he said, the prevailing view was that every force of nature was completely independent. Maxwell's equation, put forward in 1840, showed "the unity [between] magnetism and electric force."

Interestingly, said Rabbi Silman, 1840 was also when the philosophy of Chassidus, which is based partly on the unity of heaven and earth, was revealed.

Atomic theory, he said, showed that one atom is no different than another — that an atom of iron is the same as an atom of gold, except that the protons, neutrons and electrons making up the two are arranged differently.

This knowledge, he said, is "preparation for the absolute unity of G-d, which will be revealed in the era of the Messiah."

One of the most important signs that the messianic age has arrived, is the fulfilment of the prophesy in Isaiah: "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares."

Rabbi Silman noted that there are several examples of this: the injunction by the U.S. Pentagon that any military research must have peaceful ramifications; the development of a nuclear reactor that cannot be used to make bombs; the use of spy technology to find natural resources underground; and the development of a headset used by combat pilots during the Gulf War into a means to assist people with poor vision.

Rabbi Schneerson, who Rabbi Silman referred to only as "the Rebbe, Melech Hamashiach" (the Rebbe, the king, the Messiah), over the years made stronger and stronger statements heralding the messianic age.

His first point, was the "ingathering of the exiles," referring to the vast numbers of Jews who left Russia "peacefully and with the help and encouragement of the Russian government," rather than being forced to leave.

In every generation, Rabbi Silman said, the Shchinah, the spirit of G-d, which remained with the Jews when they were exiled from Israel, is strongest in one particular shul, and "from that shul, G-d's presence will return to Jerusalem."

That shul is 770 Eastern Parkway, Lubavitch headquarters, the rabbi said.

"The expansion of 770 is connected to the rebuilding of the Third Temple. When it is complete, the shul, along with the Rebbe, Melech Hamashiach, and the Shchinah and the Jewish people will all go to Israel together."

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NCJW exhibit on tap

TORONTO — The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) of Canada is marking its 100th birthday this year with an archival exhibit to open Sept. 22 at the Multicultural Historical Society of Ontario, in conjunction with NCJW's biennial convention.

Among the items on display will be photographs, newsletters, newspaper articles, invitations and correspondence contributed by active NCJW sections in Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, London, Toronto, Hamilton and Montreal, and former sections including Victoria, Calgary, Lethbridge, Regina, Saskatoon, Welland, Ottawa and Quebec City.

The exhibit will remain in Toronto until Nov. 30, after which it is scheduled to travel to Vancouver and other cities.

"One hundred years of service and volunteer dedication is a milestone to celebrate and a tribute to women's initiatives and achievements," said Gita Arnold, co-chair of the archival exhibit committee. "This exhibit gives us the opportunity to portray the meaningful and diverse role women have played and continue to play in our national history.

"We are grateful to the Multicultural History Society of Ontario for their assistance and support in assembling this invaluable collection and making it accessible," said co-chair Frances Mandell.

With a focus on service, education and social action, NCJW is a Canada-wide network of volunteers committed to addressing community needs. The organization offers programs and educational opportunities to youth, seniors, families, new Canadians and the disadvantaged.

The biennial convention, being hosted by NCJW Toronto Section Sept. 20 to 23, will include discussion on child poverty and literacy in Canada, and NCJW's role in addressing these issues into the 21st century.

Community Matters

COMMUNITY BRINGS BRANSON BACK TO LIFE

A few weeks ago North York Branson Hospital was terminally ill. Today, thanks to an unprecedented community campaign, Branson's life has been restored although its future remains uncertain.

The dose of relief came on July 23rd when the Health Services Restructuring Commission announced Branson would not be closed but would instead operate as an ambulatory care facility.

When the Metro District Health Council recommended the closure of Branson along with 10 other Toronto area hospitals, a loud cry was heard in the city's north end. The voices of thousands of Branson area residents, mostly elderly, demanded the hospital stay open.

Almost immediately after the shocking announcement UJA Federation and Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, together with Branson hospital, began mobilizing the community for what would become an emotional two year battle. Rallies were organized, petitions signed, telephone calls to MPPs and desperate pleas were made, not just on behalf of the threatened hospital, but on behalf of a community which saw the facility as a lifeline.

The high concentration of elderly Jews living in Branson's service area and the loss of the hospital's ethno-specific services such as kosher meals and an on-site chapel, raised the issue to the top of the community's agenda. Strong submissions were sent to the Metro District Health Council and the Health Services Restructuring Commission urging re-consideration of Branson's closure. In the end the community was heard but the final results fell short of hopes.

Although Branson will remain open as an ambulatory care facility, management of the hospital will be handed over to North York General and much uncertainty remains around Branson's emergency capabilities.

"Although we could consider this a victory," says Alan Sandler, Vice President of Community Planning and Allocations at UJA Federation, "the situation is certainly not ideal and a lot of questions remain." Sandler is still unclear about whether Branson will have the ability to stabilize heart attack and other emergency cases before sending the patients to another hospital. CJC, Ontario Region Vice-Chair Harold Brief is also concerned about whether Branson, under North York General's management, will continue to offer ethno-specific services.

"There remains a real concern among seniors about Branson's future. They're afraid of losing a unique facility where Jews, Seventh Day Adventists and others feel comfortable and receive quality care."

Thousands of Branson supporters made their voices heard at Queen's Park.

Branson President and CEO Jack Gallop confirms that details about the nature of the Branson/North York General relationship and many other issues such as staff placements, still need to be worked through. Nonetheless, Gallop remains confident that Branson will continue to provide a full range of services. "We have such excellent surgical facilities and expertise that should not go to waste," he says.

"Although many unanswered questions remain, we are relieved about the decision to keep our hospital open and we are tremendously grateful for everyone's support," Gallop added.

SENIORS CONCERNED

Marion Greenberg is worried the hospital that saved her life twice won't be around the next time she needs help. Greenberg, who suffered her first heart attack in 1963 and a second one last year resulting in a triple by-pass operation, says she wouldn't be alive today if it were not for Branson being so close by.

Marion Greenberg credits Branson hospital for making sure she had many more opportunities to spend time with her granddaughter Rebecca.

"Branson saved my life so the least I could do was fight to save Branson," explains Greenberg, who, along with thousands of other seniors living in the area fought to keep the hospital open after the Metro District Health Council announced its closure in 1995.

A brief prepared by UJA Federation and Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, urged the Council to reconsider closing Branson because close to 30,000 people over age 65 living in the hospital's immediate vicinity depend heavily on emergency services.

Many seniors, like Greenberg, were mobilized by the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living's Social Action Committee and the Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens' Organizations.

Social Action Committee coordinator Sheila Zane, says "Branson is closest to our hearts and of paramount interest to all our members." Representatives from the Betel Centre, a UJA Federation funded agency, and other seniors' groups made submissions to the Metro District Health Council and the Health Services Restructuring Commission arguing the loss of Branson would be a terrible blow to the elderly.

71 year old Reta Duenische-Turner feels betrayed. In addition to concern about the hospital's future, she worries about taking two buses and crossing busy intersections for treatment at York-Finch hospital for complications arising from recent knee replacement surgery.

"Branson is ours," she stresses. "It belongs to the community."

Community Power: A Chronology

Toronto's Jewish community, with the full involvement of UJA Federation and Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, played an integral role in pleading the case for keeping Branson's doors open. The following chronology traces some of the highlights of the* Save Branson Save Lives *campaign.

• **SEPTEMBER 1995**
Metro Toronto District Health Council announces hospital closure recommendations. North York Branson Hospital to transfer all services and programs to York Finch Hospital. Consideration will be given to maintaining ambulatory services.

Signing to save Branson

• **OCTOBER 1995**
North York Branson Hospital launches *Save Branson Save Lives* campaign drawing on community support. On October 29, nearly 3,000 community members including North York Mayor Mel Lastman, MPP Monte Kwinter, Metro Councillor Norm Gardner, Defence Minister Art Eggleton and Rabbi Joseph Kelman, attended a rally at Branson protesting the proposed closure.

Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region and UJA Federation make a submission to Metro District Health Council arguing the closing of "this community based medical institution will have a disproportionate effect on the Jewish community." The brief also pointed out that "approximately one third of Branson's in-patients are members of the Jewish community and as many as 50% of those treated in the emergency department or at Branson's various out-patient clinics are Jews."

• **NOVEMBER 1995**
More than 65,000 people signed petitions which were delivered by Mel Lastman to Monte Kwinter for parliamentary reading.

• **FEBRUARY 1996**
Gala fundraising dinner at Beth Emeth Synagogue. More than $62,000 was raised for the Save Branson Save Lives campaign.

• **MARCH 1997**
The 11 member Health Services Restructuring Commission report ordered full closure of Branson. Report specifies that North York General Hospital, York-Central Hospital and York-Finch will service Branson's catchment area.

Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region and UJA Federation make a second submission to the Health Services Restructuring Commission expressing "deep distress" at the Commission's recommendation to close Branson.

• **APRIL 1997**
UJA Federation and CJC write to Ontario Premier Mike Harris and meet with Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick.

• **MAY 1997**
Hundreds attend a joint press conference and rally organized by the Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens' Organizations.

• **JUNE 1997**
CJC and UJA Federation meet with Cam Jackson, Minister responsible for Seniors' Issues.

• **JULY 1997**
The Health Services Restructuring Commission releases final report ordering Branson to merge all services and programs with North York General. Branson to maintain ambulatory centre but management will be turned over to North York General. In-patient services to be split between York-Finch, York-Central and North York General hospitals.

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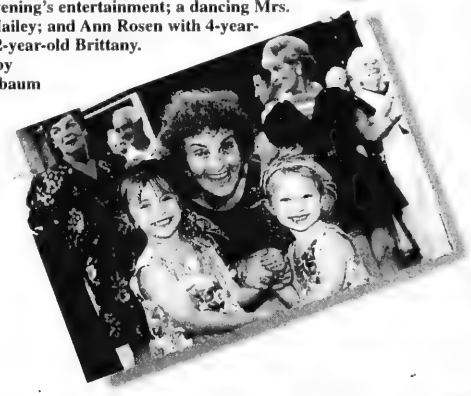

FREILICHE MUSIC

Summer in the city with happy music can be a pure delight, as this group of revellers can attest. Last week in North York, Mel Lastman Square rang with the sounds of freiliche music. Seen in these photos are, clockwise from lower left, Marvin Rosenshein (also known as Marty Rose), who was the emcee for the evening's entertainment; a dancing Mrs. Cohen; Sharon Merten and daughter Hailey; and Ann Rosen with 4-year-old Tiffany Cohen, and 2-year-old Brittany.

Photos by Barry Shainbaum

Baycrest to appeal

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A decision to shut down the 32-bed rehabilitation unit in Baycrest Hospital and transfer it to West Park Hospital will be appealed to the Hospital Services Restructuring Commission.

Baycrest will argue that rehabilitation is an important part of the continuum of care for these patients and alternative options will be proposed to keep them at Baycrest.

A spokesperson for the hospital said that unlike its decisions about acute hospitals, the commission's proposals on chronic care and rehab units are not final and are subject to appeal.

The shift would not take place until March 31, 1998.

The future of the staff assigned to the unit is also in doubt.

CORRECTION

In the article *Thornhill teens finish second in chemistry contest* (*CJN*, July 10), the University of Waterloo was referred to in error as UWO after the first reference. The University of Western Ontario (UWO) was not involved in the contest. *The CJN* regrets the error.

We're saying "thank you".

But, we still have pledges outstanding.

ONLY 4 WEEKS LEFT

Some people who said they would - haven't yet.
Some cards still not finalized.
Some cheques still not signed.
You can still participate in the future of Baycrest.
Join the thousands of people in our community who stood up to be counted - when it mattered.
You still have time to make a difference.
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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
Call 905-660-6028

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Aug. 11, is deadline for Aug. 21 issue and Tuesday, Aug. 19, is deadline for Aug. 28. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Aug. 7

TORAH TOT PRESCHOOL

Torah Tot Preschool Open House in its new facilities at 83 Green Lane (east of Bayview), 7:30-9 p.m. Adults and children are invited to explore the new preschool which includes state-of-the-art playground, big classrooms, modern toys and furniture, warm, caring teachers. 886-0420.

Sunday, Aug. 10

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling hosted by **Alec Gelcer** at 179 Danforth Ave. All welcome to listen and tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 699-8914.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Discussion of *Obasan* by **Joy Kogawa** at session of feminist book club of North York Chapter of Older Women's Network, 2 p.m., North York Community Centre, 505 Lawrence Ave. W. (basement). **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

FLEA MARKET, SALE

Garage sale and flea market at Earl Bales Community Centre and Park, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entertainment noon to 2 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 11

TENNIS FAMILY NIGHT

Free admission for families for the evening session at Canada's international women's tennis championships at the National Tennis Centre at York University, starting at 5:30 p.m. Tennis clinics, music, entertainment and more. Please bring new or used sports equipment to be donated to underprivileged families. Sponsored by Lever 2000. 665-977, ext. 285.

Tuesday, Aug. 12

TISHA B'AV

The community is invited to participate in a series of lectures on the meaning of Tisha b'Av at Beth Jacob Congregation, 147 Overbrook Pl. Mincha 2 p.m. followed by lectures by **Rabbi Yechiel Ben Ayon, Rabbi Moshe Yeres, Rabbi Yitzchak Feigenbaum, Rabbi Jay Kelman** and **Dr. Elliot Malamet**. Rabbi Kelman offers explanations of the Kinnot following Shacharit at 8 a.m. 638-5955.

Thursday, Aug. 14

REGGAE ON THE ROOF

Bloor JCC and Yaffa's Judaica Shoppe present Reggae on the Roof featuring the King of Jewish Reggae **Ronnie Wiseman** plus a guest appearance by **Don Franks**, 7 p.m. $10. Free barbecue 7-9 p.m. Tickets at Bloor JCC front desk. 924-6211.

And What Else Is New

SHABBAT SERVICE

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am annual Shabbat Nahamu outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat service, Friday, Aug. 15, 8 p.m. with **Rabbi Philip Scheim** and **Cantor Yehuda Rottner.** Oneg Shabbat following.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

New beginners Israeli folkdance class with **Teme Kernerman** starts Thursday, Sept. 11, 8-9 p.m. followed by an intermediate level 1 class for those with some experience. Intermediate, advanced, request dancing every Tuesday 8-10 p.m. All classes held in the Studio Theatre of the Leah Posluns Theatre at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. For information, Dance Centre 636-1880, ext. 359 or Teme ext. 364.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

Entertainment '98 discount coupon books, The Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation fundraiser, are $32 per book. Great new offers include hundreds of "two-for-one" discounts for fine dining, family dining, movies, sports activities, special attractions, hotels. Proceeds go to the Woman and Infant Center currently under

[Cont'd on page 19]

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IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher
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Bathurst Street
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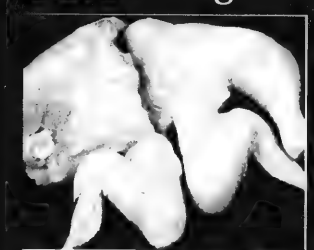

Cut Up Chicken
Fresh! Kosher
5.05 kg
229 lb.

Heinz Vinegar
White or Pickling
4 L jug
.99

Roast Beef
From the Deli, Lavitt's
2.75 /100 g
1249 lb.

Peaches
Product of Ontario
Canada No. 1
299 3 L basket

Single Chuck Steak
Glatt Kosher Beef
9.90 kg
449 lb.

Sardo Chick Peas
540 ml. tin
.69

Peri's Potato Salad
From the Deli,
.99 /100 g
179 lb.

Romaine Lettuce
Product of Canada
.79 lb.

Chicken Breasts
Value Club Pack
Kosher, 7.35 kg
333 lb.

Rippin Striped Dainties
300 g pkg.
149

Apple Pie
From The Bakery
600 g
249

Homestyle Bread
From the Bakery
White or 50% Whole Wheat, 550 g loaf
.99

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, AUG. 3 UNTIL SATURDAY, AUG. 9, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

construction at Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem. Books available early September. Order now. 781-3584.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

The Power of Kabbalah lecture, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 8:30 p.m. Register. No charge.

Tu B'Av lecture and party, Sunday, Aug. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Kabbalah Kids Summer Day Camp for ages 3-12, begins Aug. 18. Register.

Kabbalah Beginners Course, eight weeks, starts Wednesday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m.

MEDINA THEATRE

Medina Theatre Ensemble offers free scenecraft workshops, a box lunch social, play readings and many interesting programs. Membership $25 a year. 633-5136.

HEBREW FOR CHILDREN

Free Hebrew classes for children at two locations: Yorkhill Public School, Mondays and Wednesdays, 5-6:15 p.m., and Alexander Mackenzie High School, Thursdays, 5-7:30 p.m., starting the week of Sept. 8. Sponsored by York Region Board of Education. Register. 905-883-9639.

TORAH STUDY CLASS

A weekly Torah study class is conducted in the Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel on Mondays, 5-6 p.m. All doctors, staff and veterans are invited.

SINGLES SHABBATON

Jewish Singles (25-35) weekend at Camp Wahanowin (near Orillia) Sept. 5-7, with traditional Shabbat experience, Saturday night entertainment and Sunday water sports. $99 before Aug. 27, $125 after Aug. 27. **Celia** 787-9811.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Yiddish classes for adults, beginners, intermediate, advanced, start this fall. Teachers **Richard Bassett, Marc Kates, Ellie Moidel, David Newman.** New course, Yiddish Literature in translation with Ellie Moidel. Sunday morning free Yiddish classes for children. Yiddish Education Hotline 635-2883, ext. 700.

Visit the Yiddish Table at Ashkenaz.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan summer Shabbat services every Saturday 10 a.m. at Bloor Jewish community Centre (Bloor and Spadina), Room 204 upstairs. This is a diverse group and welcomes singles of all ages, families of all varieties, and children. Next service is Aug. 9.

Service to commemorate Tisha b'Av Monday, Aug. 11, 7:30 p.m.

PREPARING FOR SCHOOL

Jewish Vocational Service is offering students in Grades 7-9 an opportunity to develop skills to improve school performance and become more effective, efficient learners. Students will learn listening and organizational skills as well as practical strategies for note-taking and test-writing. The four-session workshps of two hours each are offered daily Aug. 25-28, morning or afternoon. $100. Pre-register. 787-1151, ext. 2205.

VOLUNTEER USHERS

Toronto Jewish Theatre needs volunteer ushers for the show, *Yiddish is Yiddish* at the Leah Posluns Theatre, Saturday, Sept. 6 at 8:15 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 7, 2:15 and 8:15 p.m. 222-0234.

JEWISH HEALING

National Centre for Jewish Healing conference, *What is Jewish Healing* and *Sustaining Our Spirits*, Sept. 8-9 at the Terrace, Baycrest Centre. For details and brochure, **Etta Ginsberg McEwan**, coordinator of the Toronto Jewish Healing Project. 944-3359.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living has established a respite care program to give caregivers a much needed break. Individuals can volunteer with a friend or alone for these one to three-hour visits. No nursing or physical care is involved. Training and on-going support provided. **Paula Mintzberg** or **Barbara Zigler**, 225-2112.

VENDORS WANTED

Vendors wanted for a craft and gift sale at Bayview Village Mall, Monday, Oct. 13, Thanksgiving Day, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., under the auspices of Beersheba Club, Na'amat Canada. 636-5425 days or **Ruth Jacobson** 493-1089 evenings.

INSTITUTE OF JUDAISM

B'nai Brith Institute of Judaism, Maple Lake Resort and Conference Centre, Parry Sound, Aug. 29-31. Scholar-in-Residence **Prof. David Novak.** Theme: Human Rights in the Jewish Tradition.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Aug. 11, Thornhill Square; Aug. 17, barbecue party; Aug. 19, Royal Ontario Museum; Aug. 26, New Dixie Mall; Aug. 28, **Jolson** at Royal Alexandra Theatre; Sept. 17, Casino Rama; Sept. 22-23, Haliburton; Sept. 25, Casino Niagara; Oct. 26-31, Washington and Atlantic City; Nov. 5, shopping in Buffalo. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 14 is a National Geographic video, *Heart of Africa*, about unusual animals and nature. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Ottawa Aug. 17-19. In the planning: Niagara Casino, musical in Toronto in November, opening musical luncheon. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Sunrise Group Catskills trip to Pines Hotel Aug. 11-15, $595, includes one day in New York with guide, medical insurance. **Esther** 223-9165.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Annual Open House, Celebrate 15 Fulfilling Years, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., entertainment, food, displays, programs in action, news about fall classes and events, sidewalk sale, book sale, door prizes. Free admission.

Gala dinner dance celebrating 15th anniversary, Thursday, Aug. 14, 6-10 p.m., with **Rachel** and **Morris Kastoryano** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**. Members $15, non-members $20.

Lifelong Learning Institute presents Jewish Artists of the 19th and 20th Centuries, Part II, with **Edith Altschuler**, Tuesday, Aug. 12, 10 a.m. **Bookie Kwart**

Parkinson's Support Group meets Tuesday, Aug. 12, 1:15 p.m. **Bonnie Bereskin**, speech language therapist, presents A Tough Pill to Swallow, a talk on swallowing problems in Parkinson's.

The Wellness Centre and the Awareness Project on Abuse of the Elderly co-sponsor The ABC's of Fraud, presented by the Volunteer Centre of Metro Toronto, Thursday, Aug. 14, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Movie *Easter Parade* Sunday, Aug. 10, 2:15 p.m.

Israeli Etrog Club meets Wednesdays 7 p.m. Aug. 13 is the Open House. **Anna.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Senior Adult Services presents Luxor Productions in a dazzling show of music and dance Tuesday, Sept. 16, at Leah Posluns Theatre. Reserved tickets now on sale. $10. For information, **Teme Kernerman**, ext. 364.

ABOUT PEOPLE

MARCH OF THE LIVING

Barry Rishikof has been appointed Canadian chair of the 1998 March of the Living. He succeeds **Joan Stevens**, **Stanley Plotnick** and **Rosanne Ain**, who chaired the three previous Marches respectively.

Barry Rishikof

DISABLED VETERANS

Ralph Snow was re-elected president of Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel-Beit Halochem Canada, at its annual general meeting which marked the 19th anniversary of the organization in Canada.

Snow is a long-standing member of Beit Halochem, has been national president of B'nai Brith Canada and is current chair of Sunnybrook Hospital's Jewish Chapel.

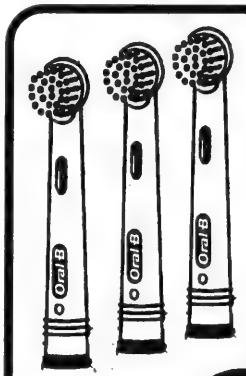
Also elected were vice-presidents **Toby Feldberg**, **Donna Glassman-Welman** and **Peter Sevitt** who also serves as treasurer; **Hope Maissner** as secretary; **Irit Nayot** and **Diane Shiffman**, members-at-large.

OCICB APPOINTMENT

Linda Abrams has been appointed vice-chair, Ontario Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. A litigation lawyer with Tory Tory DesLauriers & Binnington, Abrams has been a board adjudicator since 1994. She is also a member of the board of governors of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

SPRING FASHION TEA

National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, held a Spring Fashion Tea at the home of Esther and Marvin Tile. Ruti Kinar, wife of the Consul General of Israel was honorary chair. From left are Sheila Mostyn, executive president; Roz Fine, president; Barbara Greenglass, chairman of the board, Ruti Kinar and Esther Tile.



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On Campus

STUDENTS TALK PLURALISM WITH RABBI GREENBERG

Rabbi Irving (Yitz) Greenberg, back row centre, of CLAL - The National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership, met with Jewish student leaders from southern Ontario and Montreal, and Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto staff, during a recent visit to Toronto. The breakfast dialogue on Pluralism in the Jewish Community and How It Affects Campus Life was hosted by Beth Tikvah Synagogue, where Rabbi Greenberg was visiting scholar.

Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and continue any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Happy 50th birthday, Philip Reyzen from Andrea & Stephen Streichfield, Steven Reyzen, Idie & Avi Reyzen and Rivanne, Randy, Michelle & Daniel Legatis.

Mazel tov Phil & Hilda [illegible] on your 50th anniversary, April 20. Love, Marty & Lynda Fisher, Paula Baker, Tova, Sima, Aaron, Sarah, Ari and Esther.

Mazel tov Kitty & Paul Tepperman on your 30th anniversary, July 9, from Joe & Josie, Lil & Morris, Marni & Jason, Aimée & Alex.

Marcia & Gary Kirshner, Lisa, Lindsay & Monty Kagan announce the engagement of Robin & Stephen. Mazel tov from their delighted grandparents.

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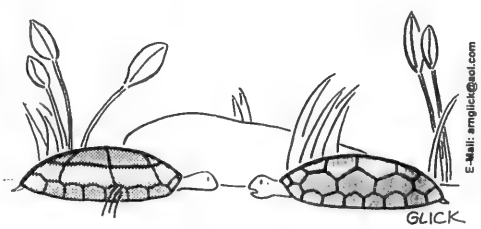
תודה, מרים. לספר קוראים The Children of Nenverland והוא עוסק בדברים שגורמים לילדים לא למצות את הפוטנציאל שלהם. הוא מסכם הרבה מעבודות המחקר שלי בבית החולים. אני מתרגם לך פרק שעוסק בעוני, מנקודת ראות ישראלית:

"אני בטוח שלא שמעתם עדיין על חסן ג'מיל. הוא היה בן חמש שנים כשראיתי אותו בפעם האחרונה במחלקתנו. הוא סובל ממום בלב מלידה. סמוך ללידתו הועבר לראשונה לתל השומר ונותח בליבו. מאז נותח עוד פעם ואושפז פעמים רבות. לא הייתי מטריח אתכם בסיפורו של חסן ג'מיל, אלמלא היה גר באל-עריש, ומאז הסכם השלום והחזרת עירו למולדת - חדל לבוא! זאת אומרת, חדלו להביא אותו. זה מוזר לחשוב על בעיות כאלה קטנוניות כשפורץ שלום כזה גדול. ובכל זאת, עובדה, יש הרבה אימהות באל-עריש ובסנטה קטרינה ובכל מיני פינות אחרות בסיני שהיו מוכנות שהשלום יידחה באיזה חצי דור - או, לפחות, עד שילדיהן החולים יגדלו. טוב, בטח שאנחנו לא המצאנו את הרפואה. אבל הסיכוי שחסן ג'מיל יגיע לקהיר אחת לשבועיים למעקב רפואי שואף לאפס. אני יודע שהרבה גבות מתרוממות לשמע טיעוני הקלושים, בסגנון "זאת בכלל לא הבעיה שלנו - זב"ם"! כן, אבל אם הייתם רואים חמש שנים ברציפות את חסן ג'מיל,ילד ביישן עם עיניים אפורות בנעלי בית מפלסטיק, הייתם מדברים אחרת.לפני כמה שנים, במילואים, טסתי ל א-טור להביא יולדת שהתקשתה בלידתה. שם בין הדיונות עמדו בידואים, משתוממים על היהודים המוזרים, שמנסים לשנות את המהלך הטבעי של הלידה. הרי כבר אלפי שנים נולדים ילדים בדיונות. את אלה שמתים קוברים בחול.לעתים גם האם נפטרת, ועושים בור יותר גדול. ועכשיו,טראח! באים היהודים ומפנים את הבדואיות לאילת, לניתוח קיסרי על פי מיטב הטכניקות של הדור. עכשיו החזירו את ההיסטוריה. חסן ג'מיל ורבים מחבריו יעברו את מה שמקנים ברפואה "המהלך הטבעי של מחלתם". קורבנם הקטן לשלום.

על הבחירה בין ישראל ועמק אמריקה:

דברים נפלאים בשם אומרם: זוהי כתבה של טלי בשן מירחון"את" במרץ 1997. "נסעתי לקליפורניה להירגע מהלחץ, מהעצבנות, מהחדשות... מחפקקים,-וגם לבחון שוב, באור חדש, את הזכרונות מעמק הסיליקון, מקום בו בילינו ארבע וחצי שנים, יחד עם עוד הרבה משפחות ישראליות. .....לא פעם, בעודי יושבת על המים בסן פרנסיסקו... שאלתי את עצמי: למה חזרנו, בעצם? החיים כאן כל כך שלווים,כל כך טובים.... שוב נוכחתי בכמה שבעצם זכרתי: זה הקרע ההוא, חדילמה בין הישראליות לאמריקאניות שמציק ולא נותן מנוח... ברגע שהינחת רגל במקום שמחוץ לישראל, פתחת פתח לדילמה אישית שלעולם אינה נפתרת. וגם אם פתרת לעצמך, כביכול, את דילמת ההשתייכות המנטלית שלך, ההורים שלך או הבנים שלך מחזירים אותך שוב ושוב, בלי הנחות, למוקד הבעיה. יש שליבם נוקף על הורים שמזדקנים בישראל לבד,....ומצד שני נערים ונערות שגדלו... עם זהות כפולה מתעקשים פתאום לנסוע ארצה לשרת בצ"הל... וככה זה הולך, במעגלים חוזרים על עצמם... וזה לא נגמר אף פעם כל עוד יושבים באמריקה... לא קל בישראל, זה ברור. מסוכן ומיוזע ויקר... והאגרסיביות חוגגת, אבל לפחות את הקרע ההוא המתמיד והמציק חסכנו מעצמנו. והיום אני יודעת: גם השלמות הזו, הפשוטה... של חיים בלי דילמה של השתייכות- היא סוג של איכות חיים." אשמח לקבל תגובות.

SHMOOZIN



E-Mail: arnglick@aol.com

"I once got called up for an aliyah. Unfortunately, by the time I made it to the bimah, it was time for Havdalah."

PHYSICS OLYMPIAD MEDALIST

Joel Kamnitzer, 18, of Toronto, won a silver medal at the 28th International Physics Olympiad. He ranked 47th of the 264 participants from 56 countries, and was the highest-scorer of the five Canadians, who beat out 3,000 hopefuls to represent Canada. Kamnitzer attends services at Shaar Shalom Congregation and will be attending the University of Waterloo on a scholarship this fall.

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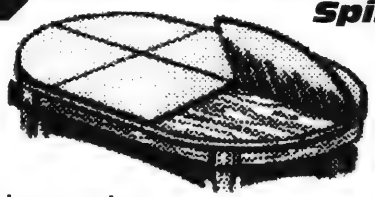

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Reconstructionist Judaism growing by leaps and bounds

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Reconstructionism in the United States and Canada is growing by leaps and bounds – 15 to 20 percent a year. And that's a sign that more and more North American Jews are looking for spiritual and intellectual paths to Jewish identification, a leading figure in the movement said during a recent visit to Montreal.

In an interview with *The CJN*, Dr. David Teutsch, president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia, said the movement's biggest challenge these days has been to keep up with the demand.

"We have to be able to train rabbis in sufficient numbers to keep up with the movement," Teutsch said.

"We need them for congregations, Hillels, college campuses, chaplaincy departments, communal organizations and Jewish educational centres."

Teutsch attributed the growth in his movement's popularity to several factors. But one of the most important is Reconstructionism's ability to satisfy the spiritual and intellectual longings of North American Jews within the movement's "democratic" structure.

He noted that while Reconstructionism does not encourage intermarriage, congregations welcome intermarrieds and converts – in fact, anyone who considers him or herself Jewish and who "wants to be part of the Jewish community."

Chavurah group

In Canada, the increase in reconstructionist activity has been harder to measure because Jews tend to be attracted to more conventional streams.

But despite having only two bona fide congregations – in Toronto and Montreal – an informal Ottawa chavurah group has been seeing a steady growth, Montreal's Reconstructionist Synagogue Rabbi Ron Aigen noted.

Teutsch said that more and more, Reconstructionism is drawing adult Jews seeking the movement's "inclusive" approach.

While the Jews who come originate from all branches of Judaism, from Orthodox to secular, Teutsch discounted the notion that Reconstruction's rise in popularity has been the result of attracting assimilated Jews or drawing away disenchanted Jews from other streams.

He thinks, rather, it has been the movement's increased focus on the study of Jewish texts, on "spirituality" and the arts, without sacrificing its democratic and intellectual underpinnings.

"We are talking about wonderful values not bound by halachic decisions," Teutsch said.

He believes the increased interest in "spirituality" within Reconstructionism reflects a shift from 30 to 50 years ago.

He said previous generations of reconstructionist Jews who rejected "theistic" approaches have been succeeded by generations with a more "integrated" outlook.

"Now those with modest beliefs want paths into Jewish living," he said.

In Philadelphia, Teutsch noted, the increased interest in Reconstructionism has taken the form of a centre for Jewish ethics at the college and an expansion into the arts.

The college even boasts a vocal group called the Api Chorus.

Teutsch said that while Reconstructionism is still rejected by more fundamentalist elements within Judaism, the movement has friends within mainstream Orthodoxy who possess a "pan-communal" philosophy.

Still, Reconstructionism has been gun shy about being perceived as too "liberal."

While accepting intermarried couples, the movement discourages intermarriage and most rabbis will not perform mixed couple marriage ceremonies (although some rabbis agree to bear witness at civil marriage ceremonies).

The movement has also made welcoming overtures towards the gay Jewish community in terms of being "inclusive," but leaves it up to individual congregational rabbis as to whether to perform "commitment" ceremonies.

"We are more prone to providing guidelines than rules," Teutsch said.

Rabbi Aigen noted that in Montreal, the Reconstructionist Synagogue (Dorshei Emet) is planning an event next Sukkot in support of the Jewish AIDS hospice being organized by the National Council of Jewish Women.

From coast to coast

Sephardi engineer played key role in PEI bridge

By ELIAS LEVY
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Confederation Bridge, which has linked New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island since May 31, is an imposing architectural structure that took 44 months and about $1 billion to build.

The principal shareholder of the Strait Crossing Development Inc. (SCDI), the consortium that headed the project, is JANIN, the Montreal-based subsidiary of GTMI (Canada), a French multinational that holds 49.9 percent of the shares. The other two firms involved in the project, Ballast Nedam Canada Limited and Strait Crossing Inc., hold 35.1 and 15 percent respectively of the shares.

To build the 12.9-kilometre bridge, concrete components of up to 7,500 tonnes were prefabricated on land and then assembled and installed in the Northumberland Strait. This was accomplished by using the Svanen system, an innovation of the project.

"Thanks to the Svanen system, the heavy elements of the bridge were placed in the sea with centimetre precision," said deputy project director, Gabriel Soudry, vice-president GTMI (Canada) Inc. and JANIN. "Unique of its kind, the Svanen is a 102-metre high (equivalent to a 30-storey building) floating crane with a...capacity of 8,200 tonnes."

As deputy project director, Soudry, who is part of the Montreal Jewish community, answered only to the project director and was responsible for all aspects of the bridge, including operations, engineering and construction, project controls and administrative support.

"Confederation Bridge is the first example of a public-private concession partnership of the BOT (build, operate and transfer) type in Canada," Soudry said. "It is the product of an agreement between the government of Canada and the SCDI consortium. The agreement provides for the financing, design, construction and operation of the bridge for 35 years.

"By its significant participation in the various management phases of the project, in the implementation of its operation and in the legal and financial aspects, the Montreal office of JANIN played a primary role in the realization of this huge undertaking."

According to the Sephardi engineer, who graduated from the Technion Institute in Haifa, the highly original financial plan created within the public-private partnership will benefit all taxpayers and users of the bridge. For the duration of the contract, from May 1997 to the year 2032, the Canadian government will give the consortium an indexed annual payment of $41,900,000, in exchange for financial guarantees by the parent companies of GTMI (Canada) Inc. and Ballast Nedam Canada.

The other source of financing will come from the tolls paid by users of the bridge.

"At the end of the contract, the bridge will be given back to the government of Canada for a symbolic price of $1 and will again become public property," Soudry said.

The builders of Confederation Bridge had to come to terms with climactic and ecological conditions.

Despite the 20 months of winter when it was impossible to work on the frozen sea, the schedule of construction was strictly observed and the bridge was built in the record time of 3½ years. At the peak times, 2,500 people worked full time on the construction site.

It was also necessary to preserve the environmental balance of the Northumberland Strait, which forms an ecosystem whose survival depends to a great extent on the flow of the ice that covers it five months a year. The bridge had to be designed so that it would not hinder that flow, in order not to disturb the lobster population that is one of the principal sources of revenue of the fishing industry of the area.

The consortium took the steps necessary to protect the environments of the region on land and sea, particularly the wetlands and the bird sanctuaries.

This article appeared in French in its original version in the Montreal edition of CJN, *June 19. Translation by Carolan Halpern.*

Israel Bonds to honor Helen 'Dolly' Cohen for volunteer work

By MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON — In 1988, the members of the Adas Israel Men's Club named Dolly Cohen "Man of the Year" for her help and efforts on their behalf. Now, the community's women will also honor Cohen for her many years of dedicated volunteer service at the annual State of Israel Bonds Women's Division luncheon Sept. 10 at Adas Israel Synagogue.

At the luncheon, which will be the Hamilton community's first major fundraiser of the year, the guest speaker will be former Miss America, Bess Myerson.

Cohen, whose name is Helen, has been called Dolly since childhood. She was born and raised in Toronto and started volunteering as a teenager. During World War II, she was recognized for her work with the Women's Volunteer Services. She moved to Hamilton 41 years ago with her husband Ralph and soon became actively involved in the community. She was instrumental in the formation of Aviva chapter of B'nai Brith Women.

Cohen has been an active volunteer with the federation, the Hamilton Hebrew Academy, Jewish National Fund and Bonds. She is also a member of Hadassah-WIZO, ORT and Emunah Women, and has served as co-chair of UJA Women's Division and president of Adas Israel sisterhood.

Cohen has held full-time jobs as secretary with the former Council of Jewish Organizations (now the Jewish Federation of Hamilton-Wentworth & Area) and as secretary/ bookkeeper of Adas Israel Synagogue. She is still working part time in the UJA-Jewish Federation office.

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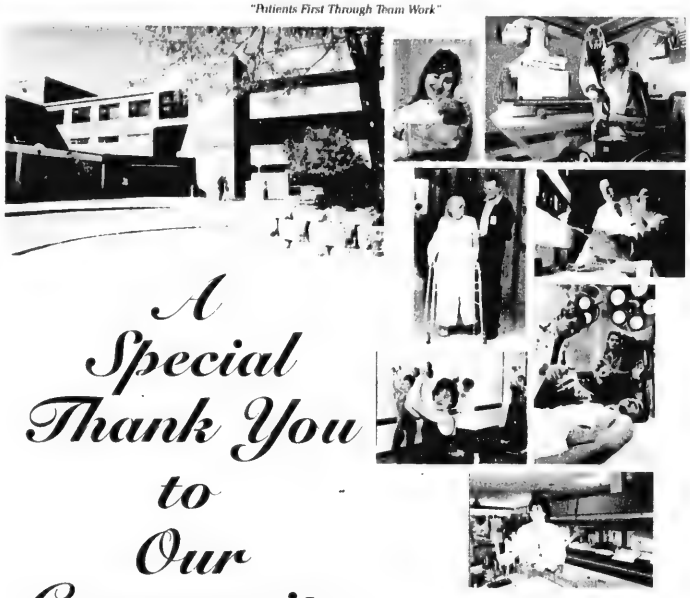

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From coast to coast

Survivor pushing for Romanian pogrom memorial

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A Holocaust survivor from Romania has launched an effort to have a memorial built at Yasi, the site of one of that country's worst pogroms.

Montreal resident Issie Veisfeld recently formed an association called Romanian-Jewish Survivors of the Holocaust, in order to lobby Romanian President Émil Constantinescu through the Romanian embassy in Ottawa.

Veisfeld said he is doing this because Romania's democratic government under Constantinescu has shown a new awareness of Romanian Jewish suffering during the Holocaust, and of the country's complicity in Nazi crimes under the fascist government of Ion Antonescu.

"What this president [Constantinescu] did, no other Romanian president has done before," Veisfeld said. "[So] this is the first opportunity in 56 years" to have a memorial put in place, he said.

The lobbying effort has included soliciting names for a petition brought recently to the embassy and seeking to have Romania's collaboration in the Holocaust incorporated into that country's school textbooks.

Veisfeld has also been soliciting the collaboration of such highly-placed Jewish community figures as Irving Abella and Irwin Cotler.

Another member of Veisfeld's group is a well-known local lawyer of Romanian descent, Dida Berku. Support for the campaign is also being sought from personalities ranging from Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Edgar Bronfman to Pope Jean-Paul II.

The Jews of "Greater" Romania during World War II, which included the areas of Bucovina and Besarabia, numbered 600,000 in1941, but only half that at the end of the war.

On June 29, 1941, 11,200 of Yasi's 17,000 Jews were massacred by local police (members of the Iron Guard) and by Germans, in what Veisfeld said has become known as "Romania's Kristallnacht."

Thousands of Jews were either shot or herded into closed cattle cars, where they were kept in a blistering heat for two days. Then the cattle cars were transported to a nearby town and the bodies dumped into mass graves.

"What we want is for Romania to assume responsibility for the massacre" by setting up the memorial, Veisfeld said.

It should be located at the site where the bodies were dumped into the mass graves, he said.

Veisfeld estimated that 5,000 to 6,000 Jews still live in Romania.

His initiative came shortly after a community commemoration for local Romanian Holocaust survivors was held at the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre.

Veisfeld said his group could eventually link up with an Israeli-based Romanian survivor group, which is seeking financial restitution from the Romanian government for confiscated property and other damages. But he added that his only priority right now is to have the memorial established.

For more information, contact Veisfeld at (514) 676-0687.

GREETINGS

Ehud Barak, leader of Israel's Labor Party, was introduced by Patricia Alpert, national president of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO, at the Jewish Agency assembly in Israel recently.

Lubavitch in Winnipeg to launch summer yeshivah program

By MYRON LOVE
Special to The CJN

WINNIPEG — The Lubavitch movement is starting its first summer yeshivah program in this community on Aug. 6

Similar programs have been set up in a number of other cities, notes Rabbi Avraham Altein, the Lubavitch rabbi in Winnipeg, but they have been more limited.

The Winnipeg program, which will run throughout August, is being partly funded by the 18-month-old Mayer Zev Yeshiva Fund. The teachers are a group of 10 young men from the Lubavitch yeshivah in Detroit, who will be teaching and continuing their studies at the same time.

The yeshivah program is open to anyone who wants to learn in a yeshivah atmosphere, says Rabbi Altein. It will use one-to-one or one-to-two active learning, poring over texts and discussing questions that arise.

He reports that two of the students arrived in the city a little earlier and began phoning people who might be interested in participating in the program.

"A number of people said they were interested in coming," he says. Torah classes will be held in the mornings at Chabad House in north Winnipeg and afternoons and evenings at the new Ohel Menachem Torah Centre that was just dedicated in south Winnipeg on the 3rd of Tammuz, the yahrzeit of Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

"We hope to run this yeshivah program in the summers on a regular basis if this works out," says Rabbi Altein. "We are still looking for other sponsors."

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Parents of missing soldiers still wait for their return

By JANINE MULLER
Special to The CJN

Guest Voices

We've forgotten about them. Fifteen years have passed since three Israeli soldiers were captured in the battle of Sultan Ya'qub in northeastern Lebanon and the names Zachary Baumel, Yehuda Katz, and Tzvi Feldman have all but vanished from the collective national memory.

How could Israel, usually so steadfast in its concern for each of its soldiers, have practically abandoned three of its sons?

The question becomes even more perplexing when we consider the case of Israel's most famous missing soldier, pilot Ron Arad, captured by Amal, a Lebanese Shiite organization, in October 1986. Arad's name has never disappeared from the national agenda. In fact, on May 20, the Knesset commemorated Ron's 39th birthday.

But the mishandling of the search for the missing soldiers by the IDF and the Israeli government has rendered the Sultan Ya'qub affair unique in IDF history. It has also produced a double tragedy for the families of Baumel, Katz and Feldman, who must bear the daily uncertainty about their sons' fate.

On June 11, 1982, six Israeli soldiers went missing after a tank battle between the IDF and Syrian forces in Syrian-controlled Lebanon. Later, three men were returned, but the Syrians denied knowing the whereabouts of the others. On that day, Western journalists and Syrian radio reported that three Israeli soldiers had been paraded through Damascus in a "victory march." Under the 1949 Geneva Convention (Section 2, Articles 11 and 12), Syria is responsible for the fate of these men.

Over the years, there has been a steady flow of information from diplomats, intelligence sources and various groups, including Amnesty International, indicating that at least two out of three of the soldiers are alive. The familes of these soldiers have travelled around the world, meeting with diplomats and politicians on all sides, seeking information about their sons.

Successive Israeli governments and the IDF have desperately tried to locate the missing men but have never succeeded in providing conclusive evidence of the soldiers' fate.

In a 1994 *Jerusalem Post* article, Steve Rodan documented the extent to which the search for the MiAs was plagued from the very beginning by "poor intelligence gathering, interservice rivalries within the IDF... inadequate civilian supervision and unclear guidelines of when a soldier is to be regarded as dead."

The issue of the MiAs has become even more complicated since the government of Israel entered into peace negotiations with the Palestinians in 1994. Initially, the start of negotiations involving Israel, the United States, Syria and the PLO brought new hope to the families of the prisoners that the mystery of their missing sons would be resolved at last. The government knew for certain that for their first year of captivity, the MiAs from Sultan Ya'qub were held by a faction of the PLO and that Yasser Arafat had information concerning the soldiers.

In December 1993, after excessive pressure, Arafat provided Israel with half of Zachary Baumel's dog tag. He promised to bring more information within two weeks and reiterated that promise with the signing of the Cairo Accord on May 4, 1994, and in a signed letter to Yitzhak Rabin on that same day. Four years have passed, and Arafat has remained silent on the issue of the MiAs. He has not, however, hesitated to demand the freeing of Palestinian prisoners, even threatening to halt the peace process if Israel refuses to comply with his demands.

But he needn't have worried. Both the Labor and Likud governments have released hundreds of Palestinian prisoners, without making these releases conditional on the return of our soldiers.

A 1996 Gallup poll, commissioned by the International Coalition for Missing Israeli Soldiers, indicated that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would have the support of 75 percent of Israelis if he demanded that further prisoner releases be conditional on Arafat's compliance on the MiA issue, even if it slows down the peace process. But the current government seems afraid to rock the boat and apparently shares the conviction of the previous Labor government that the issue of the MiAs must not be allowed to interfere with the "peace" process.

How ironic that Baumel, Katz and Feldman have come to be viewed as "obstacles" on the road to peace. It was precisely to secure a measure of peace for the people of the Galilee that they unhesitatingly marched to the fields of battle 15 years ago. And their parents, some of them old and ailing, are still waiting for their sons to come home.

Janine Muller, formerly of Toronto, is a freelance writer in Jerusalem.

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Bloodshed in Machane Yehuda

By MICHELE CHABIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A week that began with promise ended in bloodshed.

The twin suicide bombs that shook Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda last Wednesday not only struck at the heart of the nation's capital but also destroyed any immediate hope of reviving the moribund peace process.

The colorful open-air market, with its maze of stalls filled with fresh produce and noisy vendors, brings tens of thousands of Jerusalemites each day to buy their food. It also attracts many tourists.

The blasts killed at least 13 people, including the two terrorists, who reportedly carried suitcases containing explosives into the heart of the crowded market.

Dressed in black jackets and ties, the two apparently stationed themselves several dozen yards away from each other and, according to an initial inquiry, set off their explosives one after the other.

At least 150 people, including several Arab workers, were injured.

After the bombings, ambulances had to contend with heavy traffic to reach the injured and dead, several of whom were in grave or serious condition. The market skirts Jaffa Road, the busiest street in the capital. Rescue crews had to make their way through thousands of people, many of whom appeared to be in shock.

At the scene, police and soldiers assisted the ambulance crews, who searched through the wreckage for casualties.

An hour later, when the last victims had been rushed to area hospitals, security personnel emptied trash cans in search of other, unexploded bombs.

At the same time, gloved Orthodox men and army medics searched the market for body parts which must all be buried, in accordance with Jewish law.

Standing just outside their shops or behind police barricades, those who escaped injury said they were grateful to be alive.

Last week's attack came on the eve of a planned trip by Dennis Ross, U.S. special Middle East coordinator.

Ross' mission, intended to jump-start the moribund peace process, was postponed "for an appropriate period of mourning," President Bill Clinton announced at the White House after the explosions.

The terrorist attack is the first to strike the centre of Israel in over four months. Two Islamic fundamentalist groups, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, claimed responsibility for the attack.

On March 21, a suicide bomber struck a Tel Aviv cafe, killing three Israelis. Hamas was held responsible for that attack.

The March strike, along with the building of a Jewish housing project in southeastern Jerusalem, led to a virtual freeze in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. After months of inaction, however, there was a short burst of diplomatic activity in the region, including the first high-level meetings between Israelis and Palestinians in months.

Unlike his other recent trips that have proved unsuccessful, Ross was expected to arrive this time armed with a detailed American proposal designed to jump-start the stalled negotiations. The proposal reportedly included a suspension of new construction by Israel in disputed areas and closer security cooperation between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. But the focus on negotiations quickly dissipated as the collective mourning began last week.

Israeli officials said after last Wednesday's attack that no talks can occur until Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat takes concrete action to wipe out the terrorist infrastructure in the autonomous region.

In Washington, Clinton condemned the killings in a special news conference called immediately after the attack. "We must not let the enemies of peace prevail," he said.

Outrage and revulsion at the terror attacks were also felt in Canada, where Jewish groups unanimously condemned the violence and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien expressed "outrage and sorrow" at the bombings.

"These senseless acts of terrorism inflict untold pain and suffering on innocent people," Chrétien said in a release. "To the victims and their families, I offer my heartfelt condolences and prayers.

"Such barbaric acts must not be allowed to destroy the hopes of the people in the region for a just and lasting peace. I urge all parties to resume direct negotiations," he said.

"These attacks are further evidence of the unremitting determination of Islamic extremists to destroy the prospects of peace with Israel," said Stephen Victor, national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC). "It is no coincidence that the attacks occurred only days after a resumption of peace talks between Israel and the Palestinian authority was announced."

Victor called on the Canadian government "to make clear to the Palestinian Authority that its efforts against terrorism must be all-encompassing and not merely episodic." He also said he supported "Israel's right to take all reasonable measures to protect its citizens as it pursues the difficult task of achieving peace with its Arab negotiating partners."

[Cont'd. on page 26]

Relatives of Sami Malka, one of the 13 killed, mourn at his funeral. ***[Photos RNS/Reuters]***

A passerby treats one of the crtically wounded where he lies, burned by the blast of the bomb, on the street.

A general view of the site of the bomb blasts in the market.

One of the wounded is assisted to an ambulance by a policeman and a passerby.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Israel suspends peace talks with Palestinians

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The Israeli government has suspended peace talks with the Palestinians and authorized security forces to arrest suspected terrorists in the self-rule areas if the Palestinian Authority does not take action to fight terrorism.

The decisions were taken at an inner cabinet meeting hours after two suicide bombers detonated explosions in Jerusalem's crowded Machane Yehuda market. At least 15 people died, including the bombers, and more than 170 others were wounded.

Pathologists have identified all but one of the victims.

The names of 10 of the victims were released: Lev Deseitnik, 60, of Jerusalem; Simha Fremd, 92, of Jerusalem; Regina Gibber, 76, of Jerusalem; Shalom Golan, 52, of Jerusalem; Valentina Kovalenko, 67, of Jerusalem; Shmuel Sami Malka, 44, of Mevasseret Zion; David Nasko, 44, of Mevasseret Zion; Muhi Adin Othman, 33, of Abu Ghosh; Leah Stern, 50, of Jerusalem; and Rahel Terniataro, 80, of Jerusalem.

While a statement issued after the cabinet meeting did not explicitly announce a halt in negotiations, it said that Israel was conditioning progress in any future talks on Palestinian action against terrorist groups.

Meanwhile, in Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright announced — in a conclusion reached before the bombings — that the United States could no longer verify that the Palestinians were in compliance with the accords it signed with Israel.

Israeli security forces have arrested 28 suspected Palestinian extremist activists in the West Bank. The Palestinian Authority was also said to have rounded up about 10 suspected Hamas members in Bethlehem.

But Jibril Rajoub, who is in charge of all Palestinian security forces in the West Bank, said that there would be no mass crackdown by his forces as had been carried out after previous terror attacks.

A senior Israeli security source told reporters that the cabinet had authorized Israeli security forces to arrest suspected Islamic extremists operating out of mosques and charitable institutions operating in areas under overall Israeli security control.

The source also disclosed information underscoring Israel's charge that the Palestinian Authority was behind the violence.

The source said that Israel had solid proof linking Palestinian Police Chief Brig. Gen. Ghazi al-Jabali to planned terrorist attacks against Israelis, and that he had personally directed three Palestinian policemen from Nablus who were arrested several weeks ago when they were allegedly on their way to carry out an attack.

The source also said that the head of the Hamas military wing and planner of suicide bus bombings in Jerusalem last year, Mohammad Deif, had at various times received shelter from the Palestinian Authority.

Jabali, in a news conference in the Gaza Strip, dismissed the Israeli charges as "a joke."

Terror bombings denounced

[Cont'd. from page 25]

Canadian Jewish Congress spokesperson Zave Climan noted the attacks were "yet another example to the world of the existential security situation with which Israel must contend."

Climan, chair of Congress' national Israel affairs committee, suggested the attacks were aimed at derailing the peace process. He called on Arafat to "take every possible measure to bring an end to such violence."

B'nai Brith Canada laid much of the blame for the attacks at the feet of the Palestinian Authority (PA). They "are symptomatic of an intensification of incitement against Israelis and Jews by representatives of the PA," said Lyle Smordin, national president of B'nai Brith.

Palestine House in Toronto in its release strongly condemned the bomb attacks, calling them the cowardly attack of "a handful of diehard extremists," and urging all parties to continue with the peace process.

Arafat telephoned both Netanyahu and Israeli President Ezer Weizman to express condolences. But the prime minister rejected Arafat's words, telling him sorrow is not enough. Netanyahu said Arafat must act resolutely against the terrorist organizations.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein denounced the attacks and phoned Netanyahu to express their condolences.

With files from CJN *staff and from Naomi Segal in Jerusalem.*

Carnage in Jerusalem

[Cont'd. from page 1]

way for more police, army and ambulance personnel.

Cars not racing to the scene of the explosions were bumping into each other as they tried to manoeuvre out of the army's way.

Soldiers, with their machine guns swinging on their backs, ran along Kiah and up Jaffa to the scene. Within seven minutes, there were hundreds of soldiers, some dressed in bulletproof vests, others from the bomb squad, all there to help. On the heels of the running soldiers, were haredi men rushing to the scene.

In the bus, everyone was upset. The mood was sullen. A grandmother sat with her 2-year-old grandson hugging him close to her. The chaos outside meant nothing to him. The quiet in the bus didn't seem to affect him. He sat on his grandmother's lap perfectly oblivious to what was going on and drifted off to sleep.

We were one bus stop away from the shuk. Everyone wanted to call their families and friends to say they were okay, but there was only one cellular phone — a little ironic since you can't seem to escape them here at any other given time. The woman with the phone attempted to make her first call, but halfway through her conversation, the battery died.

Because the bus was stopped and there was no chance of moving forward, people were shouting at the driver to open the door.

As soon as he put the radio on, everyone sat down quietly to listen to the news about what was unfolding two blocks away from us. Tears welled up. People on the bus sat with their heads in their hands.

On the street outside, there was a state of confusion and sadness.

A mother and her two daughters were walking up Jaffa Road, just outside the Clal Centre, visibly upset. The younger daughter, about 14, was shaking and crying. Clusters of people were huddled together trying to comfort each other. There were long lines at the pay phones. Many people just stopped in their footsteps and watched as the police and the army took hold of the area.

With the order from a soldier, the bus driver reversed the bus down Jaffa (which is a crazy thing to do on a normal day) to make room for it to turn right and take a detour to the bus station.

The detour through the haredi neighborhoods of north Jerusalem to the bus station took me away from the scene, but the sounds of the bombs exploding, the fear and pain in the eyes of passersby and the images of the soldiers and police racing to help are ingrained in my mind. At the bus station I got off. The sirens were still screaming from all directions of the city.

Nothing has changed

[Cont'd. from page 1]

and that it's their fault, not ours; witness the bodies flung among the stalls of Machane Yehuda.

The Left's pain is no less acute than the Right's. Mourning and rage have always united us. Eventually, however, the Left will remonstrate with the Right, saying its policy is what invited the attacks, accusing the Right of making political hay out of terrorism to justify its program.

Nothing will be the same again, since a nation which buries so many victims can neither forgive nor forget; but nothing will ever change, for there are no miracles, no alternatives, and no way out.

Behold a new entry in our lexicon of tragedies: Machane Yehuda joins Dizengoff, Bus No. 18, Apropos. The list grows longer and longer, tempers grow shorter and shorter, but the situation stays the same — it's the one where we have no alternative. Where it's always deja vu.

Rage and threats? Futile. Blaming ourselves? Unhelpful. The proponents of peace will carry on along the road they began, while those who seek to destroy the peace will continue to launch terrorist attacks.

We will continue to hope and suffer; and we will carry on, fearful, since routine proves stronger than any explosion can be.

Our tears flow, our teeth are clenched tight and the stalls in Machane Yehuda reopen. As I said, we've seen it all before.

Politicians will go on promising the Jews in Israel a life of serenity, peace and security. But the struggle for all that didn't begin 50, or even 100 years ago. It started more than 3,000 years ago, and there's no end in sight.

(The author is an editorial writer for the Israeli daily Ma'ariv.)

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The Week in Israel

July 28

• Israel and the Palestinians agreed to resume discussions on a safe-passage route between the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and on a Palestinian sea port. The announcement was made following talks in Jerusalem between Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy and Palestinian Authority (PA) Planning Official Nabil Sha'ath.

July 29

• An internal audit of Yasser Arafat's PLO cabinet found that $326 million (US) in public funds had been mismanaged by PA officials. A Palestinian legislative committee recommended that Arafat dismiss his entire cabinet and place senior self-rule authority officials on trial for corruption.

• In talks between Levy and Jordanian leaders, including King Hussein, Jordan asked Israel to involve the country in permanent settlement negotiations with the Palestinians.

July 30

• Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejected the finance minister's economic projections and delayed a scheduled cabinet discussion of the 1998 budget until mid-August. Netanyahu said the figures were too pessimistic.

July 31

• Israeli media reported that Syria's army chief of staff condemned Netanyahu's policies and warned of "dangerous consequences" in remarks published in Syria's government-controlled newspaper. He made no reference to the bombings in Machane Yehuda.

• According to a report in *Jane's Defense Weekly*, satellite photos indicate that Israel's nuclear weapons base is vulnerable to missile attack. Israel neither confirms nor denies it has nuclear capability.

Aug. 1

• Israeli media reported that on Thursday and through the night, security forces arrested tens of suspected terrorists in the West Bank.

With files from the JTA.

Which way for Israel?

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

The crisis-ridden peace process was dealt yet another grievous blow last week when 13 Israelis were killed by two Hamas suicide bombers, disguised as Orthodox Jews, in a teeming Jerusalem food market.

The blasts came on the heels of a prescient warning by Israel's chief of staff that Hamas was growing stronger and preparing for a renewed cycle of terrorist attacks, and on the eve of the resumption of talks between Israel and the Palestine Authority (PA) and the arrival of U.S. peace mediator Dennis Ross in Israel.

As a result of diplomatic efforts by the United States and Egypt to break a four-month impasse in the peace process, Israel and the PA had planned to discuss unresolved issues left over from two previous agreements: the establishment of a "safe passage" route from the West Bank to the Gaza Strip, the opening of a Palestinian airport and a harbor in Gaza, and the release of Palestinian prisoners.

Ross, for his part, had intended to present a proposal to both sides for a temporary freeze in Israel's Har Choma housing project in eastern Jerusalem, a return to full security cooperation, a commitment to stop street violence and an acceleration of bilateral negotiations.

But in the wake of the horrific bombings – the 15th major terrorist incident carried out by Islamic fundamentalists since April 1994 and the deadliest since Benjamin Netanyahu's election as prime minister – Israel suspended the talks until the PA acts against militants.

Israel also sealed off the territories, threatened to send forces into Palestinian self-rule areas and asked donor nations to suspend aid to the PA. Ross, meanwhile, postponed what would have been his second trip to Jerusalem since April.

On his last peace-making mission, Ross went back to Washington empty-handed, having failed to wring a promise from Netanyahu to halt unilateral building projects in East Jerusalem and the territories, and having been unsuccessful in persuading Arafat to share intelligence data with Israel.

In the grip of the deadlock, Israel pressed ahead with the Har Choma project. In response, the PA orchestrated a mini rebellion in the territories, as well as the murder of several Palestinian real estate agents who had sold land to Jews.

The situation went from bad to worse when a Jewish immigrant from the former Soviet Union, Tatiana Susskind, enraged Arab sensibilities by putting up posters in Hebron portraying the Muslim prophet Mohammed as a pig. The Israeli government denounced the desecration and arrested the perpetrator, but the damage was done.

In a further setback to the restoration of mutual trust, Israel accused a senior PA police commander and three of his subordinates of plotting to kill Israeli settlers on the West Bank.

The deepening gloom was relieved by a degree of PA security cooperation (the Palestinians helped Israel to crack a terrorist cell in the Hebron area responsible for the deaths of 11 Israelis) and by Netanyahu's decision to block a new housing project in the predominantly Arab Ras-Amud neighborhood in East Jerusalem.

But now, with Hamas' latest terrorist outrage, the shaky peace process once again is in dire jeopardy, and Netanyahu's policy of "peace with security" lies in tatters.

Two weeks after a poll disclosed that 41 percent of Israelis feel more personally secure today than under the previous Labor party government, Israel faces the grim prospect of still more terrorism, a phenomenon that has claimed the lives of 231 persons since the signing of the 1993 Declaration of Principles.

The newest outbreak of terrorism underlines the differences of approach between Labor and Likud. Netanyahu's position is that peace negotiations cannot proceed in the face of Palestinian terrorism. Yitzhak Rabin and his successor, Shimon Peres, believed that it was necessary "to conduct negotiations as if there is no terror and to fight terror as if there are no negotiations."

Which way for Israel?

Police nab U.S. suspects

By FAYGIE LEVY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — New York City police are investigating whether the discovery of bombs and explosives in a Brooklyn, N.Y., apartment last week is connected to the twin suicide bombings that occurred at Machane Yehuda market in Jerusalem.

Three suspects, all of "Middle Eastern origin," according to New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, were arrested in an early morning raid on a building in the Park Slope neighborhood of Brooklyn.

Police discovered five pipe bombs and a Jordanian passport in the apartment. It is unclear whether the passport belongs to any of the suspects.

One of the suspects expressed support for the Jerusalem bombings, Giuliani said at a news conference.

The police launched the raid after a man speaking Arabic told them that his roommates were planning to follow up on the Jerusalem attack, according to news reports.

FRIENDLY HANDSHAKE

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy (left) and top Palestinian negotiator Nabil Shaath met in Jerusalem last week before the bombings in Jerusalem that claimed 13 lives.

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Professor winds up 52-year career at Mount Sinai

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It's not unusual to see the names of Jewish doctors on the staff rosters of all the major hospitals.

But that was not the case when Dr. Nathan Levinne began practising medicine.

Levinne, who retired on June 30 (the same day he turned 80) after 52 years on staff at Mount Sinai Hospital (MSH), told *The CJN* in a recent interview that when he began his career, MSH was the only hospital where Jewish doctors could get admitting privileges.

"Anti-Semitism was rampant. Nobody [Jewish] was on staff at the University," he said, referring to the University of Toronto's (U of T) Faculty of Medicine.

"During the war, there was a shortage of doctors at Sick Kids', the worst place for anti-Semitism. Some Jewish boys were able to admit there simply because they needed bodies."

He said the situation changed dramatically in 1954 when MSH was transformed into "a modern, up-to-date, first class hospital" at 550 University Ave., the building now occupied by the Rehabilitation Institute of Toronto (formerly

Dr. Nathan Levinne

Queen Elizabeth Hospital), just south of MSH's current location.

He recalled that once Jewish doctors had privileges at the new hospital, opportunities opened at other hospitals and Jews were also given university appointments. He contends that the expansion of MSH hastened the acceptance of Jewish doctors by the medical establishment in the '50s.

Levinne, an emeritus professor at U of T, was the first practitioner-in-chief of the family practice unit at MSH. Family medicine became a recognized specialty some 20 years ago when the university decided to establish a special program to train family practitioners, he said. "Mount Sinai was among the first programs."

Before joining the staff at MSH, Levinne was a medical officer in the army during World War II. He said he enlisted to help Jews in Europe.

Evelyn, his wife of 56 years, was "very supportive" of this decision, he said. "She understood my position."

Levinne, who attained the rank of captain, served overseas for four years, initially in the inter-Allied Commando Unit and later with the Belgian Special Air Service. He was decorated by both the Dutch and Canadian governments.

He was in France on D-Day and was wounded in 1944 during a commando raid on Walcheren Island, just off the Dutch coast. After being hospitalized in Belgium for few days, he returned to active duty.

After the war, he set up a family practice in the Dundas and Ossington area, which he described as "a fading Jewish neighborhood" with a growing Italian community. He chose family medicine, he said, because it suited his personality. "I happen to be somebody who likes people. This was an opportunity to get to know people."

In those years, there was no health insurance: an office visit was $2; a house call was $3. Many people had trouble paying, he said, but "I never turned away anybody who made an honest living and couldn't afford to pay."

He was also on call 24 hours a day seven days a week.

As a general practitioner, obstetrics was an important part of his practice, he said. Many people turned to GPs to deliver babies because they charged $35, which was one third the cost of an obstetrician.

It was not common to share calls and practices because many doctors worried that other doctors would lure away their patients, Levinne said.

He moved his practice to the Bathurst and Lawrence area 30 years ago. He shared an office with his two sons-in-law, Simon Colla and Paul Freedman, and later with other physicians.

Levinne said he plans to study Torah now that he is no longer working. As for making the decision to retire, he said it's important to know when to stop. "I wanted to retire before I had to retire."

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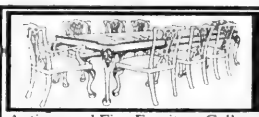
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Blind artist's life, attitude a contrast to Van Gogh's

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Artist Ron Satok, 65, who has been blind for 18 years, now relies on memory and imagination.

Satok recently gave a lecture/performance about artist Vincent Van Gogh at Progress Place, a rehabilitation community for persons with mental illness. He demonstrated his style — flamboyance laced with sensitivity — by darting nimbly from a lectern to a huge sheet of paper affixed to the wall, where he drew a tree of life.

The demonstration contrasted Van Gogh's and Satok's response to life. Van Gogh was beset by epilepsy, lost his sanity and turned inward. Satok, battling blindness, reached out.

Satok's early strengths — athletics, a flair for acting and comedy, and architectural affinity — which served him well as a muralist, are invaluable now when he can no longer see.

Facing his world today with resilience and resourcefulness, he has developed a personal philosophy, Art Through Awareness in Action, which he defines as a creative balance involving body, mind and spirit. He also knows that to help himself, he must help others.

In 1982, he opened the Satok School of the Arts to bolster awareness of disabled people's capabilities. Classes in painting, sculpture, dance and drama help those with special needs to strive toward individual achievement.

He has branched out, lecturing, pursuing his own art, constantly innovating.

Ron Satok and the Tree of Life. [Arlene Berman photo]

Satok examined Van Gogh's inability to sell himself and his consequent sense of failure.

Van Gogh's family were art dealers and he started as a salesman in his uncle's London gallery, but left in despair when he lost an important client.

"He didn't have a clue about the real world. When he had money [from his brother, Theo] he bought paints instead of food."

He went to Paris where he stayed with Theo, who managed a gallery there. Through him, he met several impressionists, Monet, Manet, Cezanne, Lautrec and, Satok says, "he went wild with colors!"

Later he moved to Arles in the south of France and there, says Satok, "he began to find himself, get his own style," a predecessor to expressionism.

Insisting that he would paint a picture a day and working excessively long hours, he did just that, producing his brilliant sunflowers and delicious orchards. Friends and relatives sent money for food and housing, but he knew only painting.

One weekend he drank 40 cups of coffee and ate a bit of bread. His health deteriorated.

After Theo married and had a child, Vincent, unwilling to be a continual financial drain, shot himself.

His legacy is the wonder of a lonely genius who groped but also soared.

Satok will leave a different legacy — his strong, sometimes surrealist works from the sighted years and his current, powerful linear statement. For him, the challenge always lies ahead.

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

UNCOVERING SPAIN'S JEWISH PAST

TRUJILLO, Spain — A statue in the Plaza Mayor or main square of this well-preserved old town of 10,000 inhabitants is dedicated to its most illustrious citizen, the conquistador Francisco Pizarro, conqueror of Peru.

The Pizarro family built a handsome mansion in the Plaza Mayor about 1560. Its facade is decorated with carved images of the conquistador, his Inca lover and other relatives.

Eighteen years before Pizarro first set sail for the New World, a group of locals took another kind of perilous journey into the unknown.

Trujillo's Jews, like their counterparts throughout the country, were obliged to convert or leave Spain, according to Queen Isabella's expulsion order of 1492.

The former Jewish quarter is just off the Plaza Mayor, centered along the graciously curved Tiendas Sreet. Jose Solis-Alvarez, a pharmacist and municipal councillor whose Farmacia is at 14 Tiendas St., is one of several residents who have uncovered evidence of the former Jewish presence in recent years.

Solis-Alvarez leads a group of foreign visitors through the basement of his tiny shop to a narrow hall where an old stone doorway is set into the white plaster wall. Uncovered during renovations, the doorway bears a row of carved Hebrew characters. A few are clearly legible but most have been dulled by time.

Working to decipher the inscription, archeologists have determined that the doorway was the entrance to a synagogue that was in use until the early 1400s, when the Inquisition made Jewish worship an offense punishable by death.

Around the corner, the elderly landlady of a commercial building along the Plaza Mayor eagerly shows off more details of what was apparently the same medieval synagogue. Maria-Theresa Perez-Zubizarreta takes the visitors into the art gallery in the large basement and points out a stone arch that has been tentatively identified as a women's entrance. A row of smaller arches set into a wall might have been the barrier separating the men's and women's sections of the synagogue.

"I was born in this house and when I was a young girl, I remember that they lowered the ceiling to make a new floor," she explains through an interpreter. "I remember seeing a sort of balcony up there." She points to some thick wooden beams that traverse the plaster ceiling.

"In the time of Isabella this building was given to the nuns and it became a convent known as the Convent of Isabel. That was commonly done with Jewish property back then."

Venturing outside, she indicates a small depression in the side of a stone doorpost where a mezuzah might once have been placed.

Such discoveries have been surfacing all over Spain in recent years. The locals, no longer content to sweep all things Jewish under the carpet, are proudly showing off fragments of the once-hidden Jewish past. Wherever one travels in Spain, one hears of a mikvah being found here, a synagogue there and imagined mezuzahs almost everywhere.

In Toledo, where two historic synagogues are already major tourist sites, the relics of a third synagogue were uncovered three years ago beneath a mechanic's garage.

In Valencia, excavators enlarging a department store basement found an old burial ground with 61 Jewish graves, all of which were subsequently moved to a cemetery in Madrid. In Segovia, Israeli archeologists recently identified another set of Jewish tombs.

"You must realize that, in Spain, part of our history was not told for many years," says Assumpcio Hosta, an official helping to restore Girona's Jewish past. "Generations have grown up without any awareness of the Jewish past. Now we're trying to fill that gap."

I recently returned from a tour of Jewish Spain hosted by the Tourist Office of Spain with the assistance of Iberia Airlines. More about this remarkable trip in the next column.

The statue of Francisco Pizarro in Trujillo. [Bill Gladstone photo]

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

SUMMER LITERARY COLUMN, PART II

A Magazine About Yiddish: Ever heard of a publication called the *Pakn Treger*? Recently I spotted the colorful 102-page summer issue selling for $6 on the newsstand and couldn't resist taking it home.

Named after the characters who travelled from shtetl to shtetl in Eastern Europe bringing books and news of the outside world, the *Pakn Treger* continues that tradition as the magazine of the National Yiddish Book Centre.

If you have an affinity for both literature and Yiddishkeit, then this magazine is for you. The current lead story is *What Is Your Favorite Jewish Book? (And What Is A Jewish Book, Anyway?)* The editors asked this question of 10 noted writers and scholars, including **Aharon Appelfeld**, **Ruth R. Wisse**, the centre's **Aaron Lansky**, and **Robert Pinsky**, poet laureate of the United States.

The answers ranged from the expected — *Call It Sleep* by **Henry Roth**; to the surprising — **Irving Shulman**'s 1950s novel of teenage crime, *The Amboy Dukes*. Other favorites included **Mendele Moykher Sforim**'s *The Mare* (*Di Kliatshe*), **Franz Kafka**'s *Metamorphosis*, **James Joyce**'s *Ulysses* and **George Eliot**'s *Daniel Deronda*.

Noting that Joyce and Eliot were gentiles, the editors write: "So what makes a book Jewish? Of course, there is no single answer. How could there be? What makes this forum exciting is that there are so many possibilities — so many ways to understand Jewishness and literature and so many paths upon which 'Jewish literature' can continue into the future."

The same issue of the *Pakn Treger* features a portrait of Yiddish author **Chava Rosenfarb** and one of her stories, *The Tree of Life*, in both English and Yiddish. Another story remembers the late **Allen Ginsberg**. The magazine also features sections on learning Yiddish; it does not presume the reader is fluent.

For subscription information, call 800-535-3595 or e-mail [PT@bikher.org]x.

* * *

First Novel: It's easy to see why **Cynthia Ozick** called *Eve's Apple*, the first novel by New York writer **Jonathan Rosen** "the work of a natural master." For one thing, Rosen writes like an angel. For another, his main characters exude a gentleness and emotional sensitivity that is rarely caught on the page.

In this deeply insightful psychological detective story, Joseph, an English teacher to Russian immigrants in New York, feels compelled to unravel the mysteries behind the anorexic and bulimic behavior of his girlfriend, Ruth. He reads her diary in secret, consults a psychiatrist on her behalf, studies every book he can find on the subject.

Rosen has produced a daring domestic tale that operates on an intense Freudian level and resonates with myth, fable and timeless human truths. (Random House.)

* * *

New Biography: *Ovitz*, the hot new biography by **Robert Slater** tells the inside story of Hollywood power broker Michael Ovitz, whom **Paul Newman** once described as "a cross between a barracuda and **Mother Teresa**."

As the leading agent and dealmaker in tinseltown, Ovitz received staggering sums for his services. Then he joined the Disney empire — a disastrous move that ended 14 months later with a severance package of $128 million.

To produce this portrait of a 1990s' mogul, Slater interviewed about 150 celebrities, including **Tom Cruise**, **Dustin Hoffman**, **David Letterman** and **Jerry Seinfeld**. (McGraw-Hill Ryerson.)

* * *

My Shelf Runneth Over: Saul Bellow's latest, *The Actual*, concerns a character who loves dumbly and distantly for 40 years until a chance meeting with his first love – at her husband's funeral (Viking).

New York writer **Pete Hamill** has produced *Snow In August*, which tells of the friendship between a Catholic boy and a Prague-born rabbi in a working-class neighborhood in Brooklyn. The two teach each other about baseball and ancient rabbinic lore, respectively, as they deal with a band of anti-Semitic hooligans (Little, Brown).

A winner of the National Jewish Book Award, *Mazel* by **Rebecca Goldstein** is a richly romantic novel about the lives of three generations of Jewish women. The story stretches from the shtetl to New York (Penguin).

Complete with seemingly realistic photos, **W.G. Sebald**'s *The Emigrants* simulates the biographies of four persons who move around wartime Europe but ultimately fail to escape the tragic web of circumstance (New Directions).

Watch this column for regular news from the literary world.

One-woman play combines tradition with contemporary lore

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Dorothy Lichtblau's latest one-woman play, *Maiden, Mother, Crone*, which she performed recently at the Fringe Festival, is rich in daughter-mother-grandmother wisdom and humor.

It consists of two short plays, both of which combine contemporary lore with traditional roots. They are based on two stories written by Lichtblau and both are accompanied by vocalist-percussionist Miriam (she wants no last name) and directed by Mimi Mekler.

"I wondered how the feminine aspect of God might be manifested in daily life," said Lichtblau, "and the stories that emerged were about women who skillfully tend hearth and home, while also being warriors for justice. They are heroes, who break new ground, guided by compassion, not love of power."

Dorothy Lichtblau

The same ideas pervaded two other plays she presented at previous Fringes, *Gezundheit*, in 1992, featuring a mother and daughter, and *Dining With Friends*, in 1993, about a musician in a mid-life crisis. *Dining With Friends* was also remounted later.

A writer and performer, Lichtblau often reads her own stories in various locales. In addition, she is a freelance writer specializing in women's social issues. She edited and published the magazine *Jewish Women's Forum* in 1994 and 1995, before financial problems forced the magazine to suspend publication.

A one-time supply teacher, she said she finds herself leaning toward the theatre, both in playwriting and in performing. This year, she is taking a graduate degree at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education on the subject of arts in adult education.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Business Profile

Michael Aychental: Gateway Newstands

Running a franchise a lot like playing Monopoly

By SIMONE JOSEPH
Special to the CJN

RICHMOND HILL — Looking at his business card, one might never guess Michael Aychental is the president of a multi-million-dollar franchise operation.

The card, which reads Gateway Newstands/Gateway Cigar Stores/Michael Aychental, does not mention his title.

Aychental, 50, is the owner of Gateway Newstands, a chain of convenience stores in transit locations, shopping centres and office buildings across North America and the United Kingdom, that sells lottery tickets, magazines and snack foods.

In his spacious office on East Beaver Creek Road, Aychental looks behind him at a map of North America dotted with blue push-pins indicating Gateway stores. "I'm trying to get a pin in every state," he says.

Behind his desk is a framed print of a Monopoly board. "The playing of Monopoly is kind of what we do...the first part of [this] business is acquiring property for our newsstands," Aychental says.

Fourteen years ago, Aychental invested about $5,000 to open his first franchised store on University Avenue in downtown Toronto. In July, the chain reached a milestone with the acquisition of its 300th store.

"[Now] we're the largest operator of newsstands in North America," says Aychental. Last year, the Gateway chain, whose retail sales exceed $50 million, was rated number 1 in its category by *Entrepreneur* magazine's Franchise 500 listing and is currently expanding at an average of 25 to 30 additional stores annually across Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom.

In the mid-1960s, Aychental left high school in Toronto and began working full time at Fred Thompson Sales. As a junior salesperson, he travelled across Ontario, trying to get the company's products on store shelves. At the age of 20, Aychental went into business for himself, opening four stores in small centres outside of Toronto. The stores, Premier Discount Stores, specialized in health and beauty aids.

Everything progressed well for Aychental's stores until the mid-1970s when interest rates climbed to 24 percent. Aychental was generating limited revenue, had a high debt load and Premier Discount Stores' profits could not support the cost of financing.

In the early '80s, Davis Distributing, a wholesale distributor of merchandise to retail stores, and Premier Discount Stores' major supplier, acquired Aychental's stores. He went to work for their company, beginning as director of retail operations.

Aychental then became manager of Davis Distributing's Double D stores, which sold health and beauty aids and patent medicines. He later became vice-president of sales for Davis.

In 1983, Aychental noticed an increase in the number of immigrants coming into the country wanting to buy small retail stores. He approached the president of Davis with his idea of providing such stores.

The president rejected this proposal due to conflict of interest. He did not want to be in competition with his customers, such as United Cigar Stores and Transit Shops. As well, the retail aspect of Davis Distributing was only a small part of the company.

Aychental began opening convenience stores part time and sold them to prospective franchisees. Before construction of these stores was finished, people were knocking on the door, hoping to purchase them. Aychental's business grew and eventually he quit his job at Davis Distributing to run his expanding business.

Michael Aychental [Barry Shainbaum photo]

In the first few years, he sold about 14 stores in the Greater Toronto Area. They operated under names such as Bay Smoke and Elm Variety. At this stage, he was fighting to gain a foothold in the newsstand market.

"The initial entry into the business was most difficult. We were up against competitors who were in place and established and had already acquired many of the existing prime locations," he says.

In October 1993, Gateway reached a turning point when it began negotiations with The Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) to operate convenience stores within the TTC's system. It put in a tender bid and in May 1994 began opening stores.

Gateway was the first successful bidder in about 40 years to challenge Garfield's long-running operation. Since 1953, Garfield had been the only successful bidder to gain the rights to operate convenience stores within the TTC system. Gateway's acquisition of the lease resulted in a 50 percent increase in the chain's size.

"The acquisition of the TTC newsstands within the subway gave us high visibility throughout North America and was definitely a contributing factor in accelerating our growth," Aychental says.

Gateway and Garfield take different approaches to running their stores. Garfield hires employees and runs its stores corporately. Its costs of operation "prevented them from keeping all stores open because some of them were not high enough volume," says Aychental.

In contrast, Gateway franchises out its stores which are is essentially turnkey operations. Aychental takes care of the primary steps involved in setting up the store, such as acquiring the lease, construction of the store and training. The franchisee then operates the store with Aychental's primary role being to assist in ongoing support of the store, merchandising and obtaining inventory.

Purchasing of equipment and furniture, lease payments and all overhead costs are paid by the franchisee who also pays an up- front fee, which varies for each store depending on its value.

Aychental's costs include the wages of his clerical and management staff at head office, support of the franchisees and the cost of administering and operating his rebate program.

Aychental says his stores are "mom and pop" type operations which are profitable for a family but not as profitable for a corporation. "When you open your own corporate stores, you have to finance them, capitalize them, operate them...A corporation has to hire its own staff and pay its own expenses, whereas the franchisees really are buying themselves a job. They've purchased a franchised business with upfront money and rather than paying staff, they earn the money themselves.

Aychental's franchise system has enabled him to expand. "We concentrate our efforts and our time on the expansion of the business rather than the operation of stores, which is very time-consuming and very labor intensive," he says.

The secret of his success, Aychental says, is that he had the right concept matched with good timing. He adds that Gateway is recession and inflation proof.

"In bad times, you still need to buy a newspaper, have a chocolate bar or buy a magazine. In good times, if prices for a chocolate bar go up 10 cents, it's not an important factor in the economy. You can't price yourself out of the business. What we have is a business that is very steady. That is why it's so attractive to so many individual operators."

Aychental, a member of Beit Rayim Synagogue on Bayview Avenue, has a love of fast machinery. He owns a former race boat which runs at 104 miles per hour, a cigarette boat and a Harley Davidson.

He is a self-described "technological dinosaur." Propped up in his office is a white board that he calls his "computer." It lists how many stores are open, how many are available and how many expired leases he has. While Aychental is not technologically knowledgeable, his company is online.

A framed picture of his son Noah dressed in a graduation gown and standing in front of a Gateway Cigar Store at York University is proudly displayed on one of his office walls. The picture was taken on Noah's graduation day in 1994.

"What was cute to me was that we made more out of the store than it cost for Noah's education at York. His university education was a positive cash flow," Aychental says with a chuckle.

Aychental plans to open more stores like the one at York University. While he is pleased that Gateway has been successful enough to achieve the milestone of opening 300 stores, his five-year goal is to open his 500th store. He predicts that franchises will continue to grab a larger market share, explaining that franchising is "a much more popular mode of doing business than individual proprietorship."

Aychental says his business philosophy is to work hard in a quest to gain prime property. "I'm working diligently on a daily basis. My job is very simple. It's just to continue to work with the landlord principles to get good locations and establish more stores. It's a simple formula."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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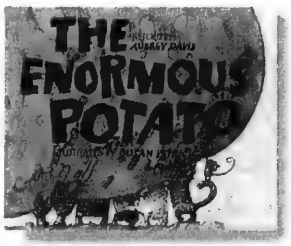
Folktale teaches cooperation

By REVA KAISER
Student Intern

TORONTO — In today's world of action-packed movies and video games, sometimes it's nice to tuck your feet up cozily beneath you and settle down with a book that relays an important, but often unheeded, message.

Storyteller Aubrey Davis has put into print *The Enormous Potato*, a simple story that he has told and retold to many a captivated child-filled audience.

The Enormous Potato tells the story of a farmer's planted potato which grows and grows and grows. In order to pull it out, he must enlist the help of first his wife, then his daughter, then their dog, their cat, and even the household mouse. Only when everyone has come to help and has lent their hand, is the farmer successful in uprooting the enormous potato.



It's a classic folktale which has come to teach readers the importance of cooperation and how valuable every person's (and animal's) effort is. As well, it preaches sharing, as the whole town comes to join in the potato feast at the end.

Dusan Petricic has added tremendously to the story with his wonderful illustrations. The sunny yellow pages are cheerful and eye-catching, and the energetic pictures on each spread capture the story perfectly, making it easy for young readers to follow along.

The rhythmic verse, captivating illustrations, and heartening lessons are sure to invoke "Read it again, Mommy" from even the youngest of audiences.

THANK YOU, TEACHERS
It's a happy time when students can acknowledge the assistance of their teachers. Here we see Dalia Rotstein, 15, and Jonathan Mandelbaum, 13, thanking Yitzhak Eisner for helping them compete in the 34th annual World Bible Contest in Jerusalem; and Ilana Kipolovic, Grade 6, thanking her teacher Mr. Baker for helping her win the gold medal in the Canadian Pythagoras Math Contest.

Hey Kids! Mazel Tov

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
16 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
36 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
136 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
146 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
166 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
186 FURNISHED OUT-OF COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
258 HEALTHCARE
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
313 ERUSAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
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* * *

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280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jewish Couples Bowling League. Bowling every other Saturday night (starts September '97) is looking for new couples age 35-50.
Call 905-731-9269

330 OBITUARIES

KADOCHE, Maklouf - on July 21, 1997, late of 6 Coach Lite Way.
CARROLL, Jennie - on July 22, 1997.
EISENBERG, Max - on July 22, 1997, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W.
NAKEN, CAROL RUTH - on July 22, 1997, late of 503 Douglas Ave.
COHEN, Frances - on July 23, 1997.
KAPELUTO, Sarona (Sarah) - on July 23, 1997, late of 100 Antibes Dr.
KISLUK, Arthur - on July 23, 1997.
ROZENBAOUM, Rozalia - on July 25, 1997, late of 24 Fountainbleau Dr.
SHKOLNIK, Sofya - on July 25, 1997, late of 625 Finch Ave. W.
LEVY, RAHAMIN (RAY) - on July 26, 1997, late of 21 Acton Ave.
SHULMAN, Elka - on July 26, 1997, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
JAKUBOVIC, Ethel - on July 27, 1997.
SLOTKIN, BETTY CECILE - on July 27, 1997, late of 343 Clark Ave. W.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

KATZ. DR. SIDNEY KATZ, beloved husband of Syma, née Freiden, devoted father of Robert David (Giuliana) of Toronto & Barry Martin (Deborah) of Palo Alto, Ca. Loving grandfather of Reva Elisa, Alessandra Chaya Katz. Dear brother of Marcie (Joe) Weiss of Los Angeles, Ca., Irma (the late Harry) Nepon of Winnipeg, Man., and the late Raymond, Irving, Lionel and Elvin Katz. Services were held Wednesday, July 23rd, 1997 at the Stone Chapel of K.A.M. Issiah Israel Congregation (5027 S. Greenwood) in Chicago. Interment followed at Mt. Mayriv Cemetery, Chicago, under the direction of FURTH AND CO. (773) 784-4300.

330 OBITUARIES

SNOBEL, Leonard - on July 14, 1997.
SEGUIN, Yvonne - on July 19, 1997.
GORDON, Balfoura - on July 25, 1997.
ROSENBAUM, Solomon - on July 28, 1997.
FOLB, Sidney Arthur - on July 29, 1997.

The Simple Alternative

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
REGINA ANIELEWICZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 10th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst St., S. of Steeles
Wierzbniker Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend
For information call 416-636-4343

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYLVIA HOFFMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 10th, 11:00 a.m.
Mt. Sinai Memorial Park
Ozrower Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ISSIE EISEN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 10th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ostrovster Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ISRAEL RUBINEK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 10th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Section DDD - Row F
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GILDA COUSINS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 10th at 1:00 p.m.
Beth Tzedec Cemetery
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BATYA TOBIN ז"ל
Daughter of Eline & Allan, Sister of Nadine
will take place
Sunday, August 10th at 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Kehillat Shaarei Torah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Soccer impresario planning for 2001 Maccabiah

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Get Martin Emil Scott talking about his soccer team and one point comes through loud and clear — and often. Maccabi Toronto is the country's best Jewish sports team, playing at the highest competitive level anywhere.

Sure, there are great Jewish athletes playing in other sports, but they do so as individuals on non-Jewish teams or in Jewish leagues of less than top calibre. Where else will you find a team consisting almost entirely of Jewish players competing together in a city's top amateur league, he asks.

As manager, coach and player with Maccabi Toronto, Scott may be forgiven for tooting his own horn and that of his players. But he believes the Jewish community is just not aware of what a good thing it's got going, as Maccabi Toronto sports the community's colors, so to speak.

It recently fielded a competitive team in the third annual Striker Spirit Soccer Tournament, lining up against the best teams from a variety of Toronto multicultural groups.

Designated "Israel" for the tournament, Maccabi Toronto faced off against the likes of Argentina, Canada, Chile, China, Greece, Nigeria and Poland. Altogether, 16 "countries" were represented.

Although Israel was winless in three games, it lost two of them by the narrowest of margins. After falling to Chile, 2-0 in the opener, Israel gave its competition a real tussle. In its second game, it threw a scare into their opposition, losing a 3-2 heartbreaker to Poland, the eventual tournament runners-up. Israel concluded its matches with a 2-1 loss to Nigeria but it took a penalty kick with less than two minutes remaining to set up the winning goal for the Nigerians.

Scott believes that with a complete lineup, Israel would've done better at the Striker tournament, which is held in support of the Canadian Red Cross.

Some of his best players were in Israel competing in mini-football at the Maccabiah Games. The Canadian team finished sixth of 16 teams at the "Jewish Olympics."

They opened the tournament with a 12-1 shellacking of Croatia and then hammered Singapore 16-1 in game two.

In game three, they faced a much tougher opponent, Israel, and lost 7-4. Despite the three-goal differential, Scott said it was "an excellent score versus Israel."

In the quarter-finals, Canada took on Russia, with the winner advancing to the medal round. The score was 2-2 but a direct kick called late in the game led to a Russian score and relegated Canada to the consolation round.

For Scott, a member of the 1989 Maccabiah team, "it was deja vu all over again." Back in '89, Canada faced Mexico in a tight game and hit the crossbar late in the match. Mexico came down the field immediately afterwards and scored the winning goal, eliminating Canada from medal play. He remembers it as a really disheartening loss, so for Canada to come back at this year's Maccabiah and beat England 4-3 in its next game, showed great character, Scott said. Canada closed out the tournament with a 5-2 loss to Argentina.

Scott, who serves as administrator of the Toronto Services Soccer League (TSSL), the largest adult recreational soccer league in North America, said both the Striker team and the Maccabiah team featured youthful lineups.

It's all part of a master plan to field a highly competitive, motivated, young and talented team for the outdoor soccer competition at the 2001 Maccabiah Games.

Scott believes the talent is there. In his capacity as soccer impresario in Toronto and with his ties to the Maccabi Canada organization (as a talent scout and evaluator), he is currently helping lay the foundation for that Maccabiah entry.

Earlier this season, he moved Maccabi Toronto out of the TSSL and entered them in the Hispanoamerican Soccer League, the city's best amateur rec league, to ensure they'd face the toughest competition. So far this year, they're playing .500 soccer.

For the 1995-96 season, he recruited about 45 mostly Jewish players to stock four teams in local indoor recreational leagues and prepare them for the rigors of possible Maccabiah Games pressure.

He's also located other top Jewish players in Canada, including Dan Sankar, a native of India who played last year for the Toronto Shooting Stars and who lined up for Canada at the Maccabiah Games, as well as Irvin Studin, a midfielder with the Toronto Lynx whose family originated in Russia.

Also on Scott's busy agenda is preparations for a unique tournament for the summer of 1998. With the assistance of a $2,500 grant from the United Jewish Appeal, Scott is planning the inaugural Maccabi Toronto Soccer Club Invitational — an eight-team event that will feature Maccabi Montreal, Maccabi Glasgow and five U.S. Maccabi teams.

He's also planning to take an outdoor team to the Pan American Maccabi Games in Mexico City in 1999.

With the kind of talent already available and being nurtured and with a development program swinging into shape, Scott is optimistic Canada will have a competitive entry when they kick off the 2001 Maccabiah in Israel.

Team Israel goalie Greg Katz blocks a shot versus Poland as defender Ziv Fishman moves in for the rebound.

* * *

Members of Team Israel at the Striker tournament included: Eric Bouaziz, Ayal Cohen, Ken Cohen, Fred Cowen, Blake Dinkin (captain), Ziv Fishman, Ilia Gililov, Jordan Greenspoon, Yakov Keimakh, Greg Katz, Boris Ladizhinshy, Michael Leichenko, Mishel Levkov, David Napier, Airan Peleg, Michael Perlman, Jason Riis, Russel Riklis, Warren Smulowitz, Ruben Yshaia, Juan Ramirez, Dragos Dumitra, Mohamed Ali, Bryan Alvarez and Scott.

Maccabi Toronto members at the Maccabiah Games included: Studin, Sankar, Ofer Winkler, Jason Bresler, Dan Hadida and Shawn Rootenberg.

Maccabiah gold medalist Manitoba's top Jewish athlete

By MYRON LOVE
Special to The CJN

WINNIPEG — Olia Berger, 16, recent winner of a Maccabiah Games gold medal in judo, was named Manitoba Jewish Athlete of the Year at the 25th annual YMHA Jewish Community Centre (JCC) of Winnipeg Sports Dinner.

The Max M. Nusgart Memorial Award was presented to Berger before she competed at the Games.

Berger comes by her judo skills naturally. Her father and coach, Mark Berger, is a former Olympic Games silver medalist and one of Canada's leading coaches.

Olia won seven gold medals in her class during the last year and recently won gold in the provincial championships. She was a finalist for the Nusgart Award for the past two years.

Judoka's father also her coach

The other six finalists included Aaron Pfeffer, another national judo champion and protege of Mark Berger; diver Sari Levitt; synchronized swimmer Allison Katz; tennis player Daniel Kives; cyclist and weightlifter Riva Benditt; and hockey player Randal Shore.

This year's dinner attracted a record turnout of close to 1,000 people. One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the JCC 1997 Recognition Award to Ken Kronson, founding chair of the annual dinner. The long-time pharmacist has been a driving force behind the dinner, which has raised close to $2 million over the years to help support the Y's programs.

The evening was hosted by Monty Hall (a former schoolmate of Kronson's), and featured as guest speakers major league baseball manager Sparky Anderson and former Winnipegger Sherry Bassin from the world of professional hockey.

The Inside Back

The ultimate invasion: 'aliens closer to home'

By JORDAN MAX

Last Laugh

There's been a lot of news about space these days, for example, the Mir space station accidents, the Mars Pathfinder mission ($250 million dollars and they forgot to remove the lens cap?), the 50th anniversary of an alleged UFO crash and the annual summer alien contact/invasion movies. As if we didn't have enough tzuris of our own, we need to worry about aliens from other planets? (no, I'm not talking about Ashkenazim, Sephardim, Litvaks or Galitzianers here)

Now before we get all worked up, let's step back for a minute and try to figure out why anyone from a presumably more intelligent or highly developed planet would even want to visit here, much less take it over.

Is Earth their rustic cottage equivalent? Do they have to use up their intergalactic Light Year points before the next millennium? Did they run out of salsa, beer or high fat snack foods on the trip? Do they want to learn a little Torah or visit the Kotel? Did the males piloting the ship make a wrong turn at the last Nebula and need to ask directions but are ashamed to admit it? Have they been monitoring our fine television offerings and are impressed by the high calibre of daytime talk shows and soap operas? Is their Baywatch reception too fuzzy? Perhaps they can sense the process of societal decay and see that Earth is ripe for conquest? I just don't know.

Hypothetically assuming there is intelligent life out there that has some bizarre interest in visiting this planet, I asked myself what I would do if I encountered some real live aliens. Since no etiquette books cover this situation, I'm going to have to wing it.

Now, the Jewish perspective on visitors, regardless of place of origin, is hachnasat orchim, one of offering hospitality or even refuge to guests, providing they don't trash the place or leave radioactive intergalactic goo stains on the carpet (definitely the toughest ones to get out).

I think we would instinctively offer them something to drink, ask them where they're from and if they know our distant cousins on Alpha Centauri (well, at least it seems like they live on Alpha Centauri). If they turned out to be the trash-the-planet types, we'd serve them some reheated leftover Shabbat cholent, guaranteed to induce sleepiness and cause that uncomfortable bloaty feeling.

Of course, if they emerged from their spacecraft wearing shtreimels and long black coats and speaking Yiddish, I'd ask whether they were Litvak or Galitzianer, Cohen, Levi or Yisrael, where they live, whether their planet provides government funding of religious day schools, and if I could get a green card.

However, if we look at movies in the alien invader genre, clearly the most chilling plots are not the full-frontal-attack type, but the more insidious, planted-among-us-waiting-to-strike plots.

I feel I have a certain first-hand expertise in this area. You see, my house was first invaded by small alien beings some six years ago. It all began so innocuously. At first, they were cute and angelic, and we naively welcomed them one by one in with love.

Soon, according to their nefarious plot, they began to endear themselves to us, first by those da-da's, then by their genetic resemblance, and their first steps and words.

Then their devious plot unfolded as we watched helplessly while these aliens' voracious appetites for love, attention, snack foods and clothing grew exponentially.

By now their toys are hopelessly disassembled and scattered throughout the house, the fridge is filled with small leftovers and artwork from their school and other programs piles up until the only sane option is to surrender. Once they've taken over your house, there's no telling where they'll stop.

Just like in the movies, the truth is only beginning to dawn on me, only after it's too late to stop the ultimate invasion. And the scariest part of all? We still love these little creatures. Now that's what I call a thriller.

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WE SELL SUB-ZERO FOR LESS

Grilled Bananas w/Vanilla Ice Cream & Hot Chocolate Sauce

2 firm, ripe bananas
3 tbisp. brown sugar
1/4 stick unsalted butter, melted

Sauce:

1/4 lb. good quality chocolate, chopped
1/3 cup half & half cream
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
good quality vanilla ice cream

Peel bananas and halve lengthwise. In shallow baking pan large enough to hold bananas in one layer, stir together butter and brown sugar, melt in oven. Add bananas, tossing gently to coat. Transfer bananas to well-greased BBQ and grill until browned, about 2 min. on each side.

In heavy saucepan over low heat melt chocolate with cinnamon and half & half cream. Stir frequently. Serve bananas with ice cream and chocolate sauce. Yield: 2 servings.

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I'm two classes short of graduating from high school and I'm registered to go to school this fall, but I don't want to go. I don't think formal education is going to help me find a job anyway. The problem is my parents. They want me to stay in school. We have many "discussions," which leave me feeling angry, depressed and confused.

Dear Reader,

There are many people in your situation these days, so don't feel alone. We are in a time when occupational decision-making is extremely difficult.

To the rescue is a new CD-Rom called Knowledge for Youth About Careers (KYAC).

KYAC is a program that addresses the issues you are wrestling with. It emphasizes being proactive in occupational decision-making and illustrates how to do this. The program is designed for youth aged approximately 14 to 30 and is sensitive to issues facing women, minorities and disabled persons.

After exploring career choices, the program teaches job search techniques and offers examples of success stories from real people.

People who have tried KYAC reported feeling an increased confidence in their career-related decisions.

The program is widely available at Career Counselling Centres in British Columbia and Alberta. For locations on viewing the program in other provinces or for information on purchasing the program, contact ProVision at 604-872-3575.

Job Search is a monthly column by job search consultant Lisa Galet. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

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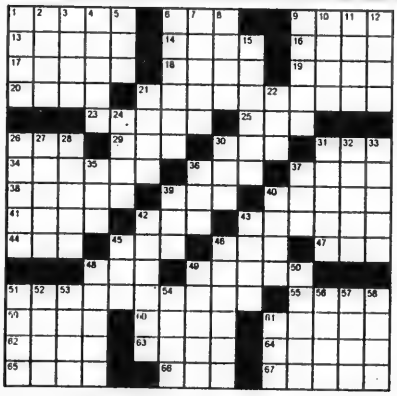

Across

1. Be'er ___
6. Shmaltah (Eng)
9. Political party
13. Agadah
14. Byzantine and Hellenistic
16. Raphael's headgear
17. David's guard
18. Desert station
19. Open
20. Dershowitz bargain?
21. Director of Sound of Music
23. Peyes
25. Wiggling tref fish
26. Jonas Salk's org.?
29. Sof Pasuk
30. Great tenor Peerce
31. Owns
34. Saul Bellow novel
36. Haman or Amalek
37. Pub missile
38. Actor Alan
39. Israeli dreidel letter
40. Arthur Murray lesson?
41. Commandment word
42. Daled (Eng.)
43. Israel at times
44. Nizer org.?
45. Gottex suit top
46. Adam and Jacob
47. Her
48. Prophesize
49. Eilat, old style
51. "Catastrophe" film producer
55. Methuselah
59. Via Maris, "Sea __"
60. "__ 18" Uris novel
61. Emulate Abba Eban
62. Competent
63. Mt. Hermon need?
64. Sharansky
65. Biblical fishing gear
66. Haifa to Jerusalem (dir)
67. Edomite

Down

1. Gait
2. Allen film, Annie __
3. "Dawn". Writer
4. Two old shekels
5. Third Judah king
6. Neil Diamond platter
7. Ishmael progeny
8. Maccabiah event
9. Tallis
10. Arabian prince
11. Oy Vey!
12. Ache
15. Chopped liver
21. "Kid" Kaplan's milieu
22. Plagues
24. Long time
26. Dead Sea cosmetics
27. Saul's oldest daughter
28. Israeli airline
30. Yes to Sven
31. Terrorists
32. Four (Heb)
33. Orioles pitcher
35. Wilderness of __
36. Bet (Eng)
37. Bilhah's boy
39. Not on Pesach?
40. Spar
42. Freud's analytical tools
43. Actor James
45. Artist Shahn
46. Bivakasha
48. Four to a dreidel
49. Island entry
50. Abram's brother
51. Esther's kingdom?
52. Many-colored coat
53. Winchell to friends
54. Similar
56. Golden or Herod
57. Village of Simeon
58. Revisionist action
61. Shema ender

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 32.)

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This Week
Greater Toronto Area

Ontario govt. allocates $250,000 to seniors' services. *Page 3*

YOW: Yidden on Wheels is Canada's first and only Jewish motorcycle club. *Page 16*

On Campus

Marc Kates, 21, of Thornhill graduates from U of T with a major in Yiddish. *Page 20*

National

Winnipeg Jewish war orphans plan a 50th anniversary reunion. *Page 22*

Arts

Ashkenaz '97: A preview of the most amazing collection of Jewish theatre. *Page 30*

Sports

Maccabi Canada softball team returns with gold medal. *Page 42*

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 18
On Campus 20
Coast to Coast 22
Health 24
International 25
Travel, Arts & Business 30
Yiddish Corner 33
Classified 38
Sports 42
Ask Ella 43
Crossword 43

Shabbat Nachamu: Vaetchanan
Candlelighting: 8:01
Av 12, 5757
Havdalah: 9:06

'Where terror lurks'

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Meet millionaire Kamal Hamadeh, owner of gas stations in the Gaza Strip and someone who by his own admission loves to booze it up and chase skirts.

Hamadeh, who represents Israeli companies in the Arab world and crosses regularly into Israel, went on a business and family trip in May. In Germany, he met his nephew who asked for a favor.

According to Israeli prosecutors, the nephew, a member of Islamic Jihad, wanted Hamadeh to smuggle bombs and terrorists over the Green Line. At first, the prosecutors say, Hamadeh dismissed the request, but the nephew wouldn't give up, so his uncle agreed.

Commentary

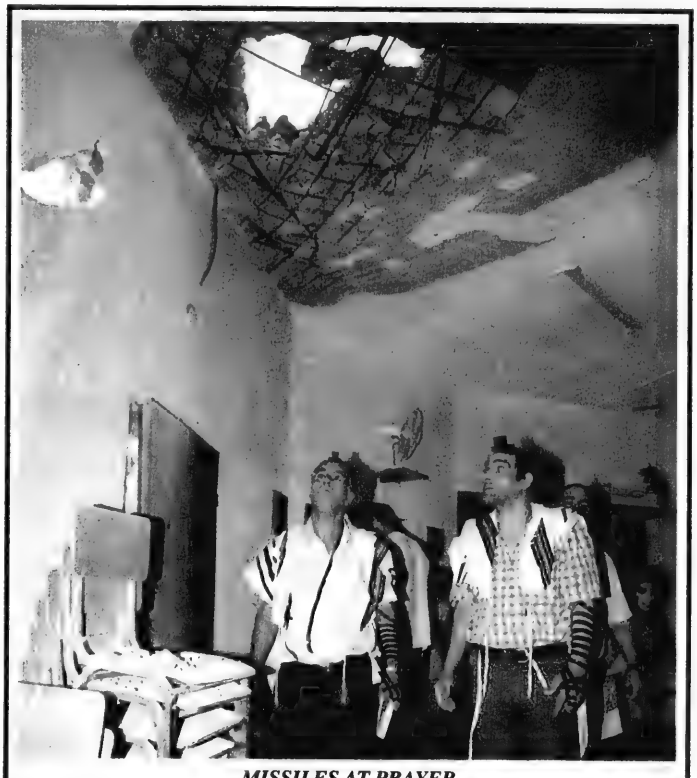
Today, Hamadeh is in an Ashkelon prison under investigation. Security sources are not certain he meant to carry out his alleged promise to his nephew, but once it was made, they say, Jihad agents would not have given him any choice.

To security officials in Israel, the Hamadeh episode is evidence of how, in times of political tension, virtually any Palestinian can be recruited into terrorism. Some, like Hamadeh, might be unwilling soldiers. But others, even those who have little in common with the religious zealots, are eager to help.

This explains the recent suicide bombings in Machane Yehuda, as well as the capture of a Palestinian squad allegedly about to embark on a bombing spree of the New York City subway system the following day.

The two cases show how Palestinian terrorism today is nourished by a wide range of militants whose shared purpose is to attack Israeli and Jewish targets, including subway stations in heavily Jewish neighborhoods. Experts say their

Continued on page 26



MISSILES AT PRAYER
Morning prayers were interrupted last week in Kiryat Shmonah by a katyusha rocket launched by Hezbollah from Lebanon. *Please see related story on page 25.* *[RNS/Reuters]*

Jews accused of planning a holocaust

Arab-language paper repeats allegation

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An Arab-language newspaper published in Montreal has repeated an accusation that Jews are planning a holocaust against Arabs.

The claim was one of a number of unsupported allegations contained in a column in the June 4 edition of the newspaper, *Al-Miraat* (*The Mirror*) that included the suggestion that "Israeli extremists and their agents abroad" might put *Al-Miraat*'s column writer's life in danger.

The article, written by Farrid Habshy, is titled "I Demand An Explanation and Apology From the Insanes." It is ostensibly a response to an April 10 *CJN* article that reported on a diatribe that appeared in the March 5 issue of *Al-Miraat*. The March 5 article first raised the allegation of a holocaust against Arabs and went on to charge Jews with dominating the world's media, controlling the U.S. administration and engaging in social engineering on a world scale.

The CJN had suggested that the March 5 *Al-Miraat* article resembled neo-nazi propaganda.

On June 4, Habshi wrote: "And all that the paper achieved by this article is that it gave a definite ...example of what I was saying and that is a lot of the organizations which in their name [have] the word 'Jewish' are nothing but wolves wearing sheep skins in order to infiltrate between the herd and then

Continued on page 26

INSIDE

Are there secret codes in the bible? Part II by Barry Levy of McGill University. *Please see page 9.*

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IDF soldier killed in Hezbollah attack — please see page 25

The News in Brief

YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Five young Canadians are among 72 students from 17 countries around the world who are participating in the 29th annual Weizmann Institute summer program for outstanding high school students.

The students attend lectures and also work in laboratories with institute scientists. Seen outside the Laub International Science Youth Village at the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovot are (from left) Jonathan Mandel, 18, from London; Josh Dyment, 19, from Toronto; Raymond Yong, 17, from Calgary; Cecilia Lui, 19, from Scarborough; and Elizabeth Kracow, 18, from Montreal. [Edgar Asher photo]

CANADA

Argentina Appointment

TORONTO — Argentina's minister of foreign affairs has appointed Sol Littman, Canadian director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, to an international panel charged with clarifying the nature and extent of Nazi activities in the Argentine republic.

Righteous Gentile

TORONTO — Roelof Vis was honored as a Righteous Gentile last week by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, at a special ceremony organized by the Consulate General of Israel.

As a teenager during World War II, Vis was an active member of the Resistance. He helped secure "safe houses" where Jewish people could be hidden from the Nazis. Vis' family, with eight children of their own, also sheltered and hid many children.

Vis, now retired, moved to Canada in 1981.

Vis was designated the title of Righteous Among the Nations, for his role in helping save Jewish people from the Holocaust. He was also awarded a medal, a certificate of honor and his name was inscribed at the Yad Vashem Museum in Jerusalem.

ISRAEL

Pollard Hearing

JERUSALEM – The Israel High Court of Justice has set Oct. 29 as the date to hear Jonathan Pollard's petition against the government of Israel.

Pollard is taking the government of Israel to court to force it to negotiate in good faith for his release.

Israel Mission

JERUSALEM – Three Canadian business leaders will be honored at this month's Israel Mission sponsored by the municipality of Jerusalem and Jerusalem Fund of Aish HaTorah.

As well, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will present the Theodore Herzl Award to a select group at a special Knesset ceremony.

The Canadian honorees are Saul Feldberg, chair of the Global Group; Gerald Pencer, CEO of Cott Beverages; and Allan Silber, chair and CEO of Counsel Corporation.

WORLD

Jewish Cultural Assets

NEW YORK – The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture has launched a major effort to create a "comprehensive inventory" of Jewish cultural assets throughout Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

The foundation sees the program as leading to a plan for "restoring, preserving and enhancing" these assets.

The project will focus on countries that suffered under Nazi occupation and important areas of Jewish settlement.

Jewish Television Channel

PARIS – Europe and Israel will soon have a television channel with Jewish programming.

In early 1998, the Shalom Channel plans to begin broadcasting simultaneously in Paris, London, Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Property Returned

ROME – Italy has handed over to the Italian Jewish community valuables plundered by the Nazis during World War II.

"The bags don't contain treasures, but behind them there are destroyed families, deportations and human suffering," Treasury Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi said during the recent ceremony marking the return of the items.

He called the bags "a treasure of memory and a warning to never forget."

The return of the property was triggered by a law passed by parliament last month.

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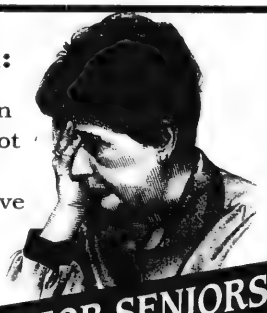

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Vol. XXXVIII, No. 16 (2,862)

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IMP - Israel Advertising Representatives
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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,711 copies.
Average net paid circulation per issue: 45,109 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997.

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Govt. allocates $250,000 to seniors' services

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Massive changes in health care have led to a $250,000 new grant from the Ontario government for home services to seniors in the Metro Jewish community.

"It will mean thousands more hours of service to a significantly increased number of families," said Michael Scheinert, executive director of Senior Care, which provides services to the Jewish elderly.

The money enables Senior Care to expand its respite care service, its friendly visiting program which assists families coping with a chronic or terminal illness, its educational groups for family caregivers and its mutual support groups for those with early or mild dementia.

"There are massive changes in the home care field, partly as a result of hospital restructuring, and partly because it is much more competitive," said Scheinert.

With the new grant, respite care services can be offered 24 hours a day, seven days a week, on an emergency or planned basis, if necessary, though in most cases they will be needed for only two or three days, he said.

The grant also means more money for the Habayit Shelanu residence of 59 units in the Spadina Rd.-Davenport Rd. area operated by Senior Care. Access to 24-hour- care will now be part and parcel of its service to residents.

The Senior Care program of security checks and telephone reassurance will be expanded. There will be a program of transporting people to doctors and other places, a joint initiative with the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living.

Senior Care has been the largest provider of services to Jewish elderly in Toronto for 25 years.

See JN

YARD SALE FOR ISRAEL

[From left] Batsheva Newman, Naomi Goldstein, Nechama Mernick and Penina Blumenfeld, along with their friends Raizy Schachter, Meira Zolty and Naomi Rottner, raised over $700 at a yard sale to benefit Yad Eliezer, an Israeli charity. The girls, students at Bais Yaakov High School and Ulpanat Orot Girls School, collected donations of toys, books, household goods and even bikes, all along the Bathurst corridor, carrying the donations home on foot, bikes or on the bus. They even got donations of hot dogs, drinks, nosh and pop, so that they could serve lunch. Yad Eliezer is an organization in Israel that distributes food packages to the poor, people in crisis, and the elderly and handicapped. It also distributes secondhand furniture, organizes weddings for the needy, provides emergency financial support and distributes powdered milk formulas for infants.

Terror suspect lived in Canada

TORONTO — One of two men arrested in New York on suspicion of planning a subway bombing lived for two years in Canada, obtained refugee status and remained here despite two criminal convictions.

Gazi Ibrahim Abu Mezer, 23, lived in the Metro Toronto area from September 1993 to November 1995. During that time, he was convicted of credit card fraud and assault and was given a conditional discharge. Less than five months later, while still on probation, he was charged with the sexual assault of a woman in an elevator. He pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of assault and was given more probation.

On arriving in Canada from the West Bank, Abu Mezer received a student visa and a work permit. News reports indicate he has Israeli and Jordanian citizenship.

Spokespeople for Immigration Canada declined to comment on Abu Mezer, saying details of his refugee claim and other immigration matters are protected by the Privacy Act.

Abu Mezer and an associate, Lafi Khalil, 22, were shot and arrested by FBI agents in their Brooklyn apartment during a pre-dawn raid. Police said their arrest narrowly averted a planned subway bombing.

The RCMP are cooperating with U.S. investigators to track down Abu Mezer's associates in Toronto.

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Greater Toronto Area

From the editor's desk

Exploring the future of U.S. Jewry

Disagreements and differences of opinion between debaters are part of the deep structure of Jewish intellectual history and pedagogical method.

The pages of the Talmud are living proof of the importance, and indeed at times even of the seeming sanctity of legitimate questioning. No subject was considered to be beyond exploration; no question was inappropriate when raised *l'shem shamayim,* for the sake of heaven, that is, for the sake of honestly advancing an argument and seeking out the truth.

It should come therefore as no surprise that sharp disagreements and differences of opinion are being expressed among educators, analysts, writers and community leaders both religious and lay, about the condition of the Jewish present and about the possibilities for the Jewish future.

For example, last week I reproduced for readers a statement by the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University that had been published in the *Jerusalem Report* that "the world Jewish population will never again reach the pre-World War II total of 16.5 million...

"While Israel's Jewish population is on the rise, Diaspora numbers are falling."

The conclusions of the institute were based upon its own research and upon the much-referenced National Jewish Population Survey conducted in 1990 in the United States on behalf of the Council of Jewish Federations.

Last week, however, in an article that appeared in the *New York Times*, J.J. Goldberg, the American author, directly challenged the accuracy of the 1990 survey and the reliability of the conclusions that have been drawn from its data.

Goldberg categorically refuted one of the core findings of the 1990 survey which had claimed that 52 percent of American Jews were intermarrying.

"The intermarriage rate is not 52 percent , but around 38 percent. The number of Jews in this country is not decreasing; it's on the rise. There are 6 million Jews in the United States, not 5.5 million.

"The mistaken numbers arose from a series of petty missteps in the 1990 study..."

In his article, Goldberg set out to discredit the 1990 survey. He may very well be correct in his assessment of its accuracy. I have no way of choosing between the figures. It is for sociologists and demographers to judge which figures are accurate.

Even if we accept the correctness of his assertion that 38 percent of Jews are intermarrying, the sense of alarm is not diminished, but rather only its urgency.There is no comfort in a figure which suggests that almost four out of every 10 Jews are choosing to marry a non-Jewish partner. Moreover, if we remove the number of intermarried couples from the greater New York area, which would tend to drive the overall number downward, the 38 percent statistic will jump dramatically higher.

But in his article, Goldberg also set out to discredit the individuals and organizations who have attempted to mobilize a concerted, vigorous, communal response to what he calls the "panic" caused by the 1990 survey results. In doing so, however, he reveals more about himself and his biases than about the call-to-Jewish-action that he attempts to impugn.

He categorizes that response as "one long favored by Orthodox rabbis...a return to the ghetto. For two centuries they (the Orthodox rabbis) *have peddled* this message without success." (Our emphasis)

He then dismisses the communal response because it "has been taken up by secular Jewish neoconservatives," whom he clearly dislikes.

"None of this, of course, *(the call for a Jewish reawakening)* has the least chance of engaging most American Jews. They remain steadfastly liberal in their religious and political leanings."

This "statement of principle" by Goldberg leads quite ironically and poignantly to a provocative article entitled *After Zionism* by Hillel Halkin, the noted Israeli writer, translator and journalist, which appeared in the June 1997 volume of *Commentary*.

The article is typically Halkin: eloquent but jarring. He reflects upon the future of the Jewish people, a subject on which he wrote exactly 20 years ago in his book *Letters to an American Jewish Friend: A Zionist Polemic*.

Halkin never explicitly explains the reason for the title of the essay. He merely begins with the assumption that Zionism has failed because it could not lure the Diaspora out of its existence.

In the course of his argument, however, he provides a number of insightful observations of Jewish life in Israel and in the United States, one of which is directly responsive though opposite to the "statement of principle" enunciated by J.J. Goldberg.

Goldberg views American Jewry's steadfast liberal leanings in religion and politics as a great strength.

In terms of the Jewish future of American Jewry, Halkin sees it as quite the opposite.

"Judaism...has something to say to American Jews only if it is prepared to be unsparingly adversarial...Most of what it has traditionally stood for – obedience to divine and human authority, subordination of the individual, unremitting self-discipline and self-restraint, devotion to textual study, the necessity for endless repetition, vigilant regulation of bodily functions, the supreme importance of the family and procreation, consistent gender differentiation, hierarchical distinctions in all walks of life – is profoundly antithetical to the values of contemporary liberal American society.

"The majority of American Jews will want nothing to do with this. *And as Jews, they or their children will disappear.*" (My emphasis)

We can expect more discussion, more differences of opinion and more disagreement on this subject. Despite the disagreements or perhaps more accurately precisely on account of them, there is indeed one conclusion which we can draw with unassailable certainty: Jewish life is too rewarding and its legacy too precious for any of us to become complacent about its future.

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Greater Toronto Area

UJA Women's Campaign head stresses tzedakah's social benefits

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's surprising how many people don't give to UJA simply because they're not asked, says 1998 Women's Campaign chair Agi Mandel.

Perhaps Mandel wouldn't have given so much of her time as a community volunteer had a neighbor not asked her to canvass for UJA some 17 years ago.

"I've always gotten back more than I've given," said Mandel, 44, in a recent interview at her home. "The sense that you're part of something larger than yourself and your little circle is quite special. The work that we do helps the most needy and vulnerable in our community. It embodies our most basic Jewish value of tikkun olam."

A registered dietician by training, Mandel found that volunteer work met a creative need after her children, now 20 and 17, were born.

She has also been involved with Bialik Day School and Jewish Women's Federation, of which her twin sister, Susan Michaels, is a vice-president.

"I want to emphasize that this [UJA] communal campaign remains the central vehicle promoting social justice for and on behalf of all Jews — with the emphasis on all," she said.

In light of recent divisive issues such as Israel's proposed conversion bill, Mandel noted that UJA dollars "fund all kinds of pluralism-supporting programs."

Agi Mandel

Shlichim for Pluralism, sponsored by the Masorti movement, is one such recipient, she said, also mentioning other fledgling movements supported by Masorti (Conservative in Israel) or the Israeli Movement for Progressive Judaism.

Israeli recipients also include shelters for abused women, she noted.

But over half the money raised is spent locally, she pointed out. The prime expenditure here is Jewish education, which is "very heavily" subsidized.

"We're a very fortunate and giving community, but a great deal of work remains to be done, especially in the areas of poverty and government cutbacks." Other priorities here include continuity-related projects.

Most of the money sent abroad funds the continued aliyah from the former Soviet Union as well as rescue of Jews from dangerous regions and absorption of new immigrants in Israel.

For Mandel, the bottom line is: "We help the needy. We don't look at what their background is."

A child of Holocaust survivors who escaped Czechoslovakia in 1950, Mandel was raised to believe she was privileged to live in Canada.

Her parents were helped along the way by the Jewish community in Vienna and Mandel's father "raised us to believe there's nothing nicer than giving tzedakah. My mother, having lost so much of her family, saw it in very practical terms: Jews need to help Jews."

Two years ago, UJA solicited three-year pledges, an innovative strategy which allowed volunteer s more time to solicit new donors, about 500 of whom made pledges.

Mandel wants her small army of volunteers – the board alone has some 175 women – to know how much their efforts are valued. "We can't do it without them."

Despite multiple time demands facing most women, Mandel believes there has been a renewed recognition of the importance of community work. "It's not only about material progress."

New Yiddish committee chair

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Love of mamaloshen is taking Israeli-born Ethel Cooper, a child of Holocaust survivors, in a new direction.

Cooper, whose first words as a child were in Yiddish, and who is now a Yiddish teacher at Bialik Hebrew Day School, has become chair of UJA Federation Yiddish committee, succeeding Gerry Kane.

The committee oversees the spending of $60,000 to $70,000 a year to promote Yiddish culture in its myriad forms, only $9,000 of which is supplied by UJA Federation. The rest of the money is raised by volunteers.

Cooper, who was brought to Canada at the age of two and went through the public school system (in addition to eight years of after-school study at the I.L. Peretz Workmen's Circle) never lost her love or use of Yiddish.

One of her priorities is expanding the teaching of Yiddish in the Jewish day school system. She was chair of a sub-committee on Yiddish education before stepping into Kane's shoes

Bialik is the only school which teaches Yiddish as part of its curriculum, said Cooper, whose two daughters Rachel, 11, and Toba, 9, attend the school.

"I know from what my graduates tell me, and from how appreciative their parents are, that Yiddish has helped them to connect to their roots," she said.

In her own case, she said, she was "surrounded" by Yiddish when she worked for seven years at the YIVO Institute in New York. At that time she was married to her first husband, now deceased, also a child of survivors.

Cooper, a member of the Friends of Yiddish, is bullish about a revival of Yiddish culture and sees many heartening signs on the horizon, including an interest among young

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Greater Toronto Area

Koschitzky helps launch Bar-Ilan department

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a youngster, Mira Koschitzky would have been hard pressed to imagine that one day there would be a State of Israel, let alone that she would receive an honorary doctorate there.

Earlier this summer Bar-Ilan University presented her with an honorary doctorate for community leadership and commitment to religious Zionist education.

From Israel, Koschitzky and a family contingent — including Saul, Mira's husband of 40 years, and all three of their grown children — travelled to her native Czechoslovakia where she was one of two Bar-Ilan board members to hood Czech president Vaclav Havel as he too was awarded an honorary doctorate by the university. The ceremony was held at the Presidential Castle in Prague.

While in Israel, Mira and Saul Koschitzky, both long-time community leaders and philanthropists, also dedicated Bar-Ilan University's Land of Israel Studies Department, in memory of her parents, Vilma and Frank Martin (Szusz).

"We tried to do something my parents would like," Koschitzky said during a recent interview in her North York home's airy library, with its array of Jewish tomes, framed newspaper clippings and assorted family photos.

Reflecting on the newly dedicated department's interdisciplinary curriculum, Koschitzky expressed her belief that subjects such as archeology, history and religion are "all important things for young Jewish people to learn."

For its 800 students, including 20 doctoral candidates, the curriculum encompasses "different phases of Jewish life. I like that. I think my parents would have too."

Fostering education is a familiar concept to the Koschitzkys, who, with Saul's brother and sister-in-law Henry and Julia Koschitzky, were among the founders of Toronto's Yeshivat Bnei Akiva High Schools, Or Chaim and Ulpanat Orot.

One of Koschitzky's most vivid childhood memories, of which she spoke at the dedication, is a clandestine Seder in wartime Europe. Then a frightened 7-year-old, Mira, her sister Lili and their parents were living outwardly as Christians, but on that night heavily blanketed windows concealed them from the outside world. All they had to mark the holiday were two candles and two pieces of matzot.

Honorary doctorate recipient Mira Koschitzky is seen with (from left) Bar-Ilan Chancellor Emanuel Rackman, husband Saul Koschitzky and university president Moshe Kaveh. Natan Sharansky, Israel's minister of industry and trade, is seated in the background. [Jonathan Reif photo]

"My father was very determined," she recalls.

The family remained together until August 1944, after which the children were separated from their parents. Hidden in neighboring villages until the following January, they were able to live together again, finally immigrating to Canada in 1948, when Koschitzky was 12.

After graduating from Harbord Collegiate, Koschitzky completed a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Economics at the University of Toronto, opting for a year of study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem after her first year at U of T.

Koschitzky's parents, who were strongly committed but not religious Jews, "instilled in me the importance of peaceful coexistence between Jews of all backgrounds," she said.

In that spirit, Bar-Ilan "tries to bring religious and non-religious together," she added.

Although Koschitzky's parents were ardent Zionists and her mother was active in Hadassah, it's her husband she credits for motivating her to take an active community role. "We come from a family where working for the community is part of what you do as a Jew," Koschitzky said.

A past national executive chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, she has also been actively involved in the parents' association of Associated Hebrew Schools, UJA Federation, Hadassah and Baycrest Hospital, to name a few. In the 1980s, she worked to secure the freedom of Israel's current industry and trade minister Natan Sharansky, then imprisoned in the former Soviet Union.

The fact that Sharansky received an honorary doctorate (for bravery, commitment to Jewish identity, and leadership) along with her was an indication to her of "how the world, thank G-d, has changed for the better." (Other recipients were retired Israeli Supreme Court Justice Menachem Elon; Yale University professor of child psychiatry, pediatrics and psychology, Donald J. Cohen; Torah scholar Rabbi Yoseph Kapach; and philanthropist Lorenz Cederbaum of Germany.)

Canadian Ambassador to Israel David Berger, who attended the dedication, praised Koschitzky for promoting education and a strong sense of values. "Mira Koschitzky is proof that people can make a difference."

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Greater Toronto Area

Basya Hunter was dominant force in Toronto theatre

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Basya Hunter, a dominant force in Toronto theatre for many years, died at Baycrest Hospital July 29 at the age of 85.

Obituary

A woman of amazing energy and talent, she was best known as the director of the Holy Blossom Temple Players and the drama teacher of well-known actors and directors, including Ted Kotcheff, William Shatner, Toby Robins and John Drainie.

Busy as she was, she had time to comfort and help actors and others, who benefited from her sensitive nature and compassion.

Born in 1911 in Minsk, Russia, she came to America as a girl of three and by age 12 she was directing plays on the sidewalks of New York's east side.

In New York she wrote an unpublished book, When the Lamps are Lit, on the history of her family and the evolution of Judaism.

As a young woman of 18, she went to Russia to study under Stanislovsky at the Moscow Arts Theatre and later at Rheinehart Theatre in Germany. On the boat to Russia, she met Peter Hunter, a young activist, whom she was later to marry.

Thousands of people saw the plays she directed at Holy Blossom Temple in the 1950s, dramas which looked closely at the American dream and at social ferment in other countries. They included *Death of a Salesman*, *The Crucible*, *All My Sons* and *Cry, the Beloved Country*.

With her husband, who was active in the peace movement, she lived for a time in England and other countries of Europe.

Basya Hunter in 1977.

In the late 1950s, she set up the Arts Theatre at the old University of Toronto Theatre on St. George Street where she directed *The Iceman Cometh*.

During the 1960s and 1970s, she was teaching drama privately and at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. It was during this time that she turned to writing her own plays. A drama about the famous Russian author Solzhenitsyn was produced locally. But the play for which she was best known, and for which she did prodigious research, was *Johannes and The Talmud*, about racial intolerance in Europe. It was given three productions in Toronto because of its wide popularity, in 1977 at Tarragon Theatre, in 1979-80 at St. Michael's College and in 1988 at Leah Posluns Theatre.

Wide popularity

She suffered a major stroke in 1988, and was at Baycrest since 1991. Though she lost the use of her voice, she was mentally alert until three years ago, according to her son, lawyer David Hunter of Toronto.

Her husband, Peter, predeceased her in December 1996.

In addition to her son, she is survived by her daughter-in-law, Janet, and a grandson, Ari, 18, a McGill University student who competed this summer in basketball at the Maccabiah games in Israel. Also surviving are two brothers, Rubin and Louis, and two nephews, Jonathan and Joshua, all of New York.

A private funeral service led by Ralph Wintrob, a theatre colleague, was followed by burial at Pardes Shalom cemetery.

A memorial service is to be held at Holy Blossom Temple, Sept. 7, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Maurice Eisendrath Auditorium where her plays were presented.

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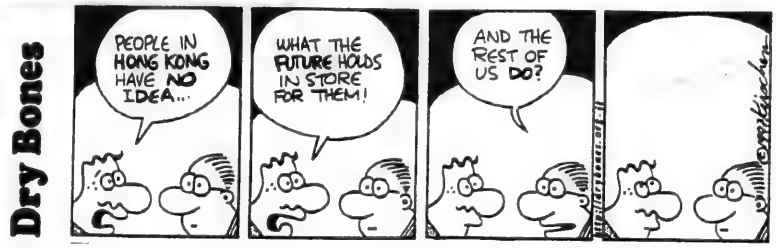
Publisher and Proprietor:
The Canadian Jewish News, a corporation without share capital.
Head Office:
1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont. M3B 3K4



The one not there

At a certain point in their deliberations last week, nine of Canada's 10 premiers and the two territorial leaders finally decided to stop whispering the words that needed to be spoken in full voice: national unity. Unfortunately, that point came only on the last day of their annual conference. But at least the words were spoken and the message was sent: the future of the federation is the country's paramount priority.

The 11 leaders agreed to meet in the autumn to resume the constitutional debate, although most of them were loathe to even use the term constitution in describing what they had agreed to.

By all accounts, Premier Roy Romanow of Saskatchewan was the driving force behind the decision to place national unity on the conference agenda, albeit in this truncated form. In what the *Globe and Mail* described as "an emotional plea" he convinced his colleagues to confront the issue despite the familiar threat from Lucien Bouchard that he would absent himself from any discussion on national unity. Canadians owe Saskatchewan's premier a debt of gratitude. He refused to concede to the premier from Quebec a *de facto* veto over what the premiers could or could not discuss.

The issue of national unity was placed on the agenda; Bouchard left the room; the other leaders, no longer cringing, agreed to discuss the matter some months hence in the fall; Bouchard returned to the chamber and to no one's surprise, announced that he would not attend the autumn meeting. He was, after all, being true to his vow after the last referendum that he would never sit again at the constitutional table to discuss any form of renewed federalism.

His refusal to meet with his colleagues in the fall to discuss renewed federalism leaves the other premiers no option but to appeal directly to the people of Quebec. This is no easy matter.

The legal and practical issues surrounding separation are complex, weighed down with an inflamed, impassioned history, and fraught with severe consequences for all Quebecers and all Canadians. And the separatists will always have the last word in Quebec.

Only one premier was absent, and will be absent, from the constitutional table. The symbolism is obvious. Thankfully, the others did not defer and did not surrender to the one who was not there.

Mission impossible

Now it is Dennis Ross. Soon it will be Madeleine Albright. The Americans are attempting to salvage what they and much of the western world perceive to be a severely foundering, if not already-wrecked, peace process. Ross arrived in the region last Sunday. As of this writing, he is still there, attempting to lay the groundwork for Albright's first visit later this month to Israel as U.S. secretary of state. If Ross succeeds at this preliminary stage, Albright is expected to bring both Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat together to discuss expediting the peace process.

The atmosphere in the region is tense. Relations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority are more acrimonious and untrusting than they have ever been. Hamas and Islamic Jihad have threatened to kill more Jews. And a shooting war between Israel and Hezbollah appears to have resumed in the north.

Ross' mission is difficult.

May it only prove however not to be impossible.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"Emancipation has totally changed the nature of the Jew...the law assured the Jews that they were full citizens of their country. The Jews hastened in a kind of intoxication to burn their boats. They had now other connections and were no longer forced to exist only with their co-religionists."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

August 12, 1906 William Diamond convened a minyan in Edmonton which was the forerunner of the Beth Israel Congregation, the city's first synagogue.*(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Ordering a falafel in Barrie

I sympathize with Viva Press's distress at finding Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem overrun with outlets of American fast-food chains (*CJN*, July 31). However, I would like to report a different, and perhaps complementary, experience.

Recently, I was in the audience at a large rock festival (Another Roadside Attraction) in Barrie, Ont. I went to the food tent for lunch, and the menu consisted of hot dogs, hamburgers, french fries, pizza, and — falafel! Needless to say, out of curiosity if nothing else, I ordered the falafel. To be sure, the person behind the counter was a little unsure about what to put in the falafel and how to serve it. Nor did it measure up to falafels I had eaten in Israel, or even downtown Toronto. Nevertheless, it was a recognizable falafel, and quite tasty at that.

So, even as we decry the Americanization of the world, it is worth remembering that the mixing of cultures works both ways.

Bob Chodos
New Hamburg, Ont.

Dash of realism needed

We can no longer trade with the currency of the Holocaust for world sympathy. We can no longer present the horribleness of Hamas as an advance for sympathy from non-Jews, for they are impressed by the motivation of people who are prepared to blow themselves up with their innocent victims.

It's time to stop dreaming.

A. A. Goldes
Toronto

Says *CJN* missed the boat on Maccabiah

I was very disappointed to read only old and rehashed "news" in *The CJN.* (July 31) The juniors and the seniors and the masters should all be included. The committee works so hard to get Jewish athletes involved and so much money is spent to send a formidable team.

Our grandson was a gold and a bronze medalist in junior gymnastics, but did not get mentioned. Jordan Bohnen was a bronze medalist in junior tennis. Where were the names of the softball players who won gold medals? No mention of the spectacular closing ceremonies put on by JNF. You seem to be missing the real spirit and intent here.

Barbara Levy
Toronto

Did someone act kindly to you today?

I am collecting true stories, poems and illustrations about "acts of kindness" extended to you (all ages) in Canada for a book entiled *Book of Acts.*

I want original stories, poems and artwork, stories about "acts of kindness" extended to you by others (family members, mentors, pets, friends and strangers). Write about an act of kindness that you have observed, or a true story that someone else has related to you. The stories can be spectacular, like someone saved your life. On the other hand, they can be simple everyday actions, like when that special someone made you smile when you were depressed. Travel "acts of kindness" stories may entail incidents encountered on planes, trains, automobiles, transit, camping trips, cruises, honeymoons and hitchhiking. I will accept tape recordings if you feel uncomfortable writing.

Each written submission should be no longer than 1,000 words. Please send typed, double-spaced manuscripts including your name, address and phone number.

My aim is to send *Book of Acts I* to the publisher by the end of August. Ten percent of the royalties I receive will go to Canadian non-profit organizations/charities of my choosing.

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A tribute to Morris Kaufman

To Morris Kaufman, the greatest joy was the sight of Jewish children in a Jewish day school.

It was during Associated Hebrew School's Leslie Street Building Campaign (1979 to 1985) that Kaufman surpassed all his previous achievements. As co-chair with John H. Daniels, Henry Koschitzky and Sam Shainhouse, Kaufman directly and indirectly helped raise 75% of the $11 million that built the Danilack Campus.

Morris Kaufman was a great Canadian, a proud Jew, a mentsh. He was my mentor and I will cherish his friendship forever.

Monty Mazin
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Are there secret codes in the Bible?

By B. BARRY LEVY

Throughout the millennia, people have always delighted in seeking out and claiming to find secret mesages encrypted within the text of the Bible. Efforts at decoding the Bible have been the subject of several recent books, including M. Drosnin, The Bible Code *(New York: Simon and Schuster, 1997), and R. M. Haralick and M. Glazerson,* The Torah Codes and Israel Today *(Jerusalem: Lev Eliyahu, 1997).*

The CJN asked *Barry Levy, Professor of Jewish Studies at McGill University and Dean of McGill's Faculty of Religious Studies, to comment on the phenomenon.*

This is the concluding part of Levy's two-part commentary.

Modern claims to have discovered in the Bible hints of future events, especially mass destructions, share much with what motivated pseudonymous writers of apocalyptic books, who, in late antiquity, attributed to early Bible characters detailed knowledge of the future. It seems that God's forewarning Abraham, Moses or Joseph about the Babylonian exile or the destructions of the Temple limited the horrors of these events as perceived by subsequent generations and strengthened their faith in divine omniscience and omnipotence. So, too, with the present search for encoded messages about the Holocaust, Yitzhak Rabin's assassination or a modern Armageddon.

Some mathematicians say the probability that the decoded messages are accidents is virtually nil, while others disagree; but because these decoded messages can be validated statistically, we are expected to set aside any philosophical or theological objections to them. Even if the entire process is mathematically valid, does that give it priority over every other form of human knowledge? Bible scholars, for example, have no use for this endeavor, which shares none of their assumptions and conclusions. Statisticians may have overstepped their limits.

Halachah cannot support the decoders' claims either, because it does not sustain the belief in a letter-perfect text. Despite the halachic preference that all Torah scrolls be identical, a universal text containing 304,805 letters — one preferred form — exists only among preselected copies. All are not identical; in fact, the past 2,000 years have witnessed numerous rabbinic debates about hundreds of spelling variations in the Torah and thousands in the entire Bible.

The Bible, particularly the Torah, may be the most accurate text transmitted by hand since antiquity, but major theoretical differences exist between high level accuracy, one copy defined as letter-perfect and letter-perfect unanimity among thousands of extant hand-made copies and printed editions. Rabbinic discussions of variant spellings usually impact on meaning no more than, for example, spelling the word "colour" with or without the "u," but such deviations are of great consequence with respect to claims about a letter-perfect text and the search for encoded messages based on letter counts. A difference of one letter changes everything and there are questions about many letters.

Rashi mentioned a few in his Torah commentary; over 20 are listed in Rabbi Akiba Eiger's Gilyon HaShas to Shabbat 55b.

Many more are discussed in an important and halachically authoritative (but under-utilized) 17th-century Bible commentary by Y. S. Norzi, Minhat Shai. In fact, the Talmud, the midrashim, and the Tosafists often interpreted spellings that differ from those in our Bibles. Some medieval Sephardim denounced the association of spelling and meaning; some Ashkenazim who disagreed interpreted words two ways in order to accommodate spelling variations!

Last Prayer, oil painting by Samuel Hirshenberg, from *Jewish Liturgy*, Keter Publishing 1975

In trying to fix the text, rabbinic responsa weigh the evidence of Torah scrolls and Masorah codices; talmudic and midrashic discussions; writings of grammarians, halachists, scribes and experts on scribal matters; tikkunim (model scribal notebooks); oral traditions among practising scribes; and even printed books. These sources often disagree about textual details. Their consideration may lead to halachically valid determinations, but not necessarily to the original text.

Though some medieval writers defended the notion that all Torah scrolls should be and could be letter-perfect, Rabbi Moses Isserles ruled that during a public reading, one does not replace a Torah scroll containing a mistake or defective spelling (i.e., the presence or absence of a vav or yod that is used as a vowel letter), because "our Torah scrolls are not so accurate." In so doing, he relied on the teachings of Rabbenu Tam and successive generations of like-minded Ashkenazi rabbis. Rabbi Yehezkel Landau refused to replace such a faulty Torah, because the replacement could be assumed to contain other similar errors. Rabbi Moses Sofer taught that scribes do not recite a blessing before commencing to write a Torah, because no one knows how to spell all the words. Some halachic authorities said this situation renders it impossible to produce a proper Torah scroll!

Because many of these variants are documented in ancient rabbinic works, some writers date the production of the definitive Torah text to the Middle Ages. This requires abandoning any association between the decoded messages and Mosaic spelling, and relocating the claim for the text's accuracy in medieval, not biblical, times. Even reliance on one preselected model is difficult; the earliest possible choices are medieval, and their use cannot lead to textual certainty. Despite Maimonides' seeming acceptance of the so-called Aleppo Codex, that manuscript lacks almost the entire Torah and cannot provide the model unless reconstructed from witnesses; even its own authority was challenged in medieval times. Other codices are less authoritative; other forms of textual determination are highly subjective and prone to error.

Belief in the presence of encoded messages often leads to a circular argument. The text is letter-perfect, so the decoding is valid, and the messages are meaningful, so the text must be accurate. If the letter-perfect text cannot be validated independently — and it cannot be — one uniform text no longer exists. Therefore, belief in encoded messages can be sustained only if one posits that the encoder anticipated all future spelling doubts and validated all of the resultant variations.

This notion may seem preposterous, but it is not new. It was espoused by Kabbalists who recognized the existence of textual variations and also believed the Torah contained extensive esoteric teachings, but they taught it as a general principle and did not apply it systematically, as the decoders do.

If different texts can all be valid, and decoded messages are to be used for prognosticating, the existence of variant texts suggests another possibility. A particular Ashkenazi scroll may hold the most authoritative predictions about sporting events or American presidents, while Sephardi scrolls may be most useful for predictions related to disease or the weather. Yemenite scrolls may be best for the stock market or Israeli politics. The (reconstructed) Aleppo Codex may be most accurate at anticipating the outcomes of military engagements.

Alternatively, one may ask why the absurdities inherent in all this should even concern us, much less tempt us to dismiss all other rational considerations. The simple answer is that, for vastly different reasons, many people are unable to take seriously the surface messages of the Torah: required faith in God, divine interference in some aspects of history, troubling stories, sacred and immutable commandments, values and regulations that challenge freedom of action and modern attitudes, and the like.

Rather, people are focused on modern history and politics, on Israel, on the Holocaust and, quite like earlier generations, on the fear of global destruction. But they remain intrigued by the Bible and are seriously moved by the same mystical-magical considerations that influenced many earlier generations of Jewish readers, whose confrontations with the text serve as both stimulus and model for the present one. Moreover, they prefer to project their ideas into the text rather than to extract the original, articulated ideas from the text.

Impressed by modern technologies capable of doing exhaustive manipulations that imitate the isolated ones of earlier times, contemporary readers are finding comfort in a system of reading that reinforces their personal needs, accommodates their concerns and restores some of the Bible's mystique in a seemingly scientific way, but avoids the text's real issues and enables them to co-opt it for totally different purposes. Christians are actively pursuing this approach because it allows them to affirm the ancient belief that the Christian Bible is foretold in Jewish Scriptures.

The discovery of esoteric meanings in mechanically generated letter combinations shares much with ancient and medieval textual manipulations that originated as pious play and with now-discredited notions once sustained through studying the movements of the stars and the shapes of human skulls. Because it was associated with some scientifically accurate information, such thinking was often confused with science, but eventually more sophisticated study helped debunk it.

Time, money, and energy should not be wasted in attempts to reconfirm the past or predict the future and in casuistic rationalizations of why that future did not unfold as predicted in stars, in tea leaves, in palm lines, or in reconfigured Bible texts. We should discourage the search for allegedly encoded esoteric messages and press discussion of the exoteric ones, which, despite their visibility, are in danger of being lost. Their recovery and examination is a far more pressing need for our time.

Barry Levy is professor of Jewish studies at McGill University and dean of McGill's Faculty of Religious Studies.

Opinions

Thinking about the past

By Emil Fackenheim in Germany

My three months of teaching as Franz Rosenzweig Professor at Kassel University are almost up, and I am ready to go back home to Israel. But if after three months in the country — I've been back for a few days a number of times but never this long — I should be able to give a report, I am embarrassed. I often feel "If everything is so good, why is it so bad" but I know why I feel that.

The people are amazingly friendly and relaxed, there isn't a trace of militarism, the campus is pretty international, there are foreign restaurants — it's all like a different country from what it used to be — so what is so bad? Everybody says "you can't claim Bach without also taking Himmler" or (in case of my hometown Halle) "you can't claim Handel without also taking Heydrich." I've said it myself many times. But on a day-by-day basis they don't take Himmler or Heydrich.

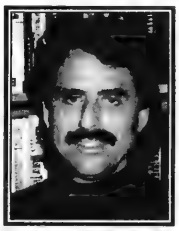
But this is, partly, just in my mind. For if, in my teaching, I every now and then get off my subject and break into what happened, it's clear that that's what they want to hear. Also, I have now been to various Jewish-Christian friendship groups, and am impressed with the slow, steady work they are doing, especially with the fact that it is steady. One theological friend told me that one always has to start all over again. I don't think they'll give up, and I admire their tenacity. And they try to deal with the past — including the Jewish-Christian past — honestly.

But the larger issue bothers me constantly: one can't "overcome" or "work through" the Holocaust: the catastrophe is too enormous, and we too act as if "we have survived, and now it's time to live again." At the same time, public awareness faces only now that among the "perpetrators" were also "ordinary men" who never murdered before, and that the Wehrmacht too engaged in war crimes; that the "bystanders" didn't just stand by but also stole the property of murdered Jews; and that the ultimate victims — to quote Primo Levi — the skin-and-bones Muselmaenner, who were already dead in spirit before they dropped dead — are also the complete witnesses.

This makes me think that whereas the *experience* is almost over, the time for *thinking* about it, trying to face and understand it is still too soon. But I am well aware that others think — perhaps hope — that it is too late for that too, and that what I more and more believe is a unique crime in the annals of mankind will eventually be forgotten. But we may never forget the victims.

The word I hear more often here than any other is "hope." I am told it is because of pessimism about unemployment and worry about the environment, but I wonder. Do they want to hear about hope from a Jew coming from Jerusalem?

RIP: Oslo peace process



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

It feels like the heart of the peace process stopped beating long ago. Presidents Bill Clinton and Hosni Mubarak, and Jordan's King Hussein have been giving ongoing heart massage and have been keeping the process on political life-support.

Maybe, however, it is time to listen to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Chairman Yasser Arafat. They have jointly declared the peace process dead. They should know. They have killed it.

The latest suicide bombing wasn't even the coup de grace. It merely stated the horrible, obvious fact — the Oslo peace process is dead.

Each leader has worked very hard at stabbing what was the resilient heart of the peace strategy. They used a number of elegant *shabariyas* (Middle Eastern knives).

Arafat's thrusts included giving the green light for on again and off again violence and protests. Another jab came from his allowing the radical Muslim Hamas and Islamic Jihad limited autonomy, basically looking the other way while they planned their bloody suicide attacks.

Instead of trying to heal the hurt organ by working with the unusual support he was receiving from the Clinton administration, Egypt and Jordan, Arafat gave in to his lack of patience and frustration, kicking with his intifadah-style actions and old-style guerrilla techniques.

He has proven too small for the task of making peace. Arafat took a bold step in entering the current peace process, but instead of giving his people real hope by harnessing solid international backing to improving their lives, he has returned the Palestinians to the false Messiahs of terrorism, bloodshed, hatred and violent struggle.

Arafat also played right into Netanyahu's hands and Netanyahu has achieved his declared goal. He has always come out against the Oslo accords and has effectively killed that process.

His sophisticated weapons included settlement expansion, endless delays in implementing the Oslo accords, carrying out only symbolic redeployments in the West Bank, opening a controversial tunnel in Jerusalem, imposing endless closures on Palestinian towns and villages.

Netanyahu has returned Israel to the good old pre-Rabin days. The country is isolated internationally. Enmity with the Arabs is growing. Tourism is dead. The economy is sluggish.

His slogan "peace with security" proved to be just what it was meant to be, a euphemism for "the re-ghettoization of the Jewish State." Unfortunately, most Israelis only feel secure when they are within historic ghetto boundaries, in this case fortified with guns and that "reassuring" wall of hatred from the outside.

We in the Middle East and in Israel are getting what we deserve. Israel voted in Netanyahu and therefore voted out the Oslo process. The Palestinians could not rise to the occasion and learn to relinquish their almost manic hatred of the Jewish State. Arab leaders have not shown the resolve to fight Islamic radicalism, one of the most lethal threats not only to the peace process, but also to their own regimes.

Radical Islamic leaders, Yigal Amir and Baruch Goldstein (in some other world) can all smile and shake each other's hands. They have succeeded for now. Netanyahu and Arafat will never prove to have the "guts" to be peacemakers.

We will have to wait patiently for other leaders and hope it won't cost too many lives to allow them to emerge, take over and give birth to a new peace process.

Yasser Arafat [RNS/Reuters photo]

Having deep blues

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Everyone is at times subject to fits of dejection or depression It therefore comes as no surprise that the recent victory of IBM's Deep Blue over world chess champion Gary Kasparov has caused predictions of the coming victory of machines over humans. Television and newspaper columnist Charles Krauthammer recently published an article in the *Weekly Standard* (May 26), entitled: "Be afraid. Be very afraid."

In it he predicts that "it will take perhaps a few centuries more for computers to reach the final, terrifying point of self-awareness, contingency and autonomous free will."

I cannot predict what machines will do a few years from now — the fabulous advances of modern technology discourage this kind of prophecy. It is entirely possible that something resembling self-awareness will indeed be part of these machine creatures of the future, a kind of sophisticated feedback mechanism which now is only in its infant stages. But a machine still is, and will be, made by its human inventors. It will be programmed in the image of humans, but not in the image of God.

The Krauthammer article came to my attention when I received my bi-weekly edition of the *Prager Perspective*, a review of Jewish religious challenges by the widely renowned California TV commentator, Dennis Prager.

He is quite right when he says that Kasparov's defeat by the machine means nothing except that the big calculator (which Deep Blue is basically) has been greatly developed. It calculates millions of chess positions per second and many more different outcomes in three minutes. But then, even the smallest pocket calculator can figure out the square root of a large number in a fraction of a second, while poor mortals, using their brains, may take hours to achieve the same end. This has not moved us to consider the pocket calculator a threat to human superiority — but somehow Deep Blue has taken us by surprise. Prager debunks such reaction and he headlines one of its paragraphs "Deep Blue is a Moron:"

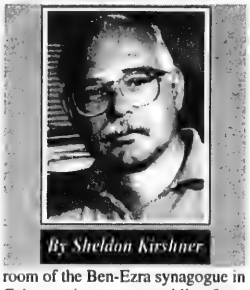
"Ask Deep Blue the capital of South Dakota or where the men's room is — not to mention how it feels about slavery — and it is no more than a giant paperweight. On the other hand, while Gary Kasparov may also not know the capital of South Dakota, he can sing songs, read novels, have original ideas about raising children, romance a woman, contemplate the wonders of nature and make moral choices. Not bad for a creature that weighs considerably less than Deep Blue and yet matches the big computer in the only thing it can do."

Why then (asks Prager) do so many people believe that Deep Blue's victory is so important? Because, he says, we confuse calculating intelligence with the essence of being human. Furthermore, Judaism has something to teach us in this regard. It teaches that free will and a sense of the religious are chief attributes of our humanity. For us, Deep Blue and its successors will arouse admiration, not so much for *their* capacity as for *ours*, which has used our God-given endowment to develop such a marvellous machine.

The Kirshner File

Cairo Geniza – a treasure trove of Judaica

One hundred years ago, a bookish Cambridge University scholar named Solomon Schechter sat in the store-



By Sheldon Kirshner

room of the Ben-Ezra synagogue in Cairo, poring over crumbling fragments written in Hebrew, Arabic and an assortment of other Middle Eastern languages in Hebrew characters.

Schechter, an authority in rabbinic literature, stumbled upon the Cairo Geniza — a treasure trove of documents that shed light on Jewish life and society in Egypt and the Mediterranean basin between the years 1000 and 1250 CE — thanks to the curiosity of two Scottish women.

In 1896, Margaret Gibson and Agnes Lewis acquired Geniza fragments during a sojourn in Cairo. Upon returning to Britain, they asked Schechter, a friend, to decipher them.

A keen student of Judaica, he was not oblivious to the significance of the Geniza. But when he realized that one of the fragments they had bought from an Egyptian antiquities dealer was an original copy of the *Book of Wisdom*, a tract of ancient Jewish proverbs, he decided to make haste to Cairo to examine the Geniza.

In Judaism, a geniza is a repository in a shul where worn-out prayer books are stored until they are buried. But in Cairo, all unwanted documents were dumped into the Geniza, a special vaulted room in the attic of the Ben-Ezra synagogue reachable only through a hole in the ceiling.

Consisting of long-forgotten letters, notes, business and marriage contracts, wills, family archives, religious manuscripts, liturgical poems and responsa, the Cairo Geniza is a window into a bygone era about which precious little was known. This is no small matter, since the vast majority of Jews during medieval times lived in Muslim domains.

The Geniza contains letters penned by Maimonides, notes taken by an anonymous rabbinical student, an interpretation of the Bible by a Karaite named Yusuf Ibn Nuah and almost two-thirds of a pre-Mishnaic tract called *Sedar Olam*.

As well, there are letters which offer insights into Yehuda Halevi, the Spanish Jewish poet; papers related to the fortunes and misfortunes of Abraham Ben Yiju, a Tunisian merchant who spent 18 years in India; and the the correspondence between a mother in Jerusalem and her son in Cairo.

Schechter, dumbfounded and amazed by this discovery, spent weeks in the synagogue. "The task," he wrote, "was by no means easy, the Geniza being very dark, and emitting clouds of dust when its contents were stirred..."

Somehow or other, he persuaded Cairo's Jewish community to let him transfer a good portion of the Geniza — some 140,000 documents — to Cambridge University, where they remain to this day.

This cache, however, comprises about half of the fragments in the Geniza. One hundred and twenty thousand other pages, not to mention entire manuscripts, found their way to libraries and private collections around the globe.

Long before Schechter appeared on the scene, a Russian Karaite, Abraham Firkowitch, obtained many Geniza documents. After his death in 1874, the State Public Library in St. Petersburg took possession of them. Later, the Bodleian Library at Oxford University amassed a large collection of Geniza manuscripts.

Remarkably enough, much of the Geniza remains inaccessible. One-third of its texts have been published, another one-third have been examined but await publication and the remainder have yet to be studied and cataloged.

The late S.D. Goitein (1900-1985) is arguably the greatest Geniza scholar of all times. His five-volume tome, *A Mediterranean Society*, is a masterpiece of historical research and synthesis.

This year being the centenary of Schechter's trip to Cairo, interest in the Geniza is running high. Tel Aviv University and the Hebrew University recently hosted an international conference on Geniza studies. And exhibitions, scheduled to end in October, have been mounted by the Israel Museum in Jerusalem and the Jewish Museum in New York City.

Jews fared better under Islamic rule

Until quite recently, the consensus among observers was that Jews fared better under Islam than Christianity.

This interpretation transcended the ages. In the 19th century, Henrich Gratz (*History of the Jews*) wrote: "Here [under Islam] the sons of Judah were free to raise their heads, and did not need to look about them with fear and humiliation." More recently, Andre Chouraqui commented: "The Jews of North Africa were happier than those in most parts of Europe..."

The Six Day War, which exacerbated Arab-Jewish tensions, virtually demolished this rosy view. A host of historians, ranging from Martin Gilbert to Bat Ye'or, debunked what they described as the myth of an interfaith utopia.

Mark Cohen, a Princeton University professor, delves into this debate with gusto in a scholarly book entitled *Under Crescent and Cross* (Princeton University Press, $29.95 US). The publisher claims that it's the first in-depth explanation of why medieval Islamic-Jewish relations, though hardly ideal, were less confrontational and violent than those between Jews and Christians in the West.

Cohen reaches his conclusion through a systematic comparsion of the status of Jews in Islam and Christendom. Space does not permit a thorough review of Cohen's thesis, which is cogent and persuasive, but following are highlights:

Mohammed, the founder of Islam, died a natural death and therefore, Muslims had no reason for holding Jews responsible for his passing. In Christianity, however, the circumstances of Jesus' demise fanned theological anti-Semitism.

Jews in Islamic and Christian lands labored under disabilities and restrictions, which Cohen lists at length. Yet the arbitrary taxes imposed on Jews by Islamic rulers were "a surer guarantee" of protection from hostility than in the West.

Islam's positive attitude toward trade, in contrast to Christianity's disdain for the merchant class, enabled Middle Eastern Jews to achieve a greater degree of integration than in Europe.

Minorities (*dhimmis*) in Islam were expected to remain "in their place." But at least they occupied an assured slot in Muslim society, Cohen notes. In Europe, the situation was not quite as stable.

European Jews were forced into ghettos. In Islam, residential separation of ethnic and religious groups was voluntary and normal, with no stigma attached.

There were periodic pogroms in the Islamic world, and some exacted immense casualties. Nevertheless, European Jews were subjected to physical violence on a more massive scale. And, Cohen adds, Jews in Islam did not suffer the anguish of expulsion.

You may not agree with all of Cohen's arguments, but you will certainly be impressed with his scholarship.

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Jewish Life

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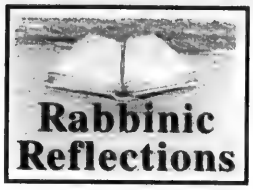


The way of wonder

By RABBI LEIGH LERNER

About to visit the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre, one student in study for conversion to Judaism asked, "Has the Shoah changed our attitude to Pesach?"

It was an insightful question, because a major message of the Exodus is, simply put, I was a slave in Egypt, and had I been there, I would have been redeemed. So I learn of God's greatness and the mitzvot that derive from the experience of slavery — to have one law for the native and the stranger, to open our hand to the alien in our midst and the downtrodden among us.

Jacob Neusner points out that, after the Shoah, many Jews are saying, had I been there, in occupied Europe, I would not have been redeemed. So I learn of God's impotence and our own need to make sure that no human beings can ever impose their ungodly will upon the Jewish people again. It's a lonely message, an angry message, but one that relates well to the facts of our age.

Is there a counter-message? Perhaps this week's parshah, Vaetchanan, proposes a different conclusion, one that may provide less anger and equal inspiration.

In referring to the Exodus, Moses says, has anything as grand as this ever happened or has its like ever been known? (Dvarim 4:32). Is this chutzpah on Moses' part or is he correct in his assessment?

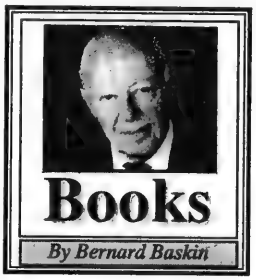
For those who contemplate the horrors along the path to freedom, Moses' words are audacious, indeed. For 40 years, the Israelites trekked through the wilderness, facing daunting challenges. Amalek would murder their young, their weak, their elderly. The earth would swallow the dissatisfied and rebellious among them. Fire would consume those who simply brought the wrong kind of sacrifice. An entire generation would die along the way. How dare Moses say, "Has anything as grand as this ever happened?" The Exodus catalogues four decades of misery.

From what angle, then, is Moses looking that he can speak such upbeat words? The Torah teaches here what Abraham Joshua Heschel called "the way of wonder." The way of wonder begins with an appreciation of what is, not with an assessment of what was. We do not deny the past. We learn from it. But we come to this moment prepared to find its goodness and to stand in awe of its power and possibility, especially given our knowledge of the past.

In the face of the Shoah, we do not deny the evil, and we do, as Neusner suggests, draw lessons from it. But we also stand at this moment in wonder before a people gathered from every quarter of the earth to inhabit Eretz Yisrael and to speak *leshon hakodesh*, Hebrew. Yes, we know our past. We take its message into our soul. But then we live in this moment. We recognize that to be alive at this instant in the history of the people of Israel is a privilege, a joy, an inspiration.

"Has anything as grand as this ever happened or has its like ever been known?" Plucked from one fire and forged by others, some might say we Jews are scarred and burned. The way of wonder proclaims that, despite all the tragedy, at this instant there is a miracle: we have been tempered and case-hardened to withstand whatever difficulties may come our way.

Rabbi Lerner is the spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom in Montreal.



FORCED EXIT
by Wesley J. Smith
RANDOM HOUSE $35.

In the near future the U.S. Supreme Court will rule on whether there is a constitutional right to physician-assisted suicide. This has long been a vexatious and troubling problem, and there are religious leaders, politicians, doctors, ethicists and lawyers on both sides of the question.

Proponents maintain that every individual has the right to make what has been called, "the most intimate choice central to personal dignity and autonomy." This would include exercising some control over the time and manner of one's death. The question is asked, "Why should patients in the final phase of terminal disease have to suffer needlessly?"

Actually, argue those in favor of assisted suicide, this is already a widespread medical practice. A recent study in the State of Washington revealed that 25 percent of physicians provide lethal prescriptions for terminal patients requesting them. There were similar findings elsewhere. In San Francisco, for example, 53 percent of 1995 responding physicians said that they had granted an AIDS patient's request for suicide assistance at least twice. These statistics approach the rate at which doctors help patients die in Holland where assisted suicide is, in effect, legal.

Addressing euthanasia

The author of this hard-hitting book, a lawyer and consumer advocate, reveals the disturbing social ills and damages inherent in the euthanasia movement. Through original reporting, exhaustive research, scores of true stories and extensive interviews with doctors, ethicists and activists, he makes a compelling case against euthanasia. At the same time he indicates some of the humane and compassionate alternatives — hospice care for the dying, more effective pain control and independent living for the disabled.

He always maintains a balance between sane, well-grounded observation and deeply felt passion. Assisted suicide, he warns, can become an accepted form of controlling health care costs. The wealthy will stay alive because they can afford medical resources. On the other hand, poor people, the disabled, the helpless with chronic health conditions will become the most likely victims of a vicious and heartless course of action.

Jews of various denominations, split as they are on most other issues, appear to express general opposition to euthanasia. In making decisions about the dying there are two principles in conflict: life is sacred and the relief of suffering. This delicate balance is often hard to maintain, but all Jewish religious teachers agree that heroic measures to prolong life — or the death process — are unnecessary and even unseemly.

Smith reminds us that between the years 1939 and 1945, German doctors and nurses intentionally killed more than 200,000 helpless people: the cognitively or physically disabled, people with mental disease, infants born with birth defects, the senile elderly, even the severely wounded German soldiers. These euthanasia practices were the first movement of the symphony of slaughter that took the lives of millions of Jews and other "undesirables," whose deaths we memorialize in the term Holocaust.

Euthanasia led directly to the death camps of Auschwitz, Treblinka and Dachau, as, in the words of the psychiatrist and Holocaust historian Robert Jay Lifton, "the medicalization of killing" became "a crucial…terrible step [toward] systemic genocide."

Maurice Lamm, president of the National Institute for Jewish Hospice and chair of professional rabbinics at Yeshiva University, writes, "The answer to the desperation of dying lies in compassion and courage and understanding, and even hope in 'hopeless' circumstances. Not suicide. Kevorkian is wrong, dead wrong, even if the circumstances of some individual's dying are horrendous in the extreme. The 'sweet death' of hemlock is a denial of life and all it embraces. Hemlock is not a Jewish flower."

Jewish Life

Dealing with death

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today, we continue our look at a difficult but important topic, death, and related Jewish resources on the Internet.

One of the most recognized prayers in Jewish liturgy isn't written in Hebrew but Aramaic. There are many Internet sites that examine Kaddish and its role in remembering the dead. For a straight translation see **[http://www1.mhv.net/~mgraffam/rel/kabbalah/siddur/kaddish.html]** and for a detailed analysis, go to [http://www.chabad.org/gopher/guide/kaddish.txt.htm].

But the Kaddish prayer has also been adapted into many artistic forms to express both personal and collective grief. In *Kaddish*, poet Allen Ginsberg remembers his mother and the horrible years she spent battling psychotic episodes **[http://www.charm.net/~brooklyn/Poems/Kaddish.html]**.

Another *Kaddish* was written by Avraham Burg, chair of the Jewish Agency, after the deaths of 73 soldiers in the IDF helicopter crash in February **[http://www.ja-wzo.org.il/struct/chair.htm]**:

"Our children took off for a five minute flight
and soon they'll touch down in the Garden of Eden.
No one will be there at the landing pad
to clean off the blood,
to wipe away their tears..."

The Kaddish Foundation **[http://mnemotrix. master.com/kaddish/]** is a non-profit organization based in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. It will retain individuals to say Kaddish and Yizkor for specified amounts of time. Check out their Web site for a clear explanation of Kaddish and other memorial rituals such as Yizkor **[http://mnemotrix.master.com/kaddish/terms.html#yizkor]**.

Finally, after all the rituals have been completed, there are still the memories. In *Of Time and Debbie*, **[http://www.jewishfamily.com/scripts/newjfl/paper/article.asp?ArticleID=250]** Shira Dicker reflects on the impact the death of a classmate still has on her 30 years later. "The truth of the matter is that time is a healer only for some. For others, time is an executioner, snatching them out of a perfect present for reasons unfathomable to us and known only to G-d."

With the mourning of Tisha b'Av behind us and the joyous holiday of Tu b'Av shortly ahead, **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/tubav/]** may G-d comfort all mourners, spare us from grief and may we know only simchas.

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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Diplomatically Speaking
By JEHUDI KINAR

Honoring heroes

(The following remarks are excerpted from a speech in a recent ceremony sponsored by Yad Vashem honoring Roelof Vis as one of the Righteous Among Nations.)

This ceremony holds great personal meaning for me, not only as a representative of the State of Israel, but also because I was a hidden child during the war. It is through the unsung heroism of people such as the Vis family, whom we honor here today, that traces of humanity were salvaged during those barbaric years.

The Holocaust was the most extensive and systematic state-engineered genocide in the annals of human history, an event of unprecedented evil.

All at once, it seemed that human decency and respect for life disintegrated. Primal brutality, pathological hatred, systematic indoctrination and propaganda all converged to trigger an orgy of mass murder unsurpassed in its calculation and cunning. The Holocaust proved the fragility of Jewish existence in the Diaspora and ended the illusion that the Jewish people could survive without a homeland of their own.

We came here today to remember and to bear witness: to remember the Holocaust and to bear witness to heroism and survival; to remember the insanity of the Nazis and to bear witness to our determination to persevere.

But we have also come here to honor one of the heroes of the Second World War, Mr. Roelof Vis.

Only a few courageous individuals, who Israel recognizes as "Righteous Among the Nations," defied the barbarous laws of the Nazis. At great personal risk, often armed only with their morality, these brave souls helped save Jewish lives while the majority turned a blind eye to the atrocities.

Mr. Vis is an exemplary representative of the Dutch Resistance in the years of World War II. When I asked him what influenced him as a young boy to join the Resistance, he told me that it had been a maxim from the Bible that was on the wall of his parents' home:"Hide the outcasts, betray not the wanderer."

This sentiment influenced not only Roelof Vis, but also many other people in his small, deeply religious village, De Knipe, which is in the northeast region of the Netherlands. During the war, 31 Jews were hidden in De Knipe; three times as many as the average in the rest of the country.

Mr. Vis, one of nine children, started working at age 13 in a shoe store. There, at age 17, he first learned about the Resistance. The owner of the store, Mr. Steenwijk, was involved in the Resistance, but shortly after young Roelof began to help, Mr. Steenwijk was arrested. The next day, Mrs. Steenwijk asked Vis to help locate some safe houses where people could hide from the Nazis. Over time, Roelof Vis helped transport many people, including young children, to safety.

It is in recognition of such selfless efforts that the Medal of the Righteous Among Nations is issued by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem.

This tribute is the highest expression of gratitude that the State of Israel can offer. The medal is inscribed: "Whoever saves one life, it is as though he has saved the entire world."

Mr. Vis told me that "after the war, some people boasted about what they had done. But the real Resistance fighters didn't act in order to receive any honors."

I am glad, nonetheless, that Mr. Vis has agreed to accept this well-deserved honor.

(Jehudi Kinar is consul general of Israel to Toronto and Western Canada.)

Some of those who were not saved, as depicted by artist Leo Haas.

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Jewish Life

Bar mitzvah on Masada a magical moment

LESLIE G. KINRYS
CJN Staff

Guest Voices

It's 6 a.m. The sky is brightening and the desert air is still cool. Our four families are climbing the Roman ramp to reach the top of Masada, where we are going to celebrate our children's bar and bat mitzvahs.

We've all met for the first time on this trip. Our tour itinerary is a mix of history and adventurous fun. We are strangers, yet quickly friends, who are now about to share an intimate, emotional, family milestone.

The children are excited by the early hour and the adventure of the climb. But when we arrive at the top and the tour guide takes charge, you can see them thinking, "More history, more ruins to see!" Everyone is impatient for the rabbi to start the davening.

Finally, we're assembled in the Western Palace at the top of the mountain. The rabbi involves everyone in the Shacharit service. Two younger sisters help take the small Torah out of the backpack used to carry it up.

Our son has the first aliyah. His voice is as sweet as it was at his formal bar mitzvah in February. I try to focus the camera for a picture; it's so hard when you are wiping tears from your eyes. I wish my parents could have made this trip, to be here now. I see so many of the same emotions playing across the other parents' faces. All our children are so sure of their Torah portions and suddenly they seem so grown up.

Two older sisters get later aliyot. My husband raises the Torah as the hagbah and one of the other mothers has the honor of galilah. Two of the fathers are trying to capture as much as they can on video. The service is almost over. It has gone as quickly as the one in February.

The rabbi has the two boys and two girls stand under a tallit held by four of the parents. We bless our children. The rabbi addresses them and wishes them a life of Torah, good deeds and the wedding canopy, like the one they're now standing under. We throw candies at them, raise a cup of grape juice and dance in their honor.

It's now well past 9 a.m. The sun is strong and the day is going to be a scorcher. The last of the explorations of Masada seem anti-climactic. We're ready to leave. It's time to enjoy the rest of the trip and hope there are more family vacations before our children don't want to travel with us anymore.

Advt.

THE BORINS BEAT

"If it's going to be, it's up to me", Robert Schuller said it best.

Congratulations to **Ron Hoffman** on his receiving UJA Federation's Shem Tov Award for his leadership at Reena and elsewhere, always representing the highest levels of excellence in volunteer service to Toronto's Jewish Community. UJA Federation also recognized the extraordinary community commitment and service of old friends **Dov Altman, Marlene Axmith, Sid Chelsky, Michael C. Feldman, David Sonenberg, Judy Nyman, Norman Stern** and **Morley Wolfe, Q.C.** Yasher Koach!!!

Friends and business associates of ebullient pharmacist **Phil Droznika** a Reena Foundation board member and owner of **Amherst Pharmacy**, spent a sunny day on the links to raise more than $7,000 for **Reena's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre.**

Recently, at Bagel Plus, **Ralph Snow** (Reena Foundation, Beit Halochem and so many other charities) and **Maurice Benzacar** (State of Israel Bonds and Or Haemet Sephardic School) regaled me with stories of their life and times together in the 1950's and early Toronto.

Congratulations to **Jeffrey Lyons, Q.C.** on his recent appointment to the Metropolitan Toronto Police Services Board. Policing is at the centre of many of the issues in our community.

"PLANNED SAVING: Making It Happen!" is a hands-on tool we're using to assist Reena Foundation with its continued face-to-face relationship building. The ubiquitous and talented **Sherry Rodney Kushner, CRFE**, co-author of the book with **Dr. Edward H. Pearce**, has been truly wonderful with her advice and friendship.

Saw these two celebrated Reena golfers, **Henry Liss** & **Harvey Sugar** at Sheppard Plaza Cleaners, cleaners to the stars.

Watch this space for the new expansion plans of Shopsy's in the Greater Toronto Area when **Lewis Allen** takes the tradition into the future. I thank world famous impresario **Gino Empry** for his help at Reena and for our great lunch tête-à-têtes.

The very last client I serviced in February 1969, after almost 12 years at **Pape, Strom, Sherman and Lavine**, Chartered Accountants, was **Leon Weinstein, Sam Shopsowitz's** best pal. I loved their stories!!! Lewis Allen is continuing Shopsy's long history of involvement with a variety of charities.

People I enjoyed seeing at Shopsy's included **Paul V. Godfrey, Bob Hope** (I still have the letter from him), **Monty Hall, Danny Larue** (who I saw again at his theatre in London, England). **Ed Mirvish** (we then became neighbours on King Street West), **Al & Sara Waxman, Patti & Jerry Starr** (was that her as a blonde on the cover of her second book, Deadly Justice, in the Swedish release?). **Hans Gerhardt** (ex GM of Sutton Place Hotel and The Old Mill, now president and C.O.O. of RHK Capital Inc. Hotels, whose holdings include The Chimo in Ottawa and the Pine Stone Resort in Haliburton).

Birthdays I've personally acknowledged in the last month...and now you can too: **Karen Stekel, 'Richie Borins'** and **Carolyn Springer's** grandmother, **Pauline Freeman's** 90th, **Hymie Ziv's** 90th (still active at Broadway Printers), **Harvey Dolman's** big 60th, **Michael Latner, Paul** (see you in N.Y.) **Beeston, Ken** (George Cohon's twin brother) **McGowen, Steven Latner, Wayne McLeod** (CCL), **Janet Springer, Bert Goodbaum, Richard Cole, Brian** (CBC sportscaster, the Olympic host at Atlanta & speaker supreme) **Williams, Amanda Springer, Harold Wolfe, Harold Fink, Elliott** (mazel tov on Dylex's success!) **Wahle** and **Michael** (Toronto Star reporter) **Clarkson.**

Celebrating anniversaries recently: **Allen & Sheila Mostyn, Jennifer** (Reena's affable development assistant) & **Michael Clarkson** and **Saul & Esther Schwartz's** 50th.

Speaking of the Toronto Star, Harlequin editor **Zilla (& Sam) Soriano's** daughter's upcoming wedding happens to fall on my grandson **Daniel's** first birthday this weekend. By the way, Daniel was recently spotted at **United Bakers** with his parents, **Sheryl and Richie.**

See you at **Ashkenaz,** a festival of new Yiddish culture, Harbourfront Centre, August 25-September 1. For more information or to volunteer call 416-973-3000.

It was fun to appear Tuesday afternoon as a clown to entertain the "munchie" kids at **Camp Robin Hood.** They do so much to integrate the disabled...and what an honour to perform some of my magic tricks in front of the one and only **Mark Zeifman**, "Magic Mark". Get him to perform his mystifying and dazzling illusions at your birthday party. I'll even show up...for a donation to Reena. He's at the camp for the summer. Did you know that **Sam Kolber** (famous photographer) is a clown, part of the "Sambrian" group, doers of good deeds?

I enjoyed seeing Baycrest's **Elaine Todres, Charlie Diamond** and **Harold Lederman** at United Bakers Dairy Restaurant, and my Reena buddy **Dave Kelman**, my Shaare Zedek pal **Harvey Solursh, Carol & Herman Gottesman** and **David Goldstein.** Speaking of Baycrest, Harvey was on my first Wheat Sheaf Tavern sponsored **Baycrest Fun Run** team. Our photo is always on my desk!!!

Wonderful to see **Dr. Sheldon Nadal** (who pioneered minimum incision, painless bunion removal) at the Reena Gala Dinner honouring his brother, **Miles.** What a spectacular celebration!!! We reminisced about our volleyball playing days together.

I'll bet you can't believe I got through a whole column without mentioning **Sheila B. Engel.**

SEE YOU BACK HERE IN OCTOBER...AND ELSEWHERE!!!

This is Jerry Borins' last column as Capital Campaign Director for Reena's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre. We wish to thank Jerry for his contribution to the Reena Foundation during the past 15 months in helping Reena move towards its goal. The Centre will officially open on September 7th and will enable Reena to extend its programs to meet the needs of people with developmental handicaps in the community. We wish Jerry good luck as he embarks on exciting new challenges.

Jabotinsky's yahrzeit marked

By REVA KAISER
Student Intern

TORONTO — Ze'ev Jabotinsky, renowned for his writings and Zionist activities, may have died over 50 years ago, but his messages and dreams are still very much alive.

A service in commemoration of his 57th yahrzeit was held last Wednesday, organized by Herut-Likud, Betar-Tagar and Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation (BAYT).

Keynote speaker Dr. Eliyahu Ben-Elissar, the Israeli ambassador to the United States, said Jabotinsky was one of the first Zionist leaders to understand that acquiring independence and sovereignty for the Jewish people in a Jewish state would not be without struggle, since it was unrealistic to expect the Arabs to simply hand over their land.

Flanked by Israeli and Canadian flags, and with a poster-sized photo of a young Jabotinsky in military attire behind him, Ben-Elissar spoke to a gathering of about 300, emphasizing how alive Jabotinsky's ideals still are, and what an important influence Jabotinsky has been to him.

There is much to learn from Jabotinsky, especially pertaining to the present situation in Israel, the ambassador said.

"I often ask myself this question: Had Jabotinsky lived to see these days, what would he be doing?"

The problem that we face, said Ben-Elissar, is the reality of the Oslo agreement. "If we could have in Israel a situation where we were not facing an Oslo reality, it would have been by far preferable."

Ben-Elissar was among the 59 Knesset members who voted against the Oslo accord and narrowly lost to the majority of 61. He still opposes it, but said because of its existence, it must be taken into consideration.

"Our [game plan] today consists of trying to establish a way of living together with Palestinian Arabs." Today, Israel cannot be considered "occupiers," and the Arabs must govern themselves, he said.

U.S. peace mediator Dennis Ross will be returning to the Middle East to ensure that Arafat and the Palestinian Authority (PA) will pursue the policy of applied law and order, as well as the dismantling of Hamas, he said.

"We'll give this negotiation a chance," said Ben-Elissar. "We have to trust the Israeli government to do all it can – and even more – to create a new situation between us and the PA without jeopardizing authority."

Applause broke out when the ambassador said that Jerusalem will not be redivided. It will remain forever Israel's capital city, he said, with the backing of the U.S. government, which speaks of "settlements" in the West Bank, but refers to Har Choma as a "housing project" — because it is in Jerusalem, which has a different status.

Before the memorial ended with K'El Maleh Rachamim and Hatikvah, Ben-Elissar looked into the future.

"I'm proud to be able to approach the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Israel, in spite of all this [terrorism and lack of peace]." What a difference there is between the Israel of today and 1948. We've accomplished so much, Ben-Elissar said, "who could've dreamt?"

Harry Wolle, president of Likud central region, Rabbi Baruch Taub of BAYT and Sam Shainhouse, chairman of the board of Likud Canada, welcomed Ben-Elissar.

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Jewish authors

Off-beat stories a masterful collection

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — A writer who has staked out his literary territory somewhere between Franz Kafka and Edgar Allen Poe, Norman Ravvin is the author of *Sex, Skyscrapers and Standard Yiddish*, a masterful new collection of short stories recently published by paperplates books of Toronto.

Ravvin recently told me how he had come to write each of the seven stories in the book — stories that are comic, off-beat, ironic, absurdist, modernist and frequently evocative of a vanished Jewish world.

Several present the immigrant's point of view, bizarrely juxtaposing two cultures.

Consider, for example, *Doomed Cinema*, a tale about two New York agents eager to buy a historic movie theatre in Colorado. To close the deal, the story's Canadian protagonist, whose family owns the dilapidated property, goes off in search of his crazed cousin, Mark Harris, who has signing rights over it.

An amnesiac, Harris turns up in a New Orleans hospital. His roommate, a dying native who is the last of his tribe, has been teaching him the dead language which is the only one that Harris now speaks.

In *Glendale, North of Alhambra, East of Burbank*, the first-person narrator travels from western Canada to Los Angeles to arrange the funeral and settle the estate of F, his late great-aunt. F had supported herself, at least in part, through a legalistic scam "in which she went into a store, pulled some piece of stock down on herself, and then cut a wicked settlement in lieu of a lawsuit."

Even in death, F is surrounded by litigious possibilities. The doctors at the hospital where she died won't admit that her life-support machine had come unplugged during an earthquake and her bed had rolled across the room "like an out-of-control chuckwagon."

But the narrator doesn't particularly care, recalling that F tried to prevent the posting of a money order to his grandmother, stuck in wartime Europe in "1935 or thereabouts. One of those nasty, ominous years. If F had gotten her hands on the mail that day, I probably wouldn't exist."

Norman Ravvin

From his great-aunt's last effects, he takes only a picture of his infant mother, consigning the rest to the trash.

"I'm a real lover of mysteries and puzzles that won't resolve," Ravvin explained. "My characters often find themselves trapped in mazes that sometimes have to do with family life and sometimes have to do with who they are. The mazes do not have escape routes and the mysteries do not resolve.

"I also like to deal with the question of cultural crossing: what it means to move from one world to another, and how some of us, because of our pasts, feel that we're caught between one world and another. Some of my younger characters especially are really trapped; the maze that they're caught in is figuring out how they relate to their parents' world, which is often the world of Europe before the war.

"Some of the older characters are in search of some unrecoverable past — sometimes it's a European past — or some aspect of Jewish life that they feel has somehow gone missing from their daily lives. It's the same element that makes so many people go back in search of their ancestral homes."

In the hauntingly ironic story *A Jew's House*, a Pole living in a house that once belonged to a Jewish family encounters an American on the street who is seeking his parents' former home.

Although the Pole knows he is living in the house in question, he pretends ignorance and the seeker leaves dejectedly. Seen from the Pole's hostile perspective, the American Jew seems little more than a weak, nostalgic fool.

"I am describing a predicament, or a position, about which I have some sensitivity," Ravvin said. "It has to do with being contemporary and relevant, and the need to contend with Jewish history and the European cultures of our parents. I try to map the gap between then and now, between there and here. I like that stretch. I like to move within those limits."

Both of Ravvin's parents immigrated to Canada from Eastern Europe in the 1920s; his father ran a furniture store in Calgary. Born in Calgary some 34 years ago, Ravvin attended the local Peretz school where he strengthened his knowledge of Yiddish.

His first novel, *Cafe des Westens*, published when he was just 27, focuses on four generations of the Jewish Binder family.

A second novel, as yet unpublished, is a mystery set in Vancouver called *Fat Tuesday*.

Ravvin is an admirer of authors Leonard Cohen, Mordecai Richler and others who have successfully transmuted the Jewish-Canadian experience into literature. "I'm also a big lover of the American beat poets like [Jack] Kerouac, and I really enjoy Allen Ginsberg's poetry – that willingness to really scream and shout."

Ravvin, and other authors, will be reading at the Ashkenaz Festival at Harbour Front Brigantine Room Aug.31 at 3:30 p.m. Phone 416-703-6892. His book is available at many bookstores around Toronto for $12, or directly from paperplate books, 19 Kenwood Ave. Toronto M6C 2R8.

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Born to brunch bikers love the open road

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As comic Jackie Mason quips, Jews don't hunt. Or fish. He might add they don't ride big, bad motorcycles either. Leather jackets? Harley-Davidsons? What would our mothers say?

But this isn't a "born to be wild" crowd. Rather, the 125 members of Yidden on Wheels (YOW) pride themselves on being trendsetters. As Canada's first and only Jewish motorcycle club (not gang, as members stress repeatedly), "Yowies" emphasize safety, love of bikes (not hogs) and having good, clean, legal fun. Their mothers would approve.

"Jews do it, and do it in a big way," says YOW co-founder Bob Brodie. "We don't hide the fact that we're Jewish. It's just that we've been hidden. We're proud of who we are."

Indeed, club members sport large colorful crests on their leathers (worn for safety) depicting a big stylized chai with a bike being driven through it.

Brodie, a 51-year-old social worker who now works in leasing, founded YOW two summers ago along with three other motorcycle enthusiasts, to reach out to Jewish riders who may have felt out of place in other clubs, especially if anti-Semitism was an issue.

"With us, you can feel comfortable," he says. "We kibbitz around. We have fun. And we like to eat."

That explains why members meet each Sunday morning and chow down on hearty breakfasts before heading out on the open road. But before they do, announcements are made that may concern the latest charity effort in which the club is involved, or perhaps details of a shivah for a member's loved one.

Then it's time to hit the road. Members split up into groups of six or seven to cruise the highways of Ontario, each with a leader and someone at the rear to make sure everything is kosher. There are also regular Wednesday night rides, and longer excursions are always being planned. Yowies regularly trek to motorcycle rallies and shows, proudly wearing their chai emblems.

'Yowie' Robert Yurman with son Avi. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Brodie and other Yowies take great pains to dispel the biker image. These are no beer-guzzling, tattooed outlaws, but lawyers, accountants, stockbrokers and business people. One member is a cantor at a large Metro synagogue. Another is a judge in upstate New York. It's a touring club, they say.

And the rules are strict: positively no drinking or drugs. Members are encouraged to take safety courses (most have). There's a monthly newsletter (*The Maven*), a written constitution and just in case you doubted this is a Jewish organization, in-house legal counsel.

"We welcome non-Jews," Brodie says. (There are about nine non-Jewish Yowies). "And we promote women as members." Children are welcome too. Everyone must be fully helmeted, booted and long-panted.

Brodie, a burly Israeli army veteran, maintains just a whiff of biker rebellion. Raised in an Orthodox home, he became interested in motorcycles "because my parents said I couldn't."

Over nine months in 1980, he biked around the world. Recently in Winnipeg, he took his 92-year-old mother out for a little spin.

Although Harleys are welcome, the club doesn't discriminate among brands. Bikes range from a 1961 BMW to the monster 1,500-cc, liquid-cooled, fully-loaded Honda Gold Wing dream machine, which retails for about $30,000.

Yowies acknowledge that not everyone appreciates their passion for motorcycles. Says YOW ride coordinator and Metro lawyer Morris Cooper: "You drive a car. You *ride* a motorcycle."

Asked about the appeal, Brodie shuts his eyes and slowly shakes his head. "I can explain it, but a non-rider just wouldn't understand. The exhilaration..." His voice trails off.

But it's not all open roads. Driven by a strong sense of community, members have done some impressive charitable work, including helping the Out of the Cold program for the homeless in Toronto and working for Jewish Family & Child Service's battered women's shelter. They also take part in the annual Ride for Sight.

There are Yowies in Israel, and interest in forming chapters has come from Winnipeg, Montreal and several points in the United States.

Members even have a signature call. "All we have to say is: 'Yowie, Yowie, Yowie'. We watch out for each other."

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Thursday, Aug. 14

TSUFIT IN CONCERT

Tsufit concert, Broccoli's on Sale at the Dominion, 7 p.m., Skylight Summer Festival, Earl Bales Park. 905-882-1531.

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Monday, Aug. 18

MAN AND WOMAN

Tu b'Av lecture by **Rabbi Yitzchak Ginsburgh**, Rosh Yeshiva of Od Yosef Chai in Schechem (Joseph's Tomb) and author of *The Covenant of Marriage*, on Man and Woman: Relationships, Togetherness and Unity, 8 p.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave, $10. Discussion following. Presented by Gal Einai Canada 537-2671.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, Aug. 19

TO BE A JEW

Rabbi Yitzchak Ginsburgh lectures on The Jewish Experience: To Be a Jew, 8 p.m., B'nai Torah Congregation, 465 Patricia Ave, $10. Discussion following. Sponsored by Gal Einai Canada, 537-2671. Monday, Aug. 18, lecture (see above) and this lecture together $18.

SHIRA CHAPTER, JWI

Women 30 and up living midtown/downtown who are interested in attending Shira chapter, Jewish Women International, annual barbecue, call **Mimi** 658-6879 or **Marsha** 905-881-6159.

Wednesday, Aug. 20

HEALTH WATCH LECTURE

Lecture by **Dror Rotkovitch** entitled Creative Visualization, 8:30 p.m., Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. $5.

Thursday, Aug. 21

CASINO RAMA OUTING

Casino Rama outing with Adath Sholom Sisterhood leaving 8:45 a.m., returning 6:30 p.m. Bus fare and buffet lunch $12 per person. **Bunnie** 633-9691 or Adath Sholom 635-0131.

ELVIS PRESLEY PLAY

Thursday Night Out sponsors Elvis Presley play and post-play party, 9 p.m. Poor Alex Theatre, 296 Brunswick Ave. $15 in advance, $20 at door. Partial proceeds go to Jewish Family & Child Service to "Send a Kid to Camp". All ages welcome from 26-46.

And What Else Is New

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Annual Bloor JCC Golf "Teeser" Charity Tournament Sept. 18 at Lake Simcoe Golf and Country Club in Inisfill. Tee off 1 p.m. $99 includes green fees, power cart, glatt kosher dinner, prizes, fun galore. Men's and women's division. Beginners welcome. **Tony** or **Renee** 924-6211.

HEBREW CLASSES

Beth Tikvah Synagogue, in conjunction with Keren Hatarbut Insti-

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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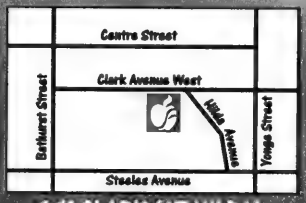

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700 g
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From the Bakery
300 g
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

tute of Hebrew Studies, announces registration is open for fall courses for adults and teenagers in conversational Hebrew. Courses for beginners and intermediate, Mondays, 7:30-9 p.m., Sept. 15 to Dec. 15, conducted by skilled Israeli teachers. $185. Beginners will learn to speak, read and write Hebrew in 14 sessions. Consultation/registration, **Muriel Behar** 905-881-9999 or **Chana Baratz** 733-0241.

INCEST SURVIVORS GROUP

Jewish Family & Child Service 20-session group for survivors of incest beginning Tuesday, Oct. 7, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Information/registration, **Gail Solish** 638-7830, ext. 281, **Karen Wynnychuck** ext. 806.

AUDIENCE NEEDED

Participants for a small, live studio audience are needed to attend morning and afternoon Live-to-Tape cooking classes with **Bonnie Stern** for WTN. Shooting runs Aug. 14-22. Classes are at George Brown College, 300 Adelaide St. E. Register. **Laura** 967-6503, ext. 224.

HEBREW SCHOOL

West Toronto Jewish Community Association has a small, private Hebrew school for children Sunday mornings, Dundas/Bloor area, beginning September. 533-0093.

BAYCREST VOLUNTEERS

A five-session training designed to assist volunteers to work with terminally ill clients and their families on the Palliative Care Unit of Baycrest Centre, first session Tuesday, Sept. 2. Volunteers must attend all five sessions. Volunteers who are empathetic with good listening and communication skills are needed, previous palliative care experience an asset. One year commitment with a minimum of four hours per week. Information/appointment, **Sandy** 785-2500, ext. 2576.

CRESTHAVEN SCHOOL

Cresthaven Nursery School Inc. is moving to Thornhill. Cresthaven is a licensed, non-profit, 10-month half-day preschool for children aged two (need not be toilet trained) to six years. Spaces available for children with special needs. Located at former premises of Torah Tots, 55 Guardsman Rd. (Bayview/Green Lane area), open 9-11:45 a.m. for junior and senior nursery and 1-3:30 p.m. for senior nursery and junior and senior kindergarten programs. Open house is Thursday, Aug. 28, 6-9 p.m. 493-1607.

BOWLING LEAGUE

Ladies 10-pin bowling league is looking for bowlers for Wednesday evenings at Newtonbrook Bowlerama (Yonge/Cummer). **Charlene** 221-9328 or **Sharon** 636-5863.

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Jewish Vocational Service is looking for volunteers from various business backgrounds with good judgment skills who can volunteer four evenings a year. As part of the Start Smart Committee, volunteers will analyse and comment on up-and-coming entrepreneurs' business plans. **Joy Levy** 787-1151, ext. 244.

B'NAI SHALOM SCHOOL

B'nai Shalom Hebrew School kindergarten and grades 1-7 at Yorkhill Elementary School, 350 Hilda Ave., Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. School is affiliated with Board of Jewish Education. Bar/bat mitzvah program free of charge to students. Register now for 1997/98. **Joseph Klinger**, principal. 905-731-2797.

BLOOR JCC ON RADIO

The new Bloor JCC Times airs on the *Zelda Young Shalom Radio Show* on CHIN FM 100.7 every Friday at 10:05 a.m. Feel free to call in or suggest ideas for the show.

VARIETY SHOW

Mel Lastman Variety Players, a company of seniors, performs Sept. 4, 5, 6, 7, 12 and 13, at Fairview Library Theatre. Director **Harry Harding**, musical director **Earl Parnes**, dance choreographer **Betty Arlin**. For tickets **Dolly Brown,** 905-881-8011 or **Flo Debonis** 665-3934.

SINGLES SHABBATON

The correct phone number for information on the Jewish Singles (25-35) weekend at Camp Wahanowin Sept. 5-7 is 787-8788. Ask for **Celia**.

FOR SENIORS

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Ottawa, Aug. 17-19, **Renoir** exhibit, cruise on Rideau Canal; in the planning: trip to Casino Niagara, a musical in Toronto in November, opening luncheon. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 21 is bingo and games. Also, on Sunday, Aug. 17, 7:30 p.m., Jewish Valentine Day, Tu b'Av party with music, dancing, Teddy Band Orchestra, wine, members $8, non-members $10. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club:barbecue party Aug. 17, 1 p.m.; Royal Ontario Museum Aug. 19; Dixie Mall Aug. 26; *Jolson* Aug. 28; Casino Rama Sept. 17; Haliburton Sept. 22-23; Casino Niagara Sept. 25; Washington and Atlantic City Oct. 26-31; shopping in Buffalo Nov. 5. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute presents The Schlesingers' Series: Issues of the 'New' Jewish Family with **Prof. Benjamin Schlesinger** Tuesday, Aug. 19, and Down Under: Australian Jewish Community Revisited with **Prof. Rachel Schlesinger,** Tuesday, Aug. 26. Lectures at 10-11:30 a.m. Members $1.50, non-members $3. For information, **Bookie Kwart**.

Israeli Etrog Club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Programs include movies, lectures, nostalgic singalongs, dances, bingo. Aug. 20 is a lecture. **Anna**.

Movie Sunday, Aug. 17, *Jerry McGuire*, 2:15 p.m.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band, Sunday, Aug. 17, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon social, Aug. 20 features singer **Marat Maksutov**, 1:30 p.m.

ABOUT PEOPLE

RABBI WEINBERG

Rabbi S.K. Weinberg presented a workshop at this year's annual Alumni Conference for Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim, which recently took place in the Catskill Mountains. Rabbi Weinberg is principal emeritus of Eitz Chaim Schools and educational consultant for day schools, yeshivot and Bais Yaakovs in Toronto and across Canada and the Unites States. Rabbi Weinberg has authored a Torah Umesorah best-seller, now in its third printing, a Chumash text for beginners. His wife, **Rebbitzen Phyllis Weinberg**, delivered a lecture and workshop for the women in attendance.

Rabbi S.K. Weinberg

REENA ANNUAL MEETING

At the recent joint annual meeting of Reena, Reena Foundation and Batay Reena, a presentation was made to Ron Hoffman (centre), outgoing chair of Reena Foundation by (from left) Danny Iannuzziello, chair Batay Reena; Angela Stern Iannuzziello, chair, Reena; Heather Hoffman; and Ira Sack, newly elected chair, Reena Foundation. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

FIRST SYNAGOGUE VISIT.

Rabbi Joseph Kelman, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, welcomes Rotarians Rashid Kurmally and Jim Thompson and 17-year-old students Soraiya Walji and Agathe Macho from France. Their first ever visit to a synagogue was arranged by Rotarian Monty Mazin (not in picture) of the Rotary Club of Toronto Don Valley as part of Rotary International education program to promote understanding and good will. From left are Soraiya Walji, Jim Thompson, Rabbi Kelman, Agathe Macho, Rashid Kurmally.

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On Campus

U of T student graduates with Yiddish major

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Marc Kates

TORONTO — As an elementary school student, Marc Kates was probably the only kid to take a Yiddish-English dictionary to Camp Northland.

Now 21, the Thornhill resident recently became the first student to graduate from the University of Toronto with a major in Yiddish studies.

A mameloshon enthusiast since his early days at Bialik Hebrew Day School, Kates didn't set out to major in Yiddish. With U of T offering only four courses in the subject, majoring in Yiddish didn't even appear to be an option.

But following a year's study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1995-96, during which Kates took additional Yiddish courses, a U of T faculty member told him he had enough courses to create a major.

"It was a wonderful, unexpected gift," said Kates, who graduated with a double major, earning an honors BA in Political Science as well.

With a facility in languages – he also speaks Hebrew and French, and picked up a smattering of Arabic in Israel – he is interested on the effect Yiddish has had on English, and vice versa. Words like shpiel and even bopkes have been heard on major radio stations, he noted.

In addition to being a very expressive language, Yiddish is a way of perpetuating Jewish heritage, Kates believes. "Some words you just can't say in any other [language] — even simple words like shlep. A nosh has to be something sweet. A "snack" just doesn't cut it."

In an article that appeared in the Jewish student newspaper *Images* in 1994, Kates described a memorable nosh – one in which his Yiddish played a key role.

On a pre-Shabbat bakery outing, Kates, then seven, thanked a Yiddish-speaking server – in Yiddish – for a cookie. Suddenly he found himself surrounded by servers, each offering a different nosh.

"It was then that I realized I was on to something good," he wrote.

On a more serious note, he credits his first two Yiddish teachers at Bialik, Henia Reinhartz and Ana Berman, for nurturing his love of Yiddish.

Using the aforementioned dictionary, he corresponded with Reinhartz from summer camp.

Once he reached Grade 6, Kates and his mother Bonnie, a fourth-generation Canadian, were among those to lobby for the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) to include Yiddish in its curriculum.

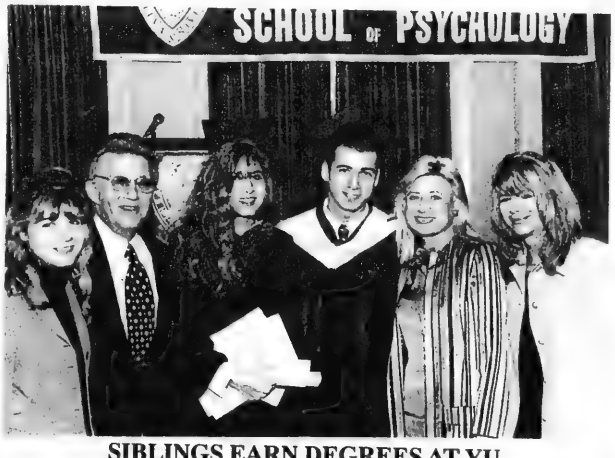
Kates took a Grade 11 Yiddish course through the North York Board of Education while attending CHAT, and it wasn't long before he starting teaching small Yiddish classes for younger students, at their request.

Now, in addition to sitting on the program committee of Friends of Yiddish and UJA Federation's committee for Yiddish, Kates teaches two adult classes run by the UJA Federation's committee for Yiddish and the Workmen's Circle of Toronto.

Kates' first adult class was located at Bialik. "That was an interesting feeling, a wonderful feeling," he recalls.

He loves teaching, incorporating songs and stories into his lessons, and hopes his students will leave class with an appreciation for Yiddish and a desire to continue studying.

Whatever Kates does in the future, he "definitely" wants to continue his involvement with Yiddish.



SIBLINGS EARN DEGREES AT YU

Marc and Debra Mandel of Willowdale, Ontario, received a master's degree and a doctorate respectively from Yeshiva University's Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology in New York City. Debra's PhD was in clinical health psychology, and Marc will enter that program next month. From left are Dr. Lisa Mandel (sister), Bill (father), Debra, Marc, Marilyn (mother) and Michele Mandel (sister).

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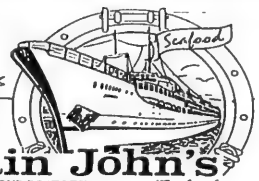

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From coast to coast

Jewish war orphans plan 50th anniversary reunion

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — A group of Winnipeg Jewish war orphans — survivors of the Holocaust — are planning a reunion next May to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their arrival in this city.

Reunion organizers Barbara Goszer, Frank Weinfeld and Mickey Hoch were part of a group of 1,000 teenage war orphans the Canadian government permitted to immigrate to Canada after the war.

The orphans, were brought to Canada by the Canadian Jewish Congress from displaced persons camps. The first group to be settled in Winnipeg came in September, 1947, and orphans continued to arrive in small groups until the early 1950s.

Over the years, most were successful in building new lives, though many moved away from Winnipeg to do so.

In 1972, some of those still in Winnipeg decided to organize a 25th anniversary reunion of their arrival. It was so successful that the Winnipeggers decided to form a group called ANAV (which stands for Help Youth Forever in Hebrew) in commemoration.

"We applied for a charitable number and raised money for local causes and for Israel," says Weinfeld.

After that, they held reunions every five years, but after the last one — the 45th — they felt it was time to disband ANAV because members were too busy with other matters and many went south for the winter.

They turned their remaining monies over to the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba with the interest earned directed to helping educate needy Jewish children.

Currently, Barbara Goszer notes, a number of former ANAV members are involved in the Holocaust Awareness Committee of Winnipeg and are raising money to help fund their dream of a Holocaust Education Centre, which is currently coming true. The centre will become part of the Jewish Museum of Western Canada at the new Asper Jewish Community Campus.

The 50th anniversary reunion is scheduled for May 15 to 17, 1998.

Friday evening, out-of-town guests will dine at private homes, following which will be a coffee party and opportunity to renew old acquaintances. The formal Saturday evening program at the Glendale Club will include dinner, dancing and a presentation of plaques to honorees who have worked to spread the message of the Holocaust. Sunday morning, the group will tour the Holocaust Centre and partake in a farewell brunch.

The organizers would like to hear from former Winnipeggers who were among the war orphans. Contact Frank Weinfeld at 204-339-3390.

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From coast to coast

Tunisian cemetery in disrepair

By ELIAS LEVY
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Michèle Bismuth Blitt felt very bitter when she revisited, for the third time since 1989, the Jewish cemetery of Le Borgel, on the outskirts of Tunis. It was in such a state of decay that Bismuth Blitt had difficulty in finding her mother's grave.

"It was very painful. I had not visited the country of my birth for about 25 years and I was desolated when I realized that one of the principal vestiges of Jewish Tunisian memory is falling into such disrepair. In my opinion, to let this cemetery die is to implicitly endorse the decline of a marvellous historical-cultural heritage that is thousands of years old," said Bismuth Blitt, a Montreal Sephardi who has lived in Canada since the late '50s.

Bismuth Blitt has approached several international Jewish authorities, as well as the government of Tunisia, to have the Le Borgel Jewish cemetery restored.

"I am launching this appeal in memory of my dear mother and of my fellow Tunisian Jews. We must save our past, because it is the cornerstone of our identity. Without the preservation of that identity, our future will be threatened," said Bismuth Blitt, her voice thick with emotion.

Tunisian Jews have inherited a rich historical, cultural and religious heritage. As the French historian Jean-Pierre Allai says in his photographic collection that recalls the glorious past of the Jews of Tunisia, *Les Juifs de Tunisie. Images de Mémoires*, the vitality of Tunisian Judaism contributed greatly to the development of Sephardi culture.

The Jewish presence in Tunisia dates back many centuries. Jewish lamps made of baked clay and decorated with menorahs, dating back to the second century, were discovered at the end of the last century. A Jewish cemetery dating from the fourth century was excavated in 1833 in a Tunisian town. In 1880, French archeologists discovered a synagogue dating from the fifth century, decorated with sumptuous mosaics.

Tunisian Judaism is made up of three branches: the Jews who had to flee Eretz Yisrael after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem; the Berber branch made up of local tribes who, over the centuries, adopted Judaism; and later, an Italo-Spanish branch, primarily consisting of Portuguese Jews, natives of Livorno who were persecuted by the Inquisition.

In 1881, at the beginning of the French protectorate, the Jewish community of Tunisia numbered about 40,000. On the eve of independence in 1956, some 120,000 Jews lived in the country. Today, the Jewish community has only a few hundred people left.

Bismuth Blitt hopes to raise awareness in Jewish Sephardi communities.

"There are not many Jews of Tunisian origin living in Canada," she says. "Nevertheless, I am counting on the support and involvement of the members of the Sephardi community here."

Bismuth Blitt said the Tunisian government has been receptive to her request.

For more information about the Jewish cemetery, Le Borgel, call Bismuth Blitt at 514-932-1274.

This article originally appeared in full in French in the Montreal edition of CJN. *Translation by Carolan Halpern.*

New secular Jewish school set to open

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The 4-year-old Sholem Aleichem Cultural Group has taken a step forward with the establishment of its first Sunday school program.

The new school will open on the third Sunday in September at the new Asper Jewish Community Centre. The enrolment thus far is 24 students ranging in age from five to 13.

In keeping with the Sholem Aleichem School that flourished briefly in Winnipeg in the 1920s, the new school's emphasis will be on secular Judaism. For the first hour, the students will be divided into three different levels according to age and taught stories from the Torah and Jewish history. For the second hour, all the children will come together to learn Jewish songs and dances in a club format.

"The older children will have the option of working toward a secular bar or bat mitzvah," says David Robinson, the group's co-ordinator. "Each child will spend a year working on a personal project of a Jewish nature assisted by an adult mentor. When the student is ready, he or she will present it to the community."

Currently the Sholem Aleichem community consists of about 50 member families and individuals numbering about 150. An outgrowth of the long-standing United Jewish Peoples Order, the Sholem Aleichem Group appeals to secular Jews – from all parts of the city – who appreciate the opportunity to celebrate Jewish family-oriented holidays – such as Chanukah, Purim and Pesach – with like-minded people.

Robinson reports that Jewish secular movement schools have a long history in Toronto and Vancouver and are wide spread in the United States.

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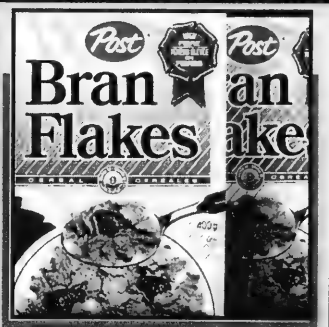

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Chicken soup and Chinese medicine

BY LORI EPPSTEIN
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO — Jewish mothers have long believed that the best medicine for a head cold is rest, fluids and steaming hot chicken soup.

But when it comes to PMS, chronic fatigue and HIV-related diarrhea and anemia, Jewish folk medicine stops where Chinese medicine begins, says healer Misha Cohen of San Francisco's Chicken Soup Chinese Medicine clinic.

Chinese medicine includes acupuncture, massage, instruction on proper nutrition, meditation, herb therapy and other Eastern practices that can improve vitality and ward off disease.

Maybe that's why Cohen parted ways with her Jewish upbringing — at least when it came to medicine — while seeking a cure for her own mystery disease more than 25 years ago.

It was 1969 and Cohen was caught up in the turmoil of civil rights protests and sleepless nights of study at Oberlin College. Her diet was typical of that of most college students — sweets, pizza and dorm food. It wasn't long before Cohen had a breakdown.

The doctors thought it was mononucleosis, then appendicitis. They operated and found it was mono, after all. Definitely, they said.

It was chronic fatigue syndrome, Cohen later learned, though it didn't have a name until the 1980s.

Not wishing to repeat the experience, the biopsychology student became a vegetarian and began to learn about herbs and natural food therapy.

The seed for a more wholesome lifestyle had actually been planted earlier by her Jewish grandmother — a practising Jew, fruitarian and yoga teacher. Cohen fondly recalls the soaked black mission figs and dried millet breakfasts, though the sorghum was less than a hit.

The years following her decision to lead a healthier lifestyle lured Cohen to become involved with the politics of health care. She started a women's health newspaper in 1970 and subsequently discovered natural healing.

By the time she enrolled in her first Chinese medicine class, where teachers engaged students in a talmudic-style discourse of medical texts, she says she felt: "This is where I'm supposed to be."

Cohen, who now holds a doctorate in Oriental medicine and is a state-certified acupuncturist, has since discovered further similarities between Jewish practice and Chinese medicine.

"When I go to China and I tell them I'm Jewish, they get very excited and say we have a lot in common. I think, 'What are you talking about?'

"They are talking about a quest for education and knowledge," she says. "Their way of Chinese medical study is very similar [with regard to] the questioning of the sages. One of the ancient Chinese medical books is a series of questions and interpretations of the Yellow Emperor," who, as legend has it, first promoted acupuncture and healing arts in China during the third millennium, BCE.

When it comes to earth-based medicine, Chinese medicine leaves Jewish folk medicine in the dust, so to speak. Chinese farmers planted the same land for generations and charted lunar patterns for the best times to harvest herbs while Jews wandered the Diaspora.

"[Jews] haven't had a chance to develop the same earth-based system," Cohen says.

But Jews and Western doctors of today are making up for lost time. More than ever, they are now incorporating Eastern philosophy into their practices.

Cohen released her first book, *The Chinese Way to Healing*, last fall, and is working on another about treating HIV.

DENTAL FILLINGS

In the field of dentistry, Dr. Gerry Pearson (left) was recently installed as president of The Toronto Academy of Dentistry. Dr. Ken Glick (right) was recently installed as president of The American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry. Both practice in Toronto.

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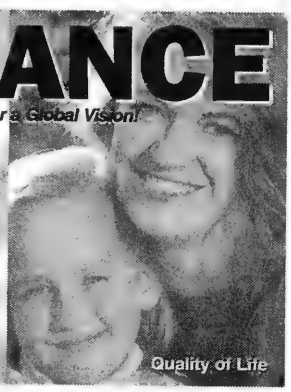
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Security issue dominates renewed diplomacy

By JAY BUSHINSKY and JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — U.S. peace envoy Dennis Ross shuttled between Jerusalem and Ramallah last Sunday, conferring twice each with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The security issue dominated these discussions, in keeping with Ross' mandate from President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

This approach was welcomed by senior Israeli officials, but they expressed fear that Palestinian pressure to expand the agenda might dilute the Ross mission.

As the United States reactivated its diplomatic campaign to resuscitate the sagging peace process, the European Union's peacemaker, Miguel Moratinos, prepared to resume his contacts with Israeli and Palestinian leaders. The Spanish diplomat was expected to confer with Foreign Minister David Levy before seeing PA officials.

Netanyahu's session with Ross was attended by cabinet secretary Dan Naveh, policy adviser Uzi Arad, and legal counsel Yitzhak Molcho.

The Ross team consists of the State Department's Aaron Miller and National Security Council member Bruce Reidell.

Netanyahu reportedly told Ross that Israel places supreme importance on the war against terrorism and the continuation of the peace process and stressed that the country wants to see results.

There were indications that Israeli and Palestinian security officials were intensifying their clandestine contacts in the presence and with the input of American counterparts, presumably Central Intelligence Agency personnel.

But a senior government aide rejected the idea that high-level meetings are a way out of the current crisis. "If that is their answer to security, then they are completely wrong."

He said Netanyahu wants the PA to arrest and imprison persons involved in the West Bank-Gaza Strip terrorist infrastructure and views the extradition of Palestinians accused of murder here as much more meaningful than conclaves, discussions and photo opportunities.

Although a mini-summit would be "a tiny step forward," the aide said, "it is no substitute for the effective exchange of intelligence information leading to the capture of terrorists."

In a statement to reporters immediately after his first session with Netanyahu, Ross said Clinton and Albright "are committed to doing all they can to help get the parties back together again."

He said Clinton and Albright "want me to focus on the security questions."

Government officials expressed "annoyance" at Arafat for allegedly engaging in a disinformation campaign inimical to Israel's national interests. They denied that Israeli agents informed Arafat that the Jerusalem suicide bombers had come from outside the country. Also untrue, they said, was Arafat's remark that the Hebron Agreement required American participation in its supervisory body.

Ross, in his meeting with the PA delegation, disappointed them by focusing only only on security coordination, but left open the possibility of political discussions once that is resolved.

Arafat said in a Channel 1 interview that, far from the Palestinians breaking off security coordination, Israel had called off U.S. involvement in security talks three weeks before the Machane Yehuda bombing.

That claim was denied by Dan Naveh, who said that in any case it did not absolve the PA of responsibility for fighting terrorism.

With files from Mohammed Najib.

Albright talks tough to Arafat

By MATTHEW DORF
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — The United States will back Israel's suspension of political talks with the Palestinians until they clamp down on terrorism.

Analysis

This was the message U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright delivered in her first speech on the Middle East as America's top diplomat.

"It is simply not possible to address political issues seriously in a climate of intimidation and terror," Albright said at the National Press Club here last week.

At the same time, the policy does not signal smooth sailing for Israel.

Albright also hinted that if and when Israeli-Palestinian talks resume, the United States would back the Palestinian demand to halt Israeli building in eastern Jerusalem and the West Bank.

"The principle of refraining from unhelpful unilateral acts is central to maintaining mutual confidence," she said.

"It is fair to ask: How can you create a credible environment for negotiation when actions are being taken that seem to predetermine the outcome?"

But Albright directed the bulk of her hastily arranged policy address at Yasser Arafat and his Palestinian Authority, warning that a total crackdown on terrorists and renewed security cooperation with Israel must come before the United States would support reconvening long-stalled peace talks.

"There is no place in the peace process for violence or terror, and there is no room for using security cooperation as leverage in a negotiation," said Albright.

The political situation has taken on a new urgency in the wake of the suicide bombing in a Jerusalem market that claimed 13 Israeli victims.

Albright offered to travel to the Middle East later this month to work at accelerated final-status talks if Arafat makes "a 100 percent effort" against terrorism.

In referring to final-status talks, Albright suggested that it would be easier for the parties to overcome setbacks and avoid distraction if the Interim Agreement is "married" to accelerated final-status talks.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has suggested moving right to final-status talks, which are supposed to address the issues of borders, settlements, refugees and Jerusalem.

Hezbollah attack kills soldier

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — An IDF soldier was killed and another wounded during intense Hezbollah rocket and mortar fire on the village of Rehan north of Marjayoun on Sunday, in continued escalation of fighting in south Lebanon.

The clash sparked fears of imminent widespread battles in south Lebanon, and Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri met with Syrian President Hafez Assad to discuss the situation. Over the past week, 14 Lebanese and one Israeli have died in the fighting, the highest toll since Operation Grapes of Wrath in April 1996.

IDF sources said that if Hezbollah continues its indiscriminate shelling, the understandings reached after Grapes of Wrath will disintegrate. They maintained that the current offensive is being coordinated and encouraged by Iran.

Hezbollah, in a communique issued in Beirut, said its fighters rained machine-gun fire and rocket propelled grenades on an IDF patrol in the area of Mleikh, south of Jezzine, in the security zone. Lebanese security sources said an IDF motorized patrol was in the village of Rehan at about 4:15 p.m.

In response, IDF artillery shelled Kafr Houneh and other areas in the highlands of Iqlim al-Tuffah in the central region of the security zone, which are regarded as Hezbollah infiltration routes. No casualties were reported.

The fighting continued into the night as air force jets bombed and strafed suspected Hezbollah hideouts north of the security zone.

IDF sources said Hezbollah had grossly violated the U.S.-brokered understandings reached after Operation Grapes of Wrath, in which all sides pledged not to target civilians. Both Israeli and Lebanese representatives had been discussing each other's alleged violations in the committee monitoring the cease-fire in Nakoura when the IDF casualties were reported.

A stream of attacks began when a mine exploded near a truck in Marqaba inside the security zone, about 500 meters from the Israeli-Lebanese border. IDF sources said nobody was wounded and IDF gunners retaliated by shelling Hezbollah hideouts.

Hours later, two women were hurt when a shell hit the S.O.S. Village orphanage in Sfarai in the Jezzine area. The IDF Spokesman said the injuries were caused by a direct hit of one of eight Katyusha rockets that landed around the home. The orphanage was evacuated and the children and supervisors were taken to Beirut.

Hezbollah denied firing the Katyushas, but blamed the PLO for the attack.

Hariri agreed. "Arafat declares on one side 'peace' and his men shell on the other side," he said after his meeting with Assad. "This is dangerous."

IDF sources said Hezbollah has embarked on what appears to be a new policy of denying Katyusha attacks on civilian targets. Last Friday, Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah denied that his organization fired the rockets that landed in Kiryat Shmona, in which one woman was hurt by flying glass.

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Hamas, PA said to cooperate in terror

[Cont'd. from page 1]

goal, like that of the defendants in the trial of the World Trade Centre bombing which began this week, is to eliminate what the terrorists regard as the enemies of Islam.

"Today, there is no point in talking about Hamas terrorism," a senior security source says. "It's the Palestinian Authority [PA] that has allowed Hamas to maintain an infrastructure for terrorism that involves training, funding, religious indoctrination and plenty of guns and explosives. And, it's all under the nose of the PA in Gaza."

Indeed, U.S. law enforcement documents obtained by the *Jerusalem Post* describe a strong link between Palestinians in the West Bank and Jordan, some of whom are known Fatah moderates, and terrorist leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad. According to the documents, the coordination involved transfer of funds, orders and ways to bring Islamic terrorists into the United States.

Israeli security officials say cooperation between Hamas and Fatah — the leading group in the PLO, headed by Yasser Arafat — began in early 1993, in the wake of the Israeli deportation of 415 Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists to south Lebanon. The deportation led to an ad-hoc agreement among all of the armed groups in Gaza to cooperate in attacks against Israel.

The officials say the cooperation between Hamas and Fatah gunmen continued even as the political dialogue between the movements foundered over the question of supporting negotiations with Israel.

In a recently released study on Hamas by Tel Aviv University's Tami Steinmetz Centre for Peace Research, authors Shaul Mishal and Avraham Sela say the PA has become one of the most conciliatory of Arab regimes toward the Islamic opposition.

By August 1996, the PA had stopped even the pretense of cracking down on Hamas. Arafat began to release hard-core Islamic terrorists, and ignoring the protests of Israeli officials, he even included some of the released men in the Palestinian security forces. Today, there are several dozen Hamas members in PA jails, down from more than 1,000 in early 1996.

With the breakdown of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, even high-profile PA spokespersons have acknowledged that Hamas no longer feels the need to act against Arafat's interests.

Today, Arafat is said to believe he no longer feels a need to ban terrorism. As a result, he has quietly allowed Hamas to reorganize and resume attacks, although continuing to insist that the organization not take credit. According to Jordanian sources, Arafat even met secretly with Hamas leader Mousa Abu Marzouk in Amman to discuss Palestinian strategy, as tension with Israel continued.

The Palestinians compare the Machane Yehuda bombers to Hussein Makded, the Lebanese Shi'ite who blew himself up in the Lawrence Hotel in eastern Jerusalem in April 1996 while preparing the bomb he wanted to place in a Jerusalem shopping mall. Makded entered the country with a stolen British passport in the name of Andrew Newman, and investigators believe his Iranian handlers intended that the PA be blamed for the bombing.

But Israeli security sources argue that even if the two Machane Yehuda bombers came from abroad, they, like Makded, were certainly given assistance by local Palestinians.

Palestinians have contradicted each other in explaining the Machane Yehuda bombing. Islamic Jihad sources say the bombers were local Palestinians. A report in the Hamas-operated Quds Press Agency, said in a dispatch from Nicosia last week the bombers were Hamas members who came from Lebanon's Ein Hilwe refugee camp, an assertion disputed by PLO commander Munir Makdah there. They said the bombers were 21 and 22 years old.

The biographies of the bombers in the Quds Press Agency report match the assertion of Israeli security sources who say Fatah and Hamas militants cross easily into each other's organizations. Hamas sources say the bombers were members of Fatah and joined Hamas early this year. The Quds Press Agency report said the two were trained in a Hamas base in the West Bank and arrived in Israel via an unidentified Arab state.

Israeli security sources are exploring a similar possibility. Their scenario is that the bombers were trained in a Fatah camp in Sudan and then brought in via the illegal tunnels dug by Palestinians that connect the Gaza town of Rafah to the Egyptian Sinai.

Some 15 tunnels have been destroyed by Israel, the latest, officials say, after security officials discovered that they were being used to smuggle in terrorists and such weapons as anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles.

In contrast to their Israeli counterparts in the Machane Yehuda episode, U.S. authorities were lucky. An anti-terrorist task force raided a Brooklyn apartment where two Palestinians and an Egyptian were about to place bombs in crowded places around New York City.

Israeli investigators are in the United States inspecting the bombs prepared by the terrorist squad to check for similarities to those used in attacks in Israel. At the same time, FBI investigators are in Israel being briefed on any Middle East connection to the Brooklyn cell.

A senior government source says the assessment is that Hamas was behind the Brooklyn plot.

Israeli and U.S. investigators, however, appear to agree on one thing: Palestinian terrorists are determined to continue their strikes in both countries.

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism*. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Paper alleges holocaust planned

[Cont'd. from page 1]

devour them in the night and these sheep will be the innocent Arabs and Jews and that is the coming Holocaust which will exceed the first by its ugliness."

Two weeks later, an editorial appeared in the June 18 edition of *Al-Miraat* that attacked David Sultan, director of community relations of the Canadian Jewish Congress' Quebec region. *The CJN*'s April 10 article quoted Sultan as describing the *Al-Miraat* article as "hate literature" and "plain anti-Semitism," and said that Congress would seek a meeting with the paper's editor to request an apology. Failing that, he said, Congress could lay a complaint with the Quebec press council.

Ignoring the article that Sultan was referring to, the *Al-Miraat* editorial said Sultan was complaining about a poem that focused on Israel's shelling of Kana in Lebanon and it suggested Canadian organizations should seek dialogue to resolve their problems.

Jack Jedwab, executive director of Congress' Quebec region, said Congress had called Saadi Al-Malih, *Al-Miraat*'s editor, on several occasions but had not received a return call.

He said Congress is seeking a legal opinion to determine whether the articles could be considered hate literature or whether there are grounds to complain to the Canadian Human Rights Commission. Jedwab said a complaint to the press council is not an option since the body doesn't have any meaningful enforcement mechanisms.

The June 18 editorial, he said, "avoids the issue that disturbs us. It is an attempt to transform the issue into one involving the Middle East. But what clearly bothered us is that the [March 5] article was clearly vitriolic, anti-Semitism."

Jedwab said that despite Al-Malih's editorial that calls for dialogue, Congress' calls over the course of weeks had not been returned. Instead, "we received their response through the paper, through what they've written."

Bernie Farber, national director of community relations for Congress, said discussing the article with the paper's editor would be the preferable way to proceed. Earlier this year, Congress took its concerns regarding an arguably anti-Semitic article that appeared in the Toronto-based newspaper *Al-Orouba* to the publication's editor and an apology eventually appeared in print.

Meanwhile, Sasson Mayer, the individual who translated the articles and brought them to the attention of Congress and *The CJN*, said he has seen the level of rhetoric in local Arab-language papers increase over the years. Where once they criticized Israel and then Zionism, they have broadened their verbal attacks to include the Jewish people.

Sasson's concerns over the content of some Arab papers are valid, Farber said. "There are seriously anti-Semitic articles."

But he said the Quebec region is following the correct procedure in addressing those concerns. Without the cooperation of the newspaper's publisher, pursuing the legal route is "a complicated and protracted procedure."

He downplayed suggestions the rhetoric could escalate into violence, saying there is no Canadian precedent for that.

After three phone calls, a woman who identified herself as *Al-Miraat*'s manager called *The CJN* to say Al-Malih would only answer written questions.

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Maccabiah bridge collapse claims fourth victim

By JONATHAN TEPPERMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Warren Zines, the Australian athlete who lapsed into critical condition last week following injuries sustained in the Maccabiah bridge collapse, died Sunday, raising the death toll from the July 14 accident to four.

His death intensifies the debate over pollution in the Yarkon River, into which Zines and his teammates fell when the bridge collapsed.

Zines, 56, was a member of the Australian lawn bowling team. He died of a severe respiratory-tract infection, according to Sheba Hospital spokesperson Rachel Sofer.

His wife Lynne, daughter Lisa, and son Adam were at his bedside.

His condition had improved a day after his admission but it deteriorated soon after, and he went into a coma from severe respiratory insufficiency. Doctors said the high bacterial count in the Yarkon water that he inhaled made it impossible to stabilize his condition.

His body was transferred to the Institute of Forensic Medicine at Abu Kabir for an autopsy.

"We deeply regret there is yet another death in this terrible episode," said Australian Ambassador Ian Wilcox.

While there is still no medical evidence that contaminants in the Yarkon contributed to the four deaths, Wilcox said that he had urged Israel to speed up the tests it is conducting.

"It looks as though [Zines'] death is linked to toxins in the water. It was clearly not just a drowning," said Wilcox.

Two of the four athletes were killed immediately when the footbridge carrying the Australian athletes across the river collapsed. A third died subsequently of lung and kidney complications that hospital officials attributed to pesticides in the water.

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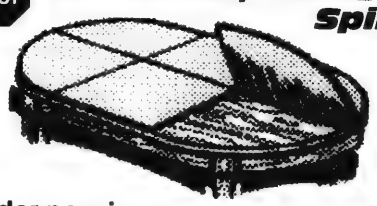

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Arafat's moment of truth

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

In the aftermath of last month's suicide bombing in Jerusalem, Yasser Arafat faces a defining moment of truth.

Is he prepared, finally, to deal seriously with the spectre of Islamic fundamentalist terrorism? Is he ready to resume full security cooperation with Israel?

Mideast Analysis

These are not new questions. They have been asked with increasing urgency since Hamas and Islamic Jihad — which oppose the peace process and Israel's very existence — launched a wave of unprecedented terrorism in Israeli cities three years ago, following Baruch Goldstein's murderous rampage in Hebron.

Until recently, after each suicide bombing, Arafat, president of the Palestine Authority (PA), condemned the perpetrators, arrested Islamic militants in the Palestinian autonomous areas and promised to combat terrorism.

But since Israel's decision last March to build a Jewish neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem's Har Choma district, a unilateral act which largely caused the breakdown of peace talks, Arafat has modified his response to terrorism.

He denounced suicide bombings on March 21 in Tel Aviv, which claimed the lives of three women, and on July 30 in Jerusalem, which left 14 Israelis dead. But in a departure with past pronouncements, he and his officials now assert that there cannot be security cooperation without political coordination.

In practice, this means that the PA will not meet Israeli demands with respect to a war against terrorism unless Israel stops the Har Choma housing project and the expansion of settlements in the territories.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has accused Arafat of encouraging violence and compared him to Saddam Hussein, wants the PA to hand over Palestinians accused of killing Israelis, to arrest Islamic activists released from prison and to smash the terrorists' infrastructure.

To coax Arafat into complying with its wishes, the Israeli government has suspended peace negotiations, sealed off the territories and cut off the flow of taxes and customs duties upon which the PA is vitally dependent.

But Israel's crackdown, which Arafat has described as a "criminal measure" aimed at starving the Palestinians, has not had the desired effect. So far, in keeping with his post-Har Choma policy, Arafat has not taken any meaningful steps to confront Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Last week, he dug in his heels still deeper, declaring that he would not bow to Israeli dictates.

Arafat's defiance is related to his loss of trust in Netanyahu. He believes that his implict understanding with the previous Labor party government over the implementation of the Oslo accords has crumbled since Netanyahu's accession to power.

In exchange for territorial withdrawals which would enable the PA to exercise self-determination in much of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Arafat pledged to keep terrorism under control. With Netanyahu, however, the rules of the game have changed. Since his government is ambivalent about Oslo, claims at least half of the West Bank and is philosophically against a sovereign Palestinian state, Arafat feels that he has no compelling incentive to crush the terrorists.

Yet, when the Labor party governed Israel, Arafat failed to uphold his side of the bargain: Yitzhak Rabin was plagued by terrorism, as was Shimon Peres, who lost the 1996 election after four suicide bombings.

Arafat's lax posture toward terrorism also stems from his carrot-and-stick attitude toward Hamas and Islamic Jihad. He has both fought and tried to co-op Palestinian rejectionists. But his strategy, which is underpinned by a fear of a bloody Palestinian civil war, has not worked. As a result, he finds himself under intense pressure from Netanyahu and U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross to root out the terrorist threat once and for all.

If Arafat values peace, he can no longer postpone the day of reckoning with the enemies of peace in his midst.

The Week in Israel

Aug. 4

• Israeli media reported that Jonathan Pollard had cancelled a visit with an Israeli Embassy official after Israel's justice minister suggested he be transferred to an Israeli jail. Pollard said he did not want the visit "while the government of Israel is stabbing me in the back." Pollard, sentenced to life imprisonment in 1987 for espionage on behalf of Israel, was granted Israeli citizenship last July.

Aug. 5

• Israel rejected a request from U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross to resume reimbursing monies it pays the Palestinian Authority (PA), which account for two-thirds of its revenue.

• In the wake of the recent bombings, Foreign Minister David Levy and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak met in Cairo to discuss the peace process.

Aug. 6

• Israel announced it will arrest PA police chief al-Jabali if he crosses the border between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. He is suspected of having organized the Palestinian police officers who were arrested for intending to murder a rabbi.

Aug. 7

• Protests continued against an Israeli High Court of Justice ruling upholding the appointment of a Reform movement representative to Netanya's religious council. Orthodox chief rabbis met to discuss the ramifications, and senior Religious Affairs Ministry officials vowed to fight the ruling.

• Israel expressed satisfaction with U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's remarks that the United States will back Israel's suspension of political talks with the Palestinians until they clamp down on terrorism.

Aug. 8

• A story in *Ha'aretz* based on government figures claimed that only one-third of all Soviet Jews who immigrated to Israel in the past two years are Jewish. The report was criticized by Jewish Agency chair Avraham Burg, who said it "borders on racism," since the Law of Return extends Jewish rights to those with any Jewish relative.

With files from the JTA.

Israel & the Jewish World

Swiss Jewish leaders get death threats

By FREDY ROM
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ZURICH — Several Swiss Jewish leaders were placed under police protection last weekend after receiving death threats in the mail.

Among those receiving the threats was Sigi Feigel, honorary president of the Jewish community of Zurich, who was seen escorted by two policemen as he walked along the city's streets.

Other Jewish communal leaders have received death threats, but they have sought to downplay the situation in an effort not to draw attention to themselves.

In a separate development, a band of neo-Nazis disrupted a celebration marking the 149th anniversary of the creation of the Swiss Confederation that was held last week at Ruetlj, located near Lucerne.

They gave Nazi salutes and shouted Nazi slogans, but police at the scene did not attempt to intervene.

"We did not want to over-react," said Reto Habermacher, a local police commander.

Habermacher said the group was very small and admitted that police had not sought to get their names.

Jewish leaders questioned why the police did not act as they are required to do under Switzerland's anti-racism law.

"This incident shows that a lot of people in this country do not have the political will to act in accordance with the law," said Thomas Lyssy, vice-president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Switzerland.

Another anti-Semitic incident occurred last weekend in Arosa, a resort located 100 miles north of Zurich.

Rabbi Abraham Pinter, principal of a 1,000-student yeshivah in England, had booked a vacation apartment in Arosa for himself and his family. The reservation was confirmed by fax, but the landlord later contacted them to find out if they were Jewish.

When Rabbi Pinter's wife told them that they were, the landlord said, "We are not renting to Jews."

Rabbi Pinter subsequently complained to the Swiss Tourist Office in London.

The office's director, Urs Eberhardt, apologized for the incident and offered another apartment in Arosa free of charge.

The family, however, turned down the offer, not wanting to be exposed to any additional anti-Semitism there, Eberhardt said in a telephone interview.

Instead, Eberhardt said, they accepted an invitation to Montana-Crans, a resort in the French part of Switzerland, for a two-week vacation.

Lyssy expressed satisfaction with the way the problem was resolved. "This is not the first time that such an incident happened in Switzerland, but it is the first time that Swiss officials reacted so quickly and generously," he said.

PEACE CAMP IN MAINE

Arab and Israeli children join in song during the dedication ceremony of the Seeds of Peace International Camp in Otisfield, Maine. The camp brought together 160 teenagers from Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, the United States and five Arab countries. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

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12-2 p.m.	דיני ארץ ישראל ודיני מעגלי החיים ש. וא. קרש
2-4 p.m.	סוגיות יסוד בתלמוד מ. פז
4-6 p.m.	גלות וגאולה בספר בראשית הרב פ. טסלר

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESAY	THURSDAY
7-9 p.m.		הוראת ישראל-תכנים ומתודולוגיה י. זליגר		היסטוריה תנכית דייר א. נוסבאום
7-9 p.m.	שיבת ציון - חלום ומציאות. ספרי עזרא ונחמיה, חגי וזכריה. הרב ש. בראון		Biblical Judaism (Creation, Garden of Eden, Tower of Babel, etc. (in English) *Rabbi J. Unterman*	
7-9 p.m.		חיי חכמים - מפתח להבנת משנתם הרב ר. ברנע		דרכים להוראת פרק בתנ"ך ס. אילת
7-9 p.m.	עולם התפילות - תוכן והוראה. ח. שאנני		מעגל השנה היהודי הרב נ. קנדלר	

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Opening Session: Monday, September 8, 1997 at the HURWICH EDUCATION CENTRE of the ASSOCIATED HEBREW SCHOOLS
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Travel, Arts & Business

Albert Greenberg and Corey Fischer star in *The Last Yiddish Poet*, Aug. 30 and 31. It is as fresh as today's news even though it was written 20 years ago.

Ashkenaz Yiddish festival promises top-level dramas

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Raise the curtain, dim the houselights! The most amazing collection of Jewish theatre in the history of this comunity is coming to Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture at Harbourfront from Aug. 25 to Sept. 1.

The festival includes the North American premiere of *The Dybbuk*, written by S. Anski and performed by the Teatr Wierszalin company (Bialystok, Poland); the Toronto premiere of *The Last Yiddish Poet*, presented by the Traveling Jewish Theatre (TJT) of San Francisco; the world premiere of *The Memoirs of Gluckel of Hameln*, produced by the avant garde Great Small Works of New York; and *On The Air*, a musical performed by Kapelye, one of America's best known Yiddish klezmer bands.

For parents who want their children to experience a classic Jewish play, *The Dybbuk*, (Aug. 25 to 28) about the demonic possession of a living person, is a good choice.

Teatr Wierszalin, a non-Jewish company of four actors, uses roughhewn wooden figures as props in this play. *The Dybbuk* was acclaimed at Scotland's Edinburgh Festival and this Toronto apperance is the start of a North American tour. In Toronto there will be three shows in English and one in Polish.

Though it depicts a long-ago time in Jewish life, this powerful drama still remains alive today because it deals with human issues, and good triumphing over evil.

The Last Yiddish Poet (Aug. 30, 8 p.m. and Aug. 31, 3 p.m.) is as fresh as today's news, even though it was written 20 years ago. The play is produced by Corey Fisher, Albert Greenberg and Naomi Newman, the founders of the TJT.

With a few props and a nearly bare stage, this San Francisco troupe performs true theatre of the mind, the creme de la creme of Jewish theatre for the thinking person.

The Last Yiddish Poet draws on texts from Peretz Markish who was executed by Stalin in 1952; Jacob Glatstein, a modern American Yiddish poet; songs by Itzik Manger and Mordechai Gebertig; and the

[Cont'd. on page 32]

Mossad tale an espionage classic

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

When I was a teenager I was a big fan of spy-novelist Robert Ludlum, until a friend told me if I wanted to read a real spy thriller to read *The House on Garibaldi Street* by former Mossad chief Isser Harel.

The book is the account of the undercover operation to identify, locate and spirit Adolf Eichmann out of Argentina to Israel to stand trial. Eichmann was the top Gestapo officer in Nazi Germany and one of the architects of the "Final Solution."

When I first read it, I thought it was better than anything Ludlum ever wrote. That feeling hasn't changed after re-reading it now 16 years later. A new edition has just been published by Frank Cass Ltd. as part of its Classics of Espionage series.

This edition has been revised by Harel and contains three new elements. The real names of all the intelligence operatives have been revealed; the official Israeli governmental approval for the mission is set out in its political context; and the revelation of the official involvement of the West German government in the operation.

This true-life account is as much a page-turner as any work of fiction. It is written in explicit detail but without going over the heads of anyone not familiar with special operations. (And how many of us really are?)

It chronicles all the frustrations the players had to go through to attain their goal, from renting cars that always broke down, to renting safe-houses that only seemed to come with unwanted servants and gardeners, to trying to persuade El Al to organize a special flight out of Argentina (never an easy task at the best of times); and the tedious and uncomfortable chore of staking out Eichmann at his home in Buenos Aires days on end. In the end though the weeks of planning bears fruit as Eichmann is safely captured and secretly flown to Israel. (Surely I didn't ruin the ending for anybody!) Eichmann became the only person executed in Israel's history.

The House on Garibaldi Street, with a new introduction by Israeli scholar and intelligence expert Shlomo Spiro, is distributed by International Specialized Book Services Inc.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

COMMITTEE SEEKS JEWISH SHAKESPEARE

Playwriting Competition: The Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto is seeking full-length plays of Jewish content by Canadian playwrights, never professionally produced. The prize is well-publicized staged readings under a professional director. Contest closes Dec. 31.

For contest rules, write to the committee c/o the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave., Toronto M5S 2J2. Phone 416-924-6211, e-mail [bloorjcc @l global.com].

* * *

Yiddish Humorist Returns: **Bernard Mendelovitch**, star of Britain's Yiddish theatre who delighted a sold-out audience here last April, returns to Toronto for an evening of Yiddish humor and song, accompanied by pianist **Nina Shapilsky**. He's appearing Aug. 17, 7:30 p.m., at the Yiddishland Cafe, Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. (Doors open 7 p.m.). Tickets $10 in advance, 416-635-0720. Some tickets may be available for $12 at the door.

* * *

Poetry News: Toronto Yiddish poet **Simcha Simchovitch** has just published a new collection, *Funken in Zhar* (Sparks in Embers), containing works of the last five years. The poems deal with subjects ranging from elegies for family members who perished in the Holocaust to celebrations of his new creative life in Canada.

Simchovitch is also the author of nine other books, including *Stepchild On The Vistula*, a novel about Jewish life in pre-war Poland. 416-635-7199.

While we're on the subject of poetry, Eye On Arts congratulates Toronto poet **Rafi Aaron**, a runner up in the Stephen Leacock poetry competition. Aaron plans to launch his travelling exhibit and book, *A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood*, at the Toronto and Ottawa Jewish book fairs in November.

* * *

TV Contestants Sought: On Sept. 8, the new History TV channel launches the quiz show *Time Chase*, hosted by **Sheldon Turcott** and produced by **Sidney M.Cohen** and **Jay R. Cohen**. The show is seeking bright, interesting people who have a good knowledge of historical events. Auditions, 416-595-4393.

* * *

Jews of Western Canada: Opening Sept. 7 in Winnipeg, the new Jewish Museum of Western Canada is seeking information only about photographs and historical items that might be suitable for display. Contact Lara Rykiss, museum coordinator, 204-477-7467, fax 477-7465.

* * *

Holocaust Drama: *Replika – A Performance Scenario*, by Polish playwright **Jozef Szajna** and directed by **Lisa Rothman**, continues at the Tarragon Theatre, 30 Bridgman Ave., Aug. 15 and 16, 6:30 p.m. Tickets $8.

Five survivors of Auschwitz extricate themselves from the concentration camp after the Holocaust and attempt to reconstruct their lives. This piece of physical theatre incorporates puppets, singing and movement to tell a haunting tale of hope and survival.

* * *

Skylight Theatre: On Aug. 14, 7 p.m., this venue at Earl Bales Park features singer-comedian **Tsufit**, performing the musical comedy, *Broccoli's On Sale At Dominion*. Music supplied by the exuberant **Mazik Klezmer Band** from Montreal. 416-392-3846.

* * *

In the Spotlight: One year after winning an Emmy for outstanding investigative journalism, Associated Producers of Toronto has been nominated for an Emmy in the same category for their two-hour TV special *The Selling of Innocents*, about the child sex trade in India and Nepal.

William Cobban was also nominated for his direction.

Simcha Jacobovici

For producer **Simcha Jacobovici**, the nomination itself is a high honor. "We've made it twice in a row to the world series of television journalism," he said. He and fellow co-producers Cobban and **Elliott Halpern** are keeping busy as they await the Emmy awards ceremony Sept. 10, in New York. They're putting the finishing touches on *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies and The American Dream*, a two-hour documentary based on **Neil Gabler's** book *An Empire Of Their Own: How The Jews Invented Hollywood*.

An international co-production partly financed by the CBC, the American A&E channel and Britain's Channel 4, the film may be released theatrically in the fall.

Jacobovici is planning a fund-raising premiere in aid of the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre in Toronto's eastend neighborhood and the Bloor JCC.

Associated Producers has just finished shooting yet another two-hour special, the filming of which took the crew to India, Tunisia and the mountainous Khyber Pass between Afghanistan and Pakistan. *Quest For The Lost Tribes of Israel* is due for release in about six months.

Jacobovici plans to attend a screening of his award-winning film *Expulsion & Memory: Descendants of the Hidden Jews* Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m. at Congregation B'nai Israel, 190 Church St., St. Catherines, Ont. Adults $18. 1-905-685-6767.

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- **Great Small Works' *The Memoirs of Glückel of Hameln***
  World Premiere: Aug. 31 & Sept. 1, $15
- **Ashkenaz Dance Trilogy: *Zummel, Bella, Discipledom***
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Sign-making brothers are back in business

By ADAM BELLO
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Sign makers Sam and Jack Markle are finding the light at the end of their tunnel is coming from a neon marquee glowing "tzedakah."

Known as The Markle Brothers Ltd., the graphic arts duo, originally from Winnipeg, has been considered worldwide leaders in advancing the art and technology of sign design and construction.

Over a 42-year career, their work in signage has become integrated into the character of Toronto's streetscapes. The neon flashing record they constructed for Sam The Record Man has become an icon of downtown life, their experience in electronics was consulted by the creators of the Honest Ed's marquee. Uptown, Markle handiwork is seen by mail goers at the Promenade and Centerpoint.

The Markles revitalized neon as a commercial advertising medium, founded the world's first electronic art gallery and even helped to pioneer the use of humor in advertising.

Jack Markle (left) and brother Sam.

But despite impressive credentials, the Markham-based business found the 1990s a period of struggle and uncertainty. Ontario's recession years saw competition increase in their industry, while mainstay customers in commercial building and architecture became scarce. In April, the brothers were forced into bankruptcy, leaving a number of unfinished projects and outstanding commitments.

Yet the Markles have found great loyalty amongst customers. In a chance meeting with a prestigious client, Jack Markle received a six figure cheque to give the brothers a fresh start. Within a 10 day span, the brothers went from bankruptcy to a rejuvenated business operation.

"What happened was a miracle and it came when we least expected it," says Jack Markle. "The act of tzedakah by him [our client] has given us a new lease on life and restored our faith in humanity."

"This support is the reason why we are back in business," says Sam Markle. "We learned early on that if you value clients, they will value you."

Jack says the loan provided by their benefactor (who wishes to remain anonymous) allowed them to complete the remaining work under their former business, including sign work for Chabad Lubavitch Synagogue, which had made a deposit immediately prior to the bankruptcy.

Like a neon phoenix from the ashes, the Markles have started anew. Beginning the turnaround with a name change to The Brothers Markle Inc., the business has become a leaner venture in order to match the opportunities of the times. The brothers are now concentrating on creative design and manufacturing of signs, as well as computerized building directories. Many of their old clientele have welcomed back the brothers with orders, while new ones are discovering them.

Paralleling their work across Toronto, the mark of Markle can be found in virtually every institute and synagogue in the Jewish community. The Lipa Green Building, Aish HaTorah in Thornhill, Baycrest, the Associated Hebrew Schools, the Reena Foundation, Bialik Day School, and Bathurst Jewish Centre are amongst the many organizations in the community who have had sign work done by the brothers over the years.

"We didn't grow up here, but we found an acceptance in this community," Sam says. "Many of our relationships with the Jewish organization grew out of a handshake and into a synergy over four decades. I cherish the fact that we've built such strong ties with so many of our faith in Toronto."

Ashkenaz festival promises top dramas

[Cont'd. from page 30]

writings of early 19th century mystics who were among the first to use Yiddish as a language of poetry and narrative.

The Memoirs of Gluckel of Hameln (Aug. 31 at 8 p.m. and Sept. 1 at 4 p.m.) is for those who want to see Jewish drama at the cutting edge. Alternating between humor and terror, the play uses a surreal blend of talmudic interpretation, medieval Jewish legend, news flashes and hardcore mercantile theory to describe the precariousness of life in 17th century Germany.

Its producer, Great Small Works, has been active in experimental theatre in New York for many years and its principals include Jenny Romaine, Frank London and Adrienne Cooper, one of the stars of Ashkenaz 1995.

In this adaptation of the story of the legendary German-Jewish woman of Hameln, multi-media techniques are used. The rest of the world will be waiting to hear about the Toronto debut of this state-of-the-art production.

The diversity, enthusiasm and inventiveness of Yiddish radio is the inspiration for *On The Air* (*Af Der Luft*), a production about Jewish radio shows and how they mirrored the life of our immigrant parents in the '20s, '30s and '40s. The talented vocalist, Adrienne Cooper, a member of Kapelye, shines in their production on Aug. 28.

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פון אריאל קאָפּראָוו

דאָס איז די נעשיכטע פון פּאָרטוגאַלישן קאָנסול, **אריסטידעס דא קאָוו מענדעס**, וועלכער האָט, אין צייט פון מלחמה, געדינט אין דער פּוּאַנטשישער שטאָט בּאָרדאָ. ער האָט אריסטענדאָסטוועט פון די נאַציעש נעגל איבער צען טויזנט יידן און האָט פֿאַר דעם באַצאָלט אַ טייערן פּריים.

דאָס איז געווען אין חודש מאַי, 1940, ווען די היטלער־אַרמיי האָט אין משך פון עטלעכע וואָכן צעקלאַפּט די פראַנצויזישע ארמייען און פֿאַרנומען דאָס גאַנצע לאַנד. טויזנטער יידן זיינען געלאָפֿן אויף דרום, מיט דער האָפֿנונג צו אַריבערגיין די שפּאַניש גרענעץ אין פון דאָרט זיך דערשלאָגן קיין פּאָרטוגאל אין אַזוי אַרום דאָס אָסטעווען זיינערע לעבנס.

בייַם יום אין דער פּאָרט־שטאָט בּאָרדאָ האָבן זיך צונויפגענומען 30 טויזנט אנטלויפֿנדיקע, צווישן זיי אַרום 10,000 יידן. פּראַנקאָ'ס שפּאַניע איז געווען גרייט דורכצולאָזן די יידן דורך איר גרענעץ. טויזנטער יידן האָבן בייטאָג און ביינאַכט באַלאַגערט די פּאָרטוגאַלישע אַמבאַסאַדע, האָפֿענדיק צו קריגן וויזעס קיין פּאָרטוגאל.

דער גענעראל־קאָנסול פון פּאָרטוגאל אריסטידעס דא קאָוו מענדעס האָט געהאַט די פּראָבלעמאַטיקסטע סיטואַציע צו די אנטלאָפֿענע יידן. ער איינפאַך רעכט, מיט וועלכע זיי האָבן געקענט אריינפֿאָרן דורך שפּאַניע קיין פּאָרטוגאל. זיין רעגירונג האָט אים דאָס פֿאַרווערט צו טאָן. מענדעס אַבער האָט באַשלאָסן נישט אויסצופֿילן דעם באַפֿעל.

צום ערשטן האָט ער זיך געוועדעט צו די אַנטלאָפענע מיט אַ קוּרצער דערקלערונג: מיין רעגירונג האָט באַשלאָסן אייך אפֿצוהאַלן די ביינטע פֿאַר אריינפֿאָרירעס, נאָר איך קען נישט דערלאָזן, אז מענטשן, וואָס זוכן אַ רעטונגס־פלאַץ אין פּאָרטוגאל, זאָלן אומקומען. און ער האָט מאָקע גענאַרט קענן דעם באַפֿעל פון זיין רעגירונג.

עטלעכע טעג שפּעטער האָט מענדעס אַנגעהויבן אריסענגען וויזעס. דריי מעת־לעת איז ער נישט אויפֿן פון זיין שרייב־טיש. אויפן דריטן טאָג נאָך אריסענגענען אַ וויזע צום לעצטן יד (אַרום צען טויזנט), איז ער אויסגעפּאַלן אַ מידער, אָן כּוחות. . .

אין אירערע־מיינסטרימס איז מען דערשטויגט געוואָרן פון מענדעסעס אקסיוויסטענץ. מען האָט באַלד בעשיקט קיין בּאָרדאָ אַ וויזע קאָנסול צו מארענמען זיין אָרט. מענדעסן האָט מען באפֿוילן, אז ער זאָל באַלד איבערגענען אַלע דאָקומענטן פון קאָנסולאַט און זיך אומקערן קיין פּאָרטוגאל. אויטן וועג אַהיים האָט ער צוזען אַ סדרהיריק בילד: טויזנטער מענטשן זיינען צוזאַמענגעקומלט אויף די גאַסן אַרום דעם פּאָרטוגאלישן קאָנסולאַט, וווכנדיק אריינאַרויסצוקומען.

נישט בעקוקט אויף די פּראָפּאַגאַנדע פון זיינע באַגלייטערס פון אַריסטאָקראַטיש, איז מענדעס אָרויס פון אויטאָ און אַנגעהויבן אָרויסצוגעבן אימפּראָוויזירטע וויזעס. די וויזעס האָבן מאָרגנשטעלט מיט זיך בלעטלעך פאַפּיר, אויף וועלכע ס'איז געווען אַנגעשריבן: „דאָס פּאָרטוגאלישע מיניסטעריום בעט די שפּאַניש רעגירונג צו דערלויבן דעם אייגנטימער פון דעם פּאַפּיר די רעכט אריינצוראָטאַרן די גרענעץ פון שפּאַניע".

אָבע די, וועמען מענדעס האָט צוגעטיילט די וויזעס, האָט ער פּשוט נעראָטעוועט דאָס לעבן. באַלד נאָכדעם איז מענדעס מיט זיינע באַגלייטערס צוגעקומען צום גרענעץ־צוים. דאָרט האָט ער צוזען אַ גרויסע גרופּע יידישע פּליטים, וועמען די גרענעץ־וועכטער, אויפן סמך פון אַ בּאַקומענעם באַפֿעל, האָבן נישט בעלאַזט אריינצוגיין די גרענעץ. מענדעס איז וויידער אַרויסגענאַנגן פון אויטאָ און געגאַנגן צוזאָם מיט פֿאַרנט, איאהינעם מיט די אַנטלויפֿנדיקע, ביז צו דער גרענעץ. אָפּגיענדיק עטלעכע קילאָמעטער ביז צום גרענעץ־פונקט, וואו ס'איז נאָך נישט געווען דער באַפֿעל צו פֿאַרמאַכן די גרענעץ, האָט ער, וויי אין אָפּיציעלער רעגירונג־מענטש, באַאַרבעט די מענטשן, זיי זאָלן אריינפֿאָרן קיין פּאָרטוגאל.

אין ליסאַבאָן האָט מען אים באַגעגנט וויי אַ קינגער פון דער מלוכה. די אויספֿאַרש־קאָמיסיע פון אויסערן־מיניסטעריום האָט אים זיינע באַגליטערס צוגעקומען צום גרענעץ־צוים. דאָרט האָט ער צוזען אַ גרויסע גרופּע יידישע פּליטים, וועמען די גרענעץ־וועכטער, אויפן סמך פון אַ בּאַקומענעם באַפֿעל, האָבן נישט בעלאַזט אריינצוגיין די גרענעץ. מענדעס איז וויידער אַרויסגענאַנגן פון אויטאָ און געגאַנגן צוזאָם פון פֿאַרנט, איאהינעם מיט די אַנטלויפֿנדיקע, ביז צו דער גרענעץ. אָפּגיענדיק עטלעכע קילאָמעטער ביז צום גרענעץ־פונקט, וואו ס'איז נאָך נישט געווען דער באַפֿעל צו פֿאַרמאַכן די גרענעץ, האָט ער, וויי אין אָפּיציעלער רעגירונג־מענטש, באַאַרבעט די מענטשן, זיי זאָלן אריינפֿאָרן קיין פּאָרטוגאל.

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דעם 19־טן מאַי, 1987, אין דער פּאָרטוגאלישער אַמבאַסאַדע אין וואַשינגטאָן, אין דער אונוזוהייט פון זיינע קינדער, האָט מען דעם פֿאַרנט שטאַרבענעם מענדעס באַערט מיט „ערן פֿאָרטוגאלישער ביינערשאַפֿט". דער פּאָרטוגאלישער פּרעמיער־מיניסטער מאַריאָ סואַרעש האָט געבעטן בי דער גאַנצער מענדעס משפּחה אנטשולדיקונג פֿאַר דער אוממענטש־לעכקייט, וואָס אין אַזאַן נעוואָרן קענן דעם קאָנסול, זייער פּאַטער, וויי אויך פֿאַר פֿאַרשאָלן זיי די אַלע אומאַנגענעמלעכקייטן אין צרות.

צווי פון זיינע זין זיינען נעקומען אויף אַ באַזוך אין מדינת ישראל. עס האָט זיי אריינגענומען דער ישראל פּרעזידענט אין דער פּיידער פון דער כנסת. זיי זיינען נעוועז בייַם באַערן דעם כבוד פון זייער פֿאַטער אין מחצאום פון „ד' ושם" אין ירושלים.

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LifeStyle

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At Rosewater Supper Club every meal is an occasion

The Rosewater Supper Club is situated minutes from the heart of Toronto's financial and entertainment district. The historic landmark has been restored to its original state by famed interior designers Kantelberg & Co. Interior Design with special finishes by Angel Earthman.

Rosewater has three levels: On the ground level is our Main Dining Room, a spectacular 100 seat venue. This is the ideal choice for receptions of up to 300 ranging from formal settings to casual dining with food stations or buffet setting and can include a dance floor.

The Mezzanine level, which overlooks the main dining room on one side and the foyer on the other, is suitable for semi-private dining for up to 70 people. In addition we have three private boardrooms seating 8, 10 and 16 respectively.

The Lower Level, known as the Supper Club, is a totally self-contained, elegantly appointed function room, featuring a three storey mosaic waterfall and wine cellar. This room is ideal for private cocktail functions for up to 250 and sit-down lunches/dinners for up to 100.

The Amber lounge, a special area for up to 35 with a humidor that boasts an impressive selection of cigars from Cuba and other top producers.

At Rosewater every meal is an occasion and to complement the exceptional venue the restaurant offers unprecedented service and attentive staff that will ensure your event is both successful and memorable.

The Rosewater Supper Club has been chosen to host this year's Toronto International Film Festival and welcomes anyone to dine amongst the stars.

Hours of operation: Lunch, 12 noon-2:30 p.m. (Mon.-Fri.); Dinner, 5:30-10:30 p.m. (Mon.-Wed.), 5:30-11 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat).; Supper Club open for private functions only.

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TORONTO PROFILE: SHANE BAGHAI

A Toronto builder with an international reputation

For over twenty years Shane Baghai has built some of Toronto's most magnificent residences. The city's most prestigious areas are graced with some of his landmark projects.

The list of residential achievements is long and includes such outstanding projects as Harrington Gardens, Lanes on Bayview, York Mills Mansions, the current selling Edwardian and the famous Watergarden, a gem of residential achievement.

All this including a long list of custom residences now owned by the who's-who of Toronto.

Now Forest Hill Village is fortunate to welcome the latest Shane Baghai residence. St. Regis is a French-inspired luxury condominium set in the heart of the historic Forest Hill Village, at the corner of Eglinton Avenue and Spadina Road. St. Regis will be offering 23 suites in this coveted location. Each suite features a host of luxury appointments for which Mr. Baghai has become famous. No detail is overlooked and suites can be customized upon request.

SHANE BAGHAI

"I like to include the flavour of European design in my architecture. It provides a sense of permanence."

St. Regis is a marvelous opportunity to enjoy the luminous lifestyle only Shane Baghai can offer. At St. Regis you truly get the best of both worlds: the builder and the address. Priced from $239,000 to $799,000.

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LifeStyle

Eight Engagements In Eight Months Singles Registry Leads The Way

"Our busiest year just got even busier" reports Jewish Singles Registry of Toronto Owner and Director Rob Singer. "Thus far 1997 has not only been a banner year for new registrants but also in the number of engagements that the Registry is proud to be responsible for. We've had **EIGHT** engagements in the last eight months alone. At this point we can safely say that we are averaging an engagement every four weeks, a goal that we have been working on since the Registry's inception nearly five years ago.

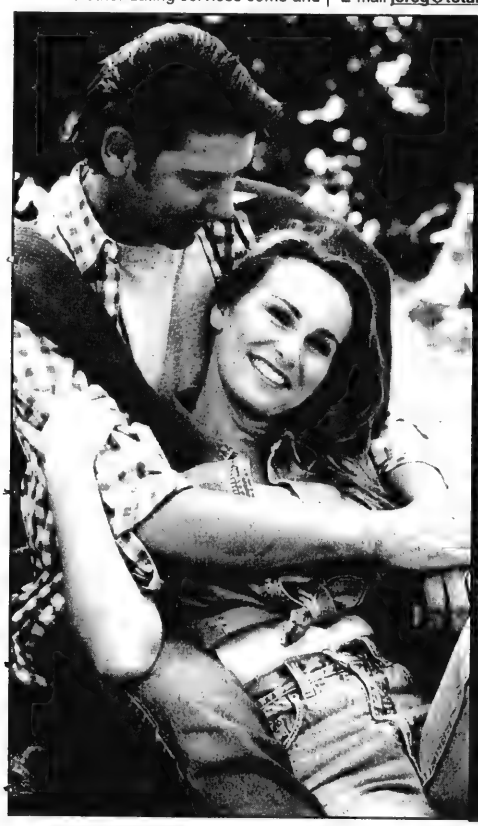
The Registry concept of letting members select for themselves their own dates by reading profiles, seeing photographs and hearing voice messages has taken Toronto Jewish singles by storm. It is the only service of its kind in Toronto and more than 1,400 people have already signed up.

It's a fast, fun and simple way for Jewish singles to connect with one another. Joining the Registry has many advantages and one of them is professional and courteous office staff. In addition to Singer, who has operated the service for five years now, two other representatives make up the team. Add on long office hours and six days a week accessibility and the JEWISH SINGLES REGISTRY offers Toronto Jewish singles a combination that is tough to beat.

READY FOR THE 21st CENTURY

While other dating services come and go, the Registry is preparing for the 21st century. Their new state of the art computer system is already a big hit with members. Using their membership number, along with a private pass code, members can easily log onto the system and access hundreds of files with a simple touch of a button. Each member profile contains a biography to read, a photograph to see, and something new, even to Registry members themselves; a unique option in which individuals can listen to voice personal messages. Registry members have all the details needed to make informed and quality dating choices. The new computer system is just the beginning reports Singer. Many new and exciting additions are in the works. Keep reading The Canadian Jewish News for further updates.

The Jewish Singles Registry knows how difficult it is to meet interesting people. Your job takes up a lot of time, bar hopping is not your scene, and while the classifieds are great for selling cars, they are not ideal for "steering" you towards an ideal partner. By registering with The Jewish Singles Registry you will be putting HUNDREDS of eligible Jewish singles at your fingertips and you will have the opportunity to go out with people that **you** want to go out with. Why spend another Saturday night alone when the Registry may have someone right for you? Call them today at **(416) 483-4151**. or E-mail **jsreg@total.net**.



KISS BLIND DATING GOOD-BYE

The Jewish Singles Registry offers you an unlimited number of introductions, that you select from an extensive Bio/Photo/Voice library. It's a great way for you to connect with people you would normally never get a chance to meet. So if you are looking for an attractive, fun, and simple way to meet other Jewish Singles, call the Jewish Singles Registry today.

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Spa combats cellulite with new body-contouring technique

As our focus on health, well-being and "the shape we're in" increases, we're bombarded with choices by the print and broadcast media. Sifting through the literally hundreds of diets, exercise routines and facilities can be a daunting task for even the most informed consumer; determining what's right for us often requires extensive research.

Research, as it happens, is the cornerstone of a revolutionary new body-shaping technique pioneered in France and recently introduced to Canada. **Spa Elancé**, a sparkling new facility on Eglinton west of Bathurst, is the only spa in Toronto currently offering *Endermologie*™, a medically supervised procedure clinically tested and proven effective in reducing cellulite.

The procedure involves an extensive full body mechanical "kneading" massage, using a powerful suction-and-roller mechanism which stimulates circulation by making blood and oxygen flow massively in the suffocated tissues. The devitalized areas respond by becoming firmer and more supple, often within a few weeks.

Regular exercise and proper diet are prerequisites to any successful fat reduction program, notes owner/consultant Anne Vandette. Unlike "normal" fatty tissue, however, cellulite deposits cannot be reduced by exercise and diet alone because they stem from hormonal changes and heredity, among other factors. For example, many slender women — even professional athletes — have cellulite despite the fact that they exercise regularly and follow a strict diet.

Spa Elancé carefully screens applicants to ensure they're medically fit and able to derive maximum benefit from the treatments. "If the patient is more than 25 pounds over her ideal weight, says Vandette, "we advise her to lose the weight prior to commencing treatment."

Spa Elancé assists clients in their quest for firmer, more supple skin by separating cellulite fact from fiction

Similarly, women with high blood pressure are required to reduce it to an acceptable level before undertaking the program.

Each patient's progress is monitored by photos taken before, during and after the sessions. Though visible improvement is usually apparent after 5 or 6 sessions, Vandette emphasizes that Endermologie™ is not a miracle cure, and cautions anyone seeking a quick fix. "The shape you're in didn't develop overnight, and you're not going to change it overnight," she says. "But with a little dedication and patience, you can achieve results that were impossible before Endermologie™."

In keeping with its medical/scientific orientation, Spa Elancé employs licensed practitioners, each with an extensive background in the treatments and procedures they administer. The Endermologie™ treatments are performed by certified Endermologists, while a medical technician administers collagen treatments, facial peels and lip augmentation, among other facial and body treatments. Dr. Lisa Bujouves, a dermatologist, runs an acne clinic as well as treating patients for spider veins on the face. She emphasizes the fact that what may be a minor problem to some is a devastation to others. "No matter how minor the problem is," she says, "that patient is concerned enough to come and see me about it, so it's up to me to do what I can to help her or him."

Refreshingly, Spa Elancé promotes long-term well-being as opposed to the pampering enticements so common in this industry. Short-term solutions, Vandette says, merely mask the problems patients are trying to address. "A day package with a free lunch is all well and good," she says, "but it only makes you feel like new for a few hours. We invite patients to *create* a new them they'll feel good about not only today, but also tomorrow, next week, and for years to come."

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LifeStyle

Shaarei Shomayim's splendid renovation showcases Sam Firestone Caterers' culinary talents

Breathtaking!" "Magnificent!" These two words are frequently being spoken across Toronto as simcha goers experience the new magic of Shaarei Shomayim's banquet facilities.

"The room has surpassed everyone's expectations," says Les Firestone, owner of Sam Firestone Caterers. And the rave reviews to date indicate that it truly has. The splendid new facility brings together the popular shul's traditional *haymishe* feeling and the elegance of Firestone's catered events.

A visit to the newly renovated facility attests to the success with which designer Nurit Bloomberg has effected this transformation. In a word, it's stunning. The design is neoclassical with distinct architectural details. Decorative mouldings, a delicately latticed drop grid ceiling, maple panelling, columns and unique paint finishes give the room a warm, rich, natural glow. The window treatments feature an exquisite combination of sheers and swags, enhanced by soft indirect lighting. The omnipresent use of graceful, elliptical shapes ties the room together effortlessly. This is not glitter and glitz, but something far better, more refined — a compelling visual statement worthy of Ms. Bloomberg's international reputation.

The banquet hall seats parties of up to 400 with room for dancing. For auditorium-style functions, seating can be arranged for up to 650 people. Standing functions can accommodate about 1,000 people. Additional rooms are available for a wide range of functions.

Consistent first class cuisine has made the Firestone name legendary over nearly four decades of synagogue catering. Under the direction of Executive Chef Jimmy Lyras, Sam Firestone Caterers has earned an enviable reputation for unsurpassed quality and excellence in all the menus they serve. Les points out that his staff enjoys creating and preparing authentic regional dishes. "I know," he says, "that when my staff promises a dish, whether it be Moroccan, Italian, Chinese, or even Greek, it will have an authentic taste — as if it came directly from that region. I take great pride in this authenticity, and people know they can count on us for it."

Unequalled service is another term synonymous with the Firestone name. Les stresses his availability and dedication to clients. "I am always available to address any questions or concerns. The people I deal with know they can come to me at any time, and I will help them to the absolute best of my ability. My only concern is making your simcha perfect. The size of the party and the synagogue affiliation have absolutely no effect on my service. Whether your function is large or small, nothing gets in the way because nothing but perfection matters. And our prices are competitive."

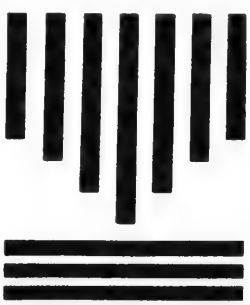
The exquisitely renovated banquet hall at Shaarei Shomayim makes a dramatic but dignified statement. Photo by Signature Photography.

Non-members welcome

Another Les Firestone trademark is that he is always the last to leave. "After the consultants, the orchestra, the guests and the family have left, I turn off the lights and lock the door. At that point, when I reflect on all of the planning which went into the simcha, I always remember how much I love this business."

Having spent most of his life in the food service industry, Les affirms that there is no greater pleasure than hosting weddings, bar mitzvahs, and the other milestones in people's lives. "I know of no other business that gives you the opportunity to share in people's happiness each and every day," he smiles. In the newly renovated premises, Firestone simply has a more compelling setting in which to share that joy with members and non-members alike. His smile grows as once again, Les looks around Shaarei Shomayim's new room admiringly. "I hope people realize that there is nothing better than a shul simcha. A party will truly benefit from the special relationship that develops between a shul and its caterer over the years. Our combined expertise makes for unbeatable service and attention to even the smallest detail."

Firestone and Shaarei Shomayim take pride in the additional services they offer at no extra charge, such as a beautiful bride's room, ample free parking, and a full time, on-site *mashgiach*. "I cannot overstate how important it is being on premises at the shul," affirms Les. "There is a special feeling and relationship which we have established. People know that we work together, and that they will be comfortable having a simcha with us. I meet many people who are surprised at how comfortable they are in a synagogue. There truly is a welcoming atmosphere in this building, which when combined with tradition is an environment which cannot be matched."



The friendly logo of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue is a reminder that you're in the right place for your simcha

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
15 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
35 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
75 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
148 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
398 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEARNING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
436 LOCKSMITH
438 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
483 SIGNS
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
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550 WORKSHOPS

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BATHURST-STEELES TOWNHOUSE - 4 YEARS NEW!
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$159,900, 2 bdrm., 2 bths., balc., lndry. ensuite, 5 appls., steps to all.

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BATHURST VILLAGE
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$319,000, 6 + bdrms., 5 bths., oak up-to-date kit., fin. bsmnt., 2 car gar., A-1 buy.

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This is it! 3+1 bdrm. & upper fam. rm., 4 bths., fin. bsmt., eat-in kit., w/o to deck, firepl., dbl. gar., walk to shuls.
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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

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15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Redmount Rd. - Bath./Laurelcrest (Clanton Pk. neigh), a single family, 3 bdrms, 2 full bths, 2 stry well kept home on a lge. lot. Please call (416) 964-0325.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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Realty Fair Real Estate Inc.,
Peter J. Fabri, Broker
905-764-6776

Bath./Finch, Savoy, comr, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bths, whirlpl, marble,extras galore! 736-8007

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Looking for prof F, 23-30, to share great 2 bdrm in Yonge/Egl. highrise, n/smkr, n/pets please! Karen, 545-1361.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

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Bright & spac. 1 bdrm apt avail for rent in Ottawa's west end. Short walk to synagogue, easy access to Universities & downtown. Sept. 1st or earlier, $575.00 incl. util, pkg. avail. 613-729-6530.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

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Willowdale,dble rm & single rm, $350/$220,suit female733-0005

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Muskoka - modern 3 bdrm, scmd porch, on lkefmt, safe, sandy beach, Jewish community, 905-731-4466, evgs.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boca Raton, Century Village, 2 bdrm,2 bth,furn,secur.225-9555

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Ft. Myers, 2 bdrm, 2 bth condo, across from beach. 283-6555.

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Mar'Len Gardens, 2 bdrm, 2 bth,furn,good location.665-9778

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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

2 bdr condo Dec.-Feb. or Jan.-March inclus. In or nr. **Delray Beach** area. Call 905-886-6167

Furn. clean 2 bdrm. apt in **Delray Beach/Boca Raton** area. From Jan. 7 - Apr. 7. Call 416-961-9909.

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem, next to Wolfson, 4 bdrm. apt., fully furnished, Knesset view, monthly or longer term, kosher, shomer shabbos. 416-633-8903.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Lux. 2 bdrm condo in **Palm Springs, Calif.,** avail for rental, lots of amen, gated. 665-7636

196 VACATION PROP.- SWAP/EXCHANGE

Couple on sabbatical interested in renting for 9-12 mos. from end of Sept. in Bath./Egl./Allen Expwy. area, 2 bdrm apt or small house. Fully furn, pref. kosher. Please contact Drs. Elliot & Veronika Cohen, via e-mail: Elliot@hum.huji.ac.il or Tel: 972-2-6713067, Fax: 972-7-6480949. **Also wish to rent or exchange** our Jerusalem home for same period, 3 bdrm, spac. liv-din. rm, leading to lge. succah balc with beautiful view, 1 1/2 bths, exc. heating, near promenade (tayelet) & synagogues of all denominations. Located in East Talpiot.

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Business Wanted. Indiv. with over 15 yrs. mgmt exper. & successful family bus. seeking estab. small to med. size bus with intention of future ownership. Strict confidentiality. Evgs. 905-524-2585.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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Expanding established Mfr. of Commercial/Industrial Doors and Door Opening Systems is seeking Senior Sales Representatives with proven track records. Must be resourceful, motivated, well organized. Career position. Salary to be base + Commission.
Reply to:
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Fax: (905) 670-8838
NO CALLS PLEASE

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You will be working from our office in Mississauga. Fluency in both spoken and written English and Hebrew is required.

Please fax your résumé to:
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Financial Secretary for Private Day School, with strong spreadsheet (Quattro or other) & word processing skills. A self-starter, able to work on multiple projects. Must be a team player. Some acct'g. background (ACCPAC) an asset. Fax résumés & salary expectations to: 905-771-1807.

SALES AND MARKETING ASSISTANT (P/T)
Telesales business req. assertive, well-spoken prof. with strong telesales and/or business-to-business sales exper, marketing savvy, business writing skills & PC proficiency (Windows '95, Word, ACT!). Position req. generating qualif. sales leads & providing inside sales/office support.
Tel: 416-635-6325

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Telesales bus. req. assertive, well-spoken prof. with proven telesales and/or business-to-business sales exper. & PC familiarity (Windows '95, Word, ACT!). Generate qualif. sales leads for our clients in an informal but demanding work environ. No selling involved.
Tel: 416-635-6325

245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

A Russian Jewish man, honest, serious, seeks p/t or f/t work, any delivery job. Refs. avail. Alex, 416-638-3811.

247 DAY CARE

Babysitting avail. full or part time, from 3 mos. & up, beginning Sept., refs. avail. Shomer Shabbas. Call 905-881-5433.

Carla's kids Castle, for infants & toddlers, 10-36 mos., Sun. - Thurs. Call Carla, 244-4172, located in North York. Run by a qualif. ECE.

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

Prof. childcare by E.C.E. teacher in unique home environ.Bath/Yonge/Finch 250-6374

247 DAY CARE

Day Care avail in my home, kosher facil, ages 1+, for more info please call 416-225-5101.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

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• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
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Excellent housekeepers, companions, nannies & nursing aides. Please call **Flor De 'Liz International Employment Agency.** 416-533-5905, 241-8673 or 537-6108. Fax: 416-533-5905. **No Employers Fee.**

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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency, 222-4912.**

Russian cleaning lady with exper. seeks job. Call 663-3725 or 762-6094.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Elderly lady looking for a live-in housekeeper, child welcome. 416-489-9415.

Housekeeper req'd, 3 afts./wk, Ave Rd./Wilson area, small house, 1 8 yr. old boy, simple cooking, driver lic. req'd. Call Robin at 638-5794 (eve.).

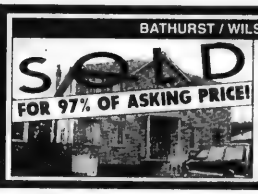
Nanny, p/t, req'd Mon-Fri, 3:30-6:30pm, must love children, refs req'd. 787-5468.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

BATHURST / WILSON



Custom executive home, 3,400 sq. ft. of luxury + fin. basement, granite hallway, main floor library & fam. room, w/o to rear deck. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

BATHURST / LAWRENCE

Spacious 3 bedroom bungalow, close to all amenities, finished basement, hardwood floors, renovated kitchen. Asking $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

GLEN PARK — LOT FOR SALE!

New listing! Fabulous location close to many new homes! 40 x 131 ft. Permits and plans available for new home to be built, 3,400 sq. ft. (approx.) + bsmt. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

DUPLEX ON PRESTIGIOUS HILLHURST BLVD.!

2-3 bdrm. spacious units + in-law suite in bsmt., elevator — live in one unit, collect rent from the second! Steps to Cortleigh Park. ACT NOW! Asking $479,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

LOOKING FOR FAMILY OF SOPHIE & ELIEZER KATZ (deceased). There is an inheritance in Israel (they had a daughter- Hirch Ruth). Please call if you have any information: 905-731-9667.

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330 OBITUARIES

SNOBEL, Leonard - on July 14, 1997.
SEGUIN, Yvonne - on July 19, 1997.
GORDON, Balfoura - on July 25, 1997.
ROSENBAUM, Solomon - on July 28, 1997.
FOLB, Sidney Arthur - on July 29, 1997.

The Simple Alternative

COHEN, Ruth- on July 14, 1997, late of 23 Zahal St.
NACHMIAS, Malka - on July 14, 1997, late of 23 Botkovsky St.
GRINGORTEN, Jean - on July 17, 1997, late of 19 Lower Village Gate, #608.
KESSLER, Dorothy - on July 17, 1997, late of 370 Ridelle Ave., #804.
GOLDSMITH, Samuel - on July 19, 1997, late of 337 Cundles Rd. W.
LEA, Charles - on July 19, 1997, late of 9 Overdale Rd.
ACKERMAN, Mary - on July 20, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

BURSTYN, Pearl - on July 20, 1997, late of 100 Antibes Dr., #1601.
ROSENTHAL, Gertrude - on July 21, 1997, late of 287 Strathallen Wood.
HOFFMAN, Fanny - on July 22, 1997, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
WOLFE, Jack - on July 22, 1997, late of 51 Bayview Ridge.
DRILLICK, Sally - on July 23, 1997, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
LIBMAN, Ruth - on July 23, 1997, late of 447 Walmer Rd., #806.
NUSSBAUM, Rita - on July 23, 1997, late of 3705 Bathurst St., #501.
STARR, Edward - on July 23, 1997, late of 2 Rostrevor Rd.
FRIED, Laura - on July 26, 1997, late of 39 Hawarden Cres.
ROSEN, Goldie - on July 28, 1997, late of 150 Ranee Ave.
HIMMEL, Harry - on July 29, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MOSES, Miriam - on July 30, 1997, late of 642 York Hill Blvd.
BROWN, Marty - on July 31, 1997, late of 33 Shalimar Blvd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

ORTOFSKY, Florence - on July 28, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
KOTZER, Rachel - on July 29, 1997, late of 20 Model Ave.
GIMPLE, Ida - on July 30, 1997.
LAIBOVITZ, Jack - on July 30, 1997, late of 525 Chaplin Cres.
LAITER, Riva - on July 30, 1997, late of 25 Cedarcroft Blvd.
WARHAFT, Hyman Bernard - on July 31, 1997, late of 6101 Bathurst St.
ZINER, (Czinner) John - on August 2, 1997, late of 33 Post Rd.
GREENBERG, Lillian - on August 3, 1997, late of 74 Acton Ave.
OKELL, Belle - on August 4, 1997, late of 4300 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

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Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Independent Arbiter Ring Section
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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SARAH SALAMON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 17th, 11:00 a.m.
Lambton Cemetery
(Royal York Rd., S. of Eglinton)
Sons of Abraham Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RICHARD INGBER ז"ל
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Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section - Phase 3 DDD24
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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MANTIA WEBER ז"ל
will take place
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Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
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Canada's boys of summer win Maccabiah gold

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Canada's golden boys of summer celebrate Maccabiah fastball win. Seen here, back row (from left): Mark Dworkin (team manager), Natalie Barcelo (athletic therapist), Phil Gigan, David Strauss, Matt Levinson, Adam Wolff, Mark Bendahan, Bob Green, Jack Fireman (GM and fundraiser), Maccabi official Alan Gerskup, Mark Green, assistant coach Steven Kushnir and Maccabi official Bernie Offstein. Kneeling (from left): Stephen Goldsmith, Jonathan Erlich, Brian Revin, David Fabian and Ira Smith. Sitting (from left): Michael Solomon, I.J. Schecter, Warren Cohen and Rick Green. Unidentified batboy from Kibbutz Gezer is in front row.

TORONTO — Part way through the Maccabiah fastball tournament, Canadian coach Brian Revin decided his team needed a wake-up call.

The defending gold medalists had just been humbled 2-1 by an up-and-coming team from Mexico, and their bats had been silent through much of that game.

Departing from his normal, low-key approach to coaching, Revin had the guys out for a strenuous workout that consisted of some hard running followed by hitting practice.

The change of pace seemed to work. The boys got keyed up again and their batting improved tremendously after that.

Coupled with strong pitching from all three Canadian hurlers, Canada went on to win its second consecutive gold medal in one of the Maccabiah's prestige events.

Canada won its first fastball gold in 1993 after twice losing to the United States in the finals.

This time around the script was completely different, with the emergence of Mexico making it a three-team race in an eight-country competition.

Divided into two four-team divisions, Canada first played in a round robin format against Argentina, Mexico and Venezuela. In game one, Canada defeated Argentina 5-2 as the South Americans proved a tough opponent. Buoyed by the strong pitching of Alan Rosenblum, who led the tournament with 61 strikeouts, Argentina gave the Canadians a good match.

In game two, Canada blew out the Venezuelans 12-0 and moved on to face Mexico in game three. With the score 0-0 through the first four innings, Mexico went ahead 1-0 in the fifth. Canada quickly tied it but Mexico got the winning run in the sixth and held on for a 2-1 victory.

The Mexican pitcher was strong and the balls Canada did hit seemed to go directly to Mexican fielders, Revin said.

Following the round robin, Argentina, Mexico and Canada all sported 2-1 records but after the tie-breaking formula was employed, which took into account runs allowed, Mexico was awarded first place and Canada second.

With the playoffs approaching, Revin decided to run his tough practice.

Employing a cross-over format, Canada faced the previously undefeated United States in the semi-final. The game was played at Kibbutz Gezer, about half way between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, and the stands were filled with 3,000 spectators, on hand for what many considered the real tournament championship.

"The United States has been our nemesis over the years," Revin conceded. "Our guys played well, we came out hitting and we won 7-1."

The lopsided score was a departure from previous confrontations with the Americans, which always turned into close games decided by late-inning heroics. This time, Canada got tremendous pitching from veteran Mark Bendahan, who allowed only two or three hits.

"He pitched a beautiful ballgame," Revin said. "He was really up for the game. That was the most emotion he's showed in the four Maccabiahs I've been with him."

Helping the Canadian cause were several uncharacteristic U.S. errors that the Canuck capitalized on and an ordinary game from U.S. pitcher David Blackburn, who's been a tower of strength for the Americans in the past.

With the score 2-0 for Canada in the sixth inning of the seven-inning game, Rick Green broke the contest open with a bases loaded triple.

The loss relegated the United States into the bronze medal game, which they won, defeating Israel 11-2.

Canada moved on to the best-of-three final against Mexico. In game one, with a near capacity crowd looking on, David Strauss took to the mound for Canada.

"He pitched a nice ballgame. Our defence was solid in the whole tournament. In the six games we played, we had only one error," Revin said.

I.J. Schecter tripled as Canada won 6-1.

In game two of the final, Revin put Green on the pitching mound for Canada. Although Canada has gone far with its veteran pitchers, it was time to introduce some young blood into a pressure cooker situation, Revin explained.

Green "came through with flying colors." He pitched six innings, had six strikeouts and gave up a couple of hits. Canada dominated the contest and in the last inning Bendahan went in as the closer. He shut the door on any chance of a rally by the Mexicans. The final score was 10-0 as Canada picked up its second consecutive gold medal.

Mexico's ability to advance to the final may be a harbinger of things to come, Revin said. In past Maccabiahs, such as the 1985 games, Canada and the United States dominated, defeating other countries by 10 or 15 runs. This time around, those scores have narrowed considerably and teams like Argentina have a bright future, riding the arm of their young pitcher, Revin said.

Canada meanwhile relied on two veteran pitchers, Bendahan and Strauss, who've been the backbone of the team for several Maccabiahs. It's probably time to look for good young pitchers to take their place, but finding them is proving to be difficult, Revin said.

Identifying positions players, on the other hand, is not as difficult as "there are lots of young guys" playing good calibre softball, he said. With a balanced lineup on hand, he was able to work all the players into the games, giving each one exposure to championship action.

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The Inside Back

Forced retirement of flight attendants rejected

By JONATHAN SHIFF

Does an airline have the right to retire flight attendants who are beginning to show their age? What if they are aging but not showing it yet?

The collective agreement between El Al and its unions states that the retirement age for flight attendants is 60, whereas members of the ground crew can work until age 65. This is not an unusual practice — British Airways and Air France, for example, force their flight attendants to retire at age 55, although such discrimination is illegal in the United States.

El Al's flight attendants, however, sued over the issue.

The Law of Equal Opportunity in Work was amended in 1995. It now prohibits discrimination among workers based on gender, sexual orientation, personal (family) status, parenthood, age, race, religion, nationality, country of origin, ideology or party affiliation, but does permit differentiating between workers when the reason is a result of the nature of the job or the task.

Therefore, one of the main questions in the El Al case was whether age is a factor in the work of a flight attendant.

Justice Mishael Heshin felt that it was permitted to differentiate between different jobs — flight attendants versus ground crew, for example. Nonetheless, Heshin was of the opinion that forcing anyone to retire completely at age 60 was against public policy.

Had his opinion been accepted, he would have ruled that El Al could retire the flight attendants at age 60, but that the airline would have to offer them another position until age 65. However, his opinion was the minority.

The majority opinion, held by justices Yitzhak Zamir and Dorit Beinish, was that the different retirement age was discriminatory. Zamir rejected El Al's argument that since youthful appearance and good physical condition are requirements for the job, the early retirement was justified. Zamir asked whether youthful appearance was really a requirement of the job or simply a preference of the airline. His conclusion was that the airline companies themselves created the stereotype of a youthful flight attendant, which the public has come to expect. The law banning discrimination exists, in his opinion, to uproot stereotypes that have no justification.

Furthermore, since the collective agreement permits El Al to fire flight attendants for esthetic reasons or for changing outward appearance, there is no need for the early-retirement ruling.

Zamir also rejected the physical condition argument, since he was not convinced that the in-flight service would be lacking if one or two of the attendants were over 60. In addition, he suggested that the added experience and judgment of the more mature attendants compensate for any deterioration in physical condition.

The El Al case illustrates how the judges attempted to interpret laws to fit what they perceived as the purpose behind them or the Knesset's intent. In this context, Zamir's distinction between requirements of the job (which the Knesset does not see as discriminatory) and preferences of the employer (which *are* considered discriminating) is convincing, but in itself raises some difficult issues:

First of all, there will be many situations in which the employer believes that certain characteristics are requirements of a job and may, therefore, have trouble applying the ruling. Thus, for example, the Israeli newspapers have reporters who cover the haredi world. If a woman was denied the job on the basis that she would have trouble obtaining access and interviews in some cases, is that a requirement of the job or a stereotype that the law forbids? The answer seems obvious — the law surely forbids discrimination against women. But the employer would argue that being a woman essentially prevents the reporter from doing the job.

Furthermore, the case raises the issue of retirement ages. Using Zamir's reasoning, since employers are permitted to fire workers who are no longer capable of fulfilling their tasks, one could argue that retirement ages are unnecessary and therefore discriminatory.

This criticism does not take away from the fact that the case is an important one and, in my opinion, a good decision. It does not, however, close the book on the issue or even provide clear guidelines for the future.

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JERUSALEM KUGEL

2 tsp. salt, to taste
1 lb. capellini noodles (very thin noodles)
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1-1/2 to 2 tsp. freshly ground pepper
3/4 cup sugar
4 eggs
1/2 tsp. cinnamon

Bring 3 qts. water to boil. Add 1 tsp. salt & capellini noodles. Cook and drain.

In a medium saucepan, heat oil and 1/2 cup of sugar. Stir constantly until the sugar turns very dark, almost black (about 10 minutes). Add this hot caramel to the pasta and mix well. Cool slightly.

Beat eggs in another bowl. Add remaining salt, pepper, cinnamon and remaining sugar. Pour into the pasta mixture and toss well.

Transfer to a greased tube pan and bake, uncovered, in a preheated 350°F. oven for 1 hour, or until golden on top. Remove from the oven, turn upside down on a serving plate, unmold and serve. Serves 6 to 8.

About Life

Dear Ella,

After literally years of going to singles' dances, I've finally met someone I seemed to click with.

We spent the evening dancing and then we walked and talked for hours. I really felt I hit pay dirt with this guy. He was bright, funny, sensitive and cute. Sounds great right? Wrong. He called me the next day and left a message on my answering machine. When I returned his call, a woman answered the phone. It turned out to be his mother. It seems this 35 year old man still lives at home with his parents.

I was completely blown away. Here I thought this was it and then I end up finding this huge flaw. I don't understand why a 35-year-old grown man would still be living at home with his parents. Do you have any clues as to what I should do now?

Home Not So Sweet Home

Dear Home Not So Sweet Home,

It sounds to me like you are completely disturbed by the fact that this man lives at home with his parents, yet when you originally met him you felt he was the one you've been waiting to meet for some time now.

Don't be so quick to write this guy off. There could be many reasons for his living at home. He could be caring for his parents who may be ill, he could be between jobs, he may just be keeping his mother company while his father is out of town or it could be a temporary stopover so he can save quickly for a down payment on a house. The reasons are endless.

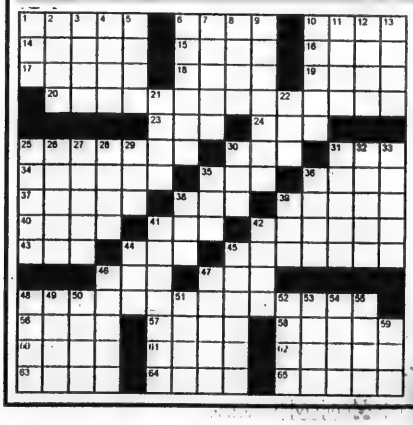
I understand that you are afraid this man you have met has not been able to tear himself from his parents' strings. Anyone would be leery of a guy living at home at the age of 35. Talk to him. Be forward and ask him why he is living with his parents. If his answer resembles something like my mother cooks, cleans and does my laundry for me, well, you'll know what to do from there.

However, you may be pleasantly surprised. He may just be exercising the sensitivity you found so appealing when you first met.

Home Not So Sweet Home may still be as sweet as you first believed. Give him a chance.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Betim in Spain
6. Singer work
10. Plague?
14. 100th of a NIS
15. Dance
16. Agadah
17. Author Meyer
18. Gilboa mount flower
19. World (Heb.)
20. Jars found by shepherd
23. Lamed (Eng.)
24. Secured the Afikoman
25. Noah before Ham
30. Commandment no no
31. Tried and true man
34. Greeting
35. Olympiad Friedman
36. Sound of MGM
37. Aaron's oldest son
38. Comedian Murry
39. Bialik offering
40. Roman and Messianic
41. Baer move
42. Table __, game for Barna
43. "Gingy"
44. Pro
45. Dorothy Parker
46. Prior NYC mayor
47. Six Day
48. Righteous gentile
56. Hebrew letters
57. Samson's strength
58. Gave Tzedakah
60. "Night" writer
61. Diarist
62. Angel's door sign
63. Sedaka or Simon
64. Require
65. Wittenberg

Down

1. White Sox' Abrams
2. Methuselah
3. Preserve from harm
4. Peerce specialty
5. Piece of Negev
6. Magen (Eng)
7. Eilat sight
8. "The Angry Hills" author
9. Title of Thirteen psalms
10. Noah's story
11. Close the Torah
12. Sabin vaccine
13. Ramat Gan specialty
21. Appear
22. Eve starter
25. "Lou Grant" actor
26. Portion
27. Edomite king
28. Oy Veyl
29. Group for Bugsy Siegal
30. Manilow follower
31. "Bonanza" dad
32. Desert sweetspot
33. Delilah cut Samson's
35. Schmooz (Eng)
36. Shiva clothes
38. Sea Scrolls holder
39. Vav: (Eng.)
41. Son of Abraham
42. Like shiva clothes
44. Tu B' Shevat planting?
45. Like Noah's animals
46. Equipment for Modigliani
47. Kvetch (Eng)
48. Challah maker's equipment
49. Transaction
50. 107
51. Staff
52. Maccabiah race?
53. Etrog's cousin
54. Garden
55. Tuches
59. Negev climate

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 42.)

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Mysterious headstone: Fragment of Jewish headstone found in Toronto park. **Page 5**

Petah Tikva Congregation gets new rabbi. **Page 6**

On Campus

Bronfman fellow Judith Shapero, 24, to inspire others to take Judaism seriously. **Page 18**

National

Visiting Israeli teen dies at B'nai Brith camp in Quebec. **Page 25**

Health

Challah program aids cancer patients' treatment **Page 32**

Arts

Top Yiddish bands and films sure to thrill audiences at Ashkenaz '97. **Page 37**

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
On Campus 18
Between Us 19
Jewish Life 21
Coast to Coast 24
What's New 26
International 29
Health 33
Travel, Arts & Business 34
Classified 38
Sports 42
Ask Jesse 43
Crossword 43

Shabbat: Ekev
Candlelighting: 7:51
Av 19, 5757
Havdalah: 8:56

Kalejs ordered deported

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An immigration adjudicator has ordered Konrad Kalejs deported for being an accomplice to war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Kalejs was ordered to appear at Pearson International Airport at 5:30 p.m. last Monday for deportation to an, as of then, unidentified destination. He seemed dumbfounded by the news, as just 30 minutes earlier, his lawyer had won for him the right to remain at large pending deportation.

In a 60-page decision read in a downtown Toronto hearing room on Monday, adjudicator Anthony Iozzo found that Kalejs served as commander of the external guards at the Salaspils concentration camp.

Acts of barbarous cruelty took place in the camp, including murder, beatings and starvation. By voluntarily serving as commander of the outside guards, Kalejs was an accomplice to war crimes and crimes against humanity, Iozzo stated.

"Konrad Kalejs is accountable for what he did at Salaspils." He was a principle offender and not merely an onlooker to events and he could have left the Arajs Kommando, which guarded the camp, during his service there from the summer of 1942 to at least December 1942, Iozzo said.

In finding Kalejs a war criminal under the definition set up by the Supreme Court of Canada in the Imre Finta case, Iozzo found Kalejs lied in denying that he was a member of the Arajs Kommando and that he was commander of external guards as Salaspils.

However, he had many observers shaking their heads as he found untrustworthy much evidence that suggested Kalejs led a ski unit that decimated a village and murdered its inhabitants.

Iozzo rejected the testimony of several former members of the Arajs Kommando that Kalejs was responsible for war crimes in the villages of Saniki and Zabalotye.

While finding that Kalejs lied about his membership in the Arajs Kommando and his service at Salaspils, he gave Kalejs the benefit of the doubt on almost every other point.

The decision elated Rhonda Pasternack, who lives in the same North York condominium building where Kalejs resides.

"I'm ecstatic," she said, adding that she and many other condominium residents hoped he would be deported as soon as possible.

Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith expressed satisfaction with the decision, although spokespersons for both groups said Iozzo was wrong on numerous historical facts regarding the Arajs Kommando. They disputed his suggestion that the Arajs Kommando was anything other than a dedicated murder unit.

Kalejs has the option of seeking a judicial review of Iozzo's order in a federal court.

TAXI DRIVER'S FUNERAL

Tamir Ben-Baruch (centre), accompanied by his mother Betty Ben-Baruch (left), the widow of an Israeli taxi driver killed by Palestinians, recites Kaddish at his father's funeral Aug. 17. Please see story on page 29. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Israel, PA talk security

By JON IMMANUEL, JAY BUSHINSKY and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israeli and Palestinian security officials met in Ramallah Sunday night under the eye of U.S. officials in a triangular framework laid down during the visit last week by U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross.

Meanwhile, senior government sources shrugged off a *Sunday Telegraph* report that General Security Service chief Ami Ayalon had flown to London to investigate claims that the Machane Yehuda bombing was planned in England.

The sources called the report in the British newspaper "just nonsense."

They said they knew Ayalon had been abroad recently, but were unable to pinpoint his itinerary. "We don't know the details," they said.

At the Ramallah meeting, Israeli officials expressed interest in examining the explosives found in a Hamas bomb factory in Beit Sahur last month. The Palestinians asked Israel to drop the series of measures it has taken restricting Palestinian economic life since the Machane Yehuda bombing.

The Israelis said they were satisfied with the cooperation of Palestinian security forces in the investigation into the bombing. They agreed to meet again.

The Palestinian Authority (PA) has threatened an economic boycott of Israel to protest the Israeli measures, particularly the withholding of tax revenues.

The meeting follows one between Yitzhak Molho, the prime minister's adviser, and PA Chairman Yasser Arafat. Molho thanked Arafat for the speedy arrest of suspects in the murder of Shmuel Ben-Baruch and asked for similar diligence in the search for terrorists.

Continued on page 32

EARLY DEADLINES

Because of the Labor Day weekend, advertising deadline for display ads is Wednesday, Aug. 27 at noon. The deadline for classified and organizational ads is Tuesday, Aug. 26 at noon.

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Toronto man's mother killed in Machane Yehuda — please see page 3

The News in Brief

CANADA

Increased Restitution

TORONTO – Holocaust survivors who are receiving compensation for loss of health can, under certain conditions, make a request for increased monthly payments.

For details, contact the United Restitution Organization at 416-630-2920, Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

Waldman Scholarship

TORONTO – Vancouver teen Nava Mizrahi has received this year's Dennis Waldman Scholarship. The honor roll student, who served last year as international president of B'nai Brith Girls, has received over a dozen awards for community service and leadership. She will be attending the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

BB Night at SkyDome

TORONTO – The lodges of B'nai Brith Canada distributed baseball tickets to groups throughout the Toronto region as part of its community volunteer program last week.

Toronto Blue Jay players, Shawn Green and Alex Gonzalez were presented with the annual People Helping People Award in recognition of their volunteer work on behalf of those less fortunate

ISRAEL

Soldiers Sentenced

JERUSALEM – Two Israeli border policemen, Tzahi Shmaya, 19, and David Ben Abu, 20, have been sentenced to eight months in prison and a 12-month suspended sentence for beating Palestinians who tried to enter Jerusalem without proper permits last October.

The judge who handed down the sentences was quoted as saying he hoped the punishment would deter recurrences of such actions by border police.

The sentences, which will take effect in 45 days to give the two time to appeal, came the day after an Israeli human rights group issued a report that ill-treatment of Palestinians was extremely widespread among border police.

Message Denied

JERUSALEM – Aides to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu are denying a newspaper report that Netanyahu has agreed to a partial withdrawal from the Golan Heights in exchange for concessions on security arrangements from Syria.

The Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot* reported last week that Netanyahu had recently conveyed a message to Syrian President Hafez al-Assad in which he proposed a formula for determining the extent of the withdrawal.

Netanyahu spokesperson Shai Bazak denied the report.

Stalking Settlers

JERUSALEM – A Hamas official recently expelled from the United States has called on Palestinians to turn the lives of Jewish settlers "into an unbearable hell."

Mousa Mohammed Abu Marzook, whose comments were published in the United Arab Emirates, also told a magazine, "We call on our people in Palestine to stalk the herds of these spiteful settlers."

Marzook, who was the head of Hamas' political wing, had lived in the United States for 15 years before he was detained at a New York airport in July 1995 because his name was on a list of suspected terrorists.

WORLD

Helping the Blind

BROOKLYN – The Jewish Heritage for the Blind is offering free publications for the blind and visually impaired for the High Holy Days.

The publications include the Braille Rosh Hashanah Machzor, the Braille Yom Kippur Machzor, Large Print Yom Kippur Machzor and Large Print Rosh Hashana Machzor.

The large print books require a note from an eye specialist.

For information call, write or fax: The Jewish Heritage for the Blind, 1655 East 24th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11229; 800-995-1888 or fax 718-338-0653.

UAHC Convention

NEW YORK – The Union of American Hebrew Congregations will hold its biennial convention Oct. 29 to Nov. 2 in Dallas.

More than 140 workshops are being planned for the delegates. The Union of American Hebrew Congregations is the central body of Reform Judaism in North America, uniting 1.5 million Reform Jews in more than 860 synagogues.

Klinghoffer Case Settled

NEW YORK – The family of Leon Klinghoffer, a disabled passenger killed by Palestinian terrorists aboard an Italian cruise ship 12 years ago, has closed a long and painful chapter of their lives by agreeing to settle a lawsuit with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The sum agreed upon was not disclosed, which was a condition of the settlement, according to a family spokesperson.

The PLO also settled with Crown Travel, the New Jersey tour operator that booked the fateful cruise.

The attack on Klinghoffer, whose body was thrown off the *Achille Lauro* into the Mediterranean Sea, for years exemplified the scourge of random violence emanating from the Middle East conflict.

WORLD WIDE WEB

Telfed Web Site

JERUSALEM – Telfed has launched a site on the World Wide Web for the interest of the South African Jewish community all over the world.

The site address is [http://www.telfed.org.il].

Showdown at Western Wall

JERUSALEM – The showdown between haredi and liberal Jews at the Western Wall plaza last week is the latest sign of the growing struggle between the two groups to define the nature of the Jewish state.

As Tisha b'Av began on Monday evening Aug. 11, haredi men began trying to shout over the prayers of about 200 men and women worshiping together in a specially designated area at the entrance to the Western Wall plaza, a couple hundred yards from the Wall itself.

Most haredi Jews find such egalitarian prayer groups offensive.

Anxious to avoid a confrontation with the thousands of haredi men milling about the plaza, police, braced for confrontation, quickly broke up the non-Orthodox prayer group and herded them forcibly through security gates at the entrance to the plaza.

Then the police forced the group another hundred yards down a driveway leading to the Dung Gate out of the Old City, as the Conservative Jews sang a Hebrew prayer calling on God to make peace in the heavens and within the nation of Israel.

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,711 copies.
Average net paid circulation per issue: 45,109 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997.

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Toronto man mourns slain mother

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Shimshon Stern weeps for a mother lost, but not to old age or even disease. Leah Stern was a hale 69, out shopping for others, when two Arab suicide bombers detonated the blasts that killed them and 14 others in the July 30 attack at the Machane Yehuda market in Jerusalem.

Leah Stern's son, a teacher at Toronto's Yeshiva Yesodei Hatorah, now has nothing left but the memories of a mother who survived Hitler, only to die a violent death at the hands of those who also kill out of political fanaticism.

"She had a smile for everybody. She only thought of others and had a good word for everyone," says Stern from his hospital bed, where he's recovering from a knee injury suffered the night before the fateful blast that claimed his mother. Choking back tears, and occasionally letting them flow freely, he adjusts his black velvet kippah and gazes straight ahead. "She will be missed," he whispers.

A Romanian-born Holocaust survivor, Leah Stern had two other sons, a daughter and 24 grandchildren. "Her every word to them could last for generations," Stern says. "She wanted the best for everybody."

By all media accounts, and certainly according to Stern, Leah

Leah Stern...

killed in bomb attack

Stern was a remarkable woman. A frequent visitor to Toronto to see her son, his wife and their eight children, aged one to 16, she was a widow who moved to Israel in 1994 from Los Angeles, where she and her late husband had gone from New York after retirement several years earlier .

Leah had cared for her husband for the four years he suffered with Alzheimer disease, until his death in 1993. "She hid his disease from her children for two full years," her son recalls, "so we shouldn't suffer. The doctors gave him one year, and he lived [with the disease] for over four. She did for him what no one would do."

Shimshon Stern moved to Toronto in 1977 and has been teaching at Yeshiva Yesodei Hatorah for 12 years. "She loved Toronto," he says of his mother. "She said it reminded her of Europe. She loved that it's so clean and beautiful. She always had a good word for the city."

Stern kept busy schedule in Jerusalem

Although she lived alone in her beloved Jerusalem, Leah Stern kept a busy schedule. She was involved with an organization called Yad Eliezer, whose volunteers prepare and deliver home-cooked meals to poor Orthodox families in the city.

On July 30, she paid a rare visit to the crowded Machane Yehuda market to buy food for others.

Shimshon Stern...

a son mourns

The day after the blast, Leah was buried in Bnei Brak, between her husband and her father.

Stern couldn't attend the funeral because of his knee. "Deep in my heart," he says softly, "I know she didn't want to be a burden to her children."

In Israel, President Ezer Weizman and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert sent their sympathies to the family.

In this country, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy telephoned Stern to offer condolences.

"She could have easily died in [the Holocaust]," muses Stern. "It's a big merit to die because one is a Jew. But G-d granted her another 50 years, and she raised a family. But still died because she was a Jew.

"To die for the sanctity of G-d is a kiddush HaShem."

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UJA FEDERATION
Funding IN ACTION

Challenges do not frighten Casey Cipin. They are part of what she faces every day as Special Needs Coordinator for Centre Camp at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

Centre Camp is unique, because it serves both children with and without special needs. Thanks to UJA Federation, Centre Camp is a means for special needs children to be integrated with others in a caring, fun-loving environment.

PATIENCE PAYS OFF

"Clare" a 10 year old girl with Downs Syndrome has been coming to Centre Camp for three years. Clare has different needs than other campers, so it's important that staff members know how to deal with her. "Often Clare may not want to participate in an activity," says Casey. "I must explain to her how important her role is, and this requires extreme patience. Patience is the key."

So is being creative. Since many of the children with autism, behavioural difficulties or developmental delays have short attention spans, Casey must be able to think quickly and come up with new ways to get them motivated. Enter Creativity 101. "I have thought of everything from piggy-back rides to finger nail painting," she says. "Sometimes, it's the other campers who will take Clare's hand to join the rest of the group. That's really great to see."

"Many campers who were once shy and withdrawn, have done a complete turn-around," explains Casey. "It's very fulfilling to see how the kids have matured."

BENEFITS BEYOND CAMP

And the satisfaction stretches far beyond the camp grounds. All the children - with or without special needs - are learning to interact as one despite differences.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

"The greatest accomplishment," Casey stresses, "is knowing that at the end of summer, you have helped to make a difference in these campers' lives. It's wonderful to see so many of the same faces return year after year."

At Centre Camp, the integration of special needs children is just one example of *UJA Federation Funding in Action.*

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From the editor's desk

Interpreting surveys

Last week in this space, I brought to the attention of readers certain aspects of the important debate currently unfolding among observers of Jewish life on the future of Diaspora Jewry.

I tried to place the debate in the context of the long-standing culture and tradition of discussion and disagreement, which I described as being "part of the deep structure of Jewish intellectual history and pedagogical method."

At times we all grow weary of the ubiquity of opinions, theories, theses and expert advice on every conceivable subject. But it is in this exchange of views, often across a span of many years, that knowledge accumulates and ideas become refined into the fine powder that can ignite human achievement.

Specifically I first pointed out the *machloket*, difference of opinion, on the proper interpretation of Jewish demographics.

I published an excerpt from a statement by J.J. Goldberg, who, in an article in the *New York Times*, challenged the accuracy of the 1990 National Jewish Population Survey conducted in the United States on behalf of the Council of Jewish Federations. He refuted one of the survey's key findings that 52 percent of American Jews were intermarrying. Goldberg asserted that the figure was closer to 38 percent.

Goldberg furthermore maintained that organized Jewry's call for a return to core Jewish values did not have "the least chance of engaging most American Jews (because) they remain steadfastly liberal in their religious and political leanings."

I then seized upon Goldberg's faith in the liberalism of American Jewry as a segue to the diametrically opposite and rather stark observation written by Hillel Halkin in an article provocatively entitled "After Zionism" that appeared in the June 1997 volume of *Commentary*.

"The majority of American Jews will want nothing to do with (traditional Judaism). *And as Jews, they or their children will disappear.*" (Our emphasis)

But the demise of Diaspora Jewry is not as certain in the minds of others as it is for Halkin. Not surprisingly, there is a very profound disagreement on the subject.

In an article published two weeks ago in the *Jerusalem Post*, Abraham Rabinovich reported on the 12th World Congress of Jewish Studies recently held at Hebrew University.

As reported by Rabinovich, Halkin's sullen prediction was squarely contradicted by a number of the speakers who participated in the conference.

For example, quoting Neil Gillman of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, Rabinovich wrote: "Judaism is undergoing a dramatic transformation, *at least in America*. (Our emphasis) The long accepted focus of Jewishness as a communal sharing of destiny is giving way...to an embrace of Judaism as a religion."

Quoting Prof. Arthur Hertzberg of New York University, Rabinovich wrote: "Jews have been lost in large scale assimilation into majority cultures since antiquity. However, "a saving remnant' has always carried the torch *and will again*, despite the assimilationist outflow that will be suffered to a consumer society with no moral values." (Our emphasis)

The "debate" over the viability and nature of the Jewish future is not new. It has been argued since Jewish history began and will be argued until the end of time.

The challenge for us is to avoid being mere observers of the discussion. Rather, we must take an active part, we must engage ourselves fully in its passion, we must set an example for the people who will follow.

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish headstone fragment found in Toronto park

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A mystery is brewing over what could be a fragment of a headstone from a vandalized Jewish cemetery.

About two weeks ago, a Toronto couple and their children were enjoying a hot summer day in a park at Yonge and Davisville. While the kids were cooling off in the park's wading pool, the father came upon an irregularly-shaped slab of stone resting against a tree. On closer inspection, he noticed the name "Yosef" inscribed in Hebrew letters.

Thinking it must be part of a headstone from a Jewish grave, he brought it home and contacted his rabbi. The rabbi suggested publicizing it through *The CJN* might reveal more information about the headstone.

The CJN contacted Canadian Jewish Congress to determine whether a Jewish cemetery had been reported vandalized recently, but Congress spokesperson Danny Fine said community relations officials were unaware of any cemetery desecrations in recent months.

This fragment from a headstone was found in a park at Yonge and Davisville. [Paul Lungen photo]

And so the mystery as to how a portion of a Jewish headstone came to a city park remains. The couple have consulted with the rabbi about possible dispositions of the headstone but are keen to pass it along to the family to whom it belongs.

Anyone with information about the headstone is asked to call 416-480-9386.

Shalom Food Project to expand

TORONTO — The road to social action is sometimes paved with muffins, toast and fresh fruit. Just ask Miriam Kalushner, who transformed her concern about hunger into the Shalom Food Project, which facilitates one breakfast club, and is about to launch another this fall.

Diverging from the path blazed by Mazon Canada, Kalushner wanted to broaden the Jewish community's response to hunger and she sought out like-minded individuals who banded together to form the food project. From its beginning, participants were determined to help initiate programs that would be run by the people who used them.

The project's first program was a breakfast club at Plaut Manor, a 97-unit apartment building on Eglinton Avenue near Keele Street. The building, born out of the vision of the social action committee of Holy Blossom Temple, provides subsidized housing for those who would otherwise lack the resources to find adequate shelter.

"Many of the tenants are single mothers who are managing, against all odds, to raise families and put food on their table," says Kalushner.

But food on the table can put a large dent in a small budget. The breakfast club at Plaut Manor offers children a nutritious breakfast five mornings a week for a nominal fee. The program is run entirely by tenants: the cook, her assistant, and a small army of volunteers all live in Plaut Manor.

The breakfast club recently celebrated its third anniversary, and the Shalom Food Project plans to help facilitate a similar club at a building at Runnymede and St. Clair this fall. Kalushner sees the continued growth of the Shalom Food Project as a mixed blessing.

For more information, please call 488-9515.

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Greater Toronto Area

Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla gets new rabbi...

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Rabbi Yoseph Oziel

TORONTO — As the new spiritual leader of Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation, Rabbi Yoseph Oziel likes to lace his English-language sermons with a few words of Spanish, but he could as easily throw in some Yiddish expressions.

A native of Rabat, Morocco, who immigrated to Canada at age 4, Rabbi Oziel grew up in Montreal, absorbing Sephardi tradition at home and at the Merkaz Sépharade Synagogue; and immersing himself in study at the Ashkenazi institution (Yeshiva Gedola) where he obtained smichah five years ago, along the way acquiring a working knowledge of Yiddish.

He attended high school at the same yeshivah, later pursuing rabbinic and post-rabbinic studies, specializing in Talmud and Halachah.

Along with fellow Sephardi students, he was encouraged to maintain Sephardi traditions. His rosh yeshivah, the late Rabbi Mordechai Weinberg, insisted they "not lose the wealth of Sephardi traditions," he recalled.

Both Rabbi Weinberg and his successor, Rabbi Shlomo Altusky, have been "a tremendous source of inspiration."

Like Rabbi Amram Assayag, Rabbi Oziel's predecessor (now associated with the Sephardic Kehila Centre set to open next month in Thornhill), the new rabbi is taking over leadership of the 350-family congregation at a relatively young age.

Rabbi Oziel is 25, and married with a 3-year-old son. He was chaplain at Montreal's Centre Communautaire Juif (CCJ) for two years before accepting the Toronto position, and served on the Communauté Sépharade du Québec's Commission des Affaires Religieuses and in the conversion department of Montreal's beit din.

He knew little about the Toronto community before arriving here last month, and to the best of his knowledge is not related to the dozens of Oziels in Toronto. Coincidentally, a cousin of his, also named Yoseph Oziel, is a rabbi in Caracas, Venezuela.

The Toronto rabbi enjoys seeing the range of Sephardi-Ashkenazi interaction in Toronto, he said. Rabbi Assayag, for example, is a past president of the Vaad Harabanim, Toronto's umbrella group for Orthodox rabbis; and Or Haemet Sephardic School counts among its students some Ashkenazi children, he noted.

Rabbi Oziel hopes to build bridges with all the Jewish communities in Toronto, he said. "We have to be one. As leaders, our objective is to maintain a standard of tradition and religion. Whatever our differences, they should not cause us to sacrifice what we're here for, and that is to lead the next generation into the future."

At the CCJ, much of Rabbi Oziel's work was with teenagers, running Shabbatonim and acting as a consultant. He also taught conversion classes and lectured in the greater community.

Rabbi Oziel's focus on youth extends to young adults, some of whom are older than he is. His goal is kiruv (bringing people closer to Judaism).

"I like to lecture about things that I feel people, on an individual and community level, can gain a lot from," he said. One of his projects in Montreal was a weekly lunch for businesspeople, at which he would lead discussions on a variety of Jewish issues.

He plans to continue "full force" working with youth here, and was impressed to see some 50 teens from the synagogue's youth organization planning a fashion show fundraiser when he visited Petah Tikva on a Sunday earlier this year.

"In Montreal, if a 16-year-old isn't religious, you wouldn't see him [at synagogue]. It's nice to see that young people still feel attached to the synagogue. When I saw that, it really made me see that there's a future here."

Women study Torah at yarchei kallah

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For three days in the dog days of August, a group of nearly 60 women didn't shop, garden or laze in the sun – they studied Torah.

For the third year, a yarchei kallah was held under the auspices of Nishmat, the Jerusalem Centre for Advanced Jewish Studies for Women. (The three weeks before Tisha b'Av are traditionally a time for reflection and study.)

Rabbanit Chana Henkin, dean of Nishmat, facilitated the event, which included chavruta (partnered) learning and lectures.

While in previous years the topic has been a theme (once prophets and once midrash), this year the group studied Shir Hashirim, The Song of Songs.

Rabbanit Henkin moved enthusiastically around the beit midrash of Or Chaim Yeshiva in North York, encouraging, explaining, listening.

Groups of two, three or four women, from the young, fresh out of day school, to elderly grandmothers; those fluent in Hebrew and those with little or no knowledge of the language; the learned and the beginner formed learning groups and talked, laughed and argued to an understanding of Shir Hashirim, a love story written by King Solomon as an allegory of the relationship between G-d and the people of Israel.

So intent were they, that the explicitly sensual text produced only a few giggles and blushes.

Rabbanit Henkin told *The CJN* that "for many years, women were passive about Torah learning. They were spared the agony and the ecstacy of analysis."

Nishmat and the yarchei kallah, "often give women the first opportunity" to analyse text, she said, noting that some participants arrived early to begin studying. "It energizes the spirit."

In Israel, Nishmat "opens the highest reaches of Torah learning to women," Rabbanit Henkin said. It equips "mothers, grandmothers, beginners and teachers, those from Israel and those from the Diaspora with the tools to study from the original sources. The most advanced study Talmud."

Nishmat is introducing a hesder program for young religious women who choose to do national service rather than serve in the army. It will function like the hesder yeshivot, where participants combine Torah study with military service.

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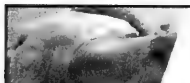

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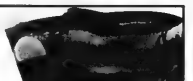

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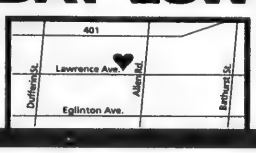

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Greater Toronto Area

...and its youth organization new driving force

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Thirty years ago Max Benaim, now 46, started the Petah Tikva Youth Organization (PTYO). Two years ago, his son Jacky became the driving force in revitalizing the synagogue youth group that also serves Toronto's greater Sephardi population.

"I think we have it in our blood," said Max, a native of Tangiers who immigrated to Canada in 1964. Himself a former president of Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation and former director of the now defunct Ontario Sephardic Association, Max is PTYO's adviser.

He described Jacky, 16, as "a go-getter" who thrives on doing what he believes in, but admitted to having given him an initial push.

"I think I would have started it even if he didn't give me the push," said Jacky.

The future of a community is its youth, believes Max. "Without youth, [you are] without pillars."

To the best of his knowledge, PTYO is the only Sephardi youth organization in Ontario.

Its most recent coup was Project Shalom '97, a three-week summer trip to Israel, for which the teens spent most of this year fundraising. Max and his wife Estrella chaperoned the 18 teens, including their younger son Marcos, 14, on the trip planned in conjunction with the Canada-Israel Experience Centre.

Jacky, now president of PTYO and a student at Thornhill's Westmount Collegiate Institute, got the PTYO ball rolling again a couple of years ago after a Shabbat dinner conversation with his cousin Jacky Benarroch (now PTYO chair) at their grandparents' home.

"We were described in shul as the 'bad boys' [a description with which Max took issue, allowing only that they were forthcoming with their opinions]. We decided we were going to do something that would blow their minds."

"No one thought we were really going to pull it off," said Jacky.

Events such as basketball tournaments, bowling nights, dances, Shabbatonim at Olympia Sports Camp and Sunday Tfillin Club at the synagogue proved that they were serious.

The boys started off by phoning an estimated 75 people. Their first planning meeting drew about a dozen. Membership has since grown to 60 people, including a few Ashkenazi members.

For the past several months, PTYO's focus has been on the Israel trip to the exclusion of everything else. Now Jacky would like to concentrate on expanding membership. "I'm very confident we'll get at least 80 members by September."

PTYO has organized the shul's Purim carnival for the past two years, with about 200 people attending each one. A fashion show and two rummage sales, all held earlier this year, raised several thousand dollars to subsidize the Israel trip.

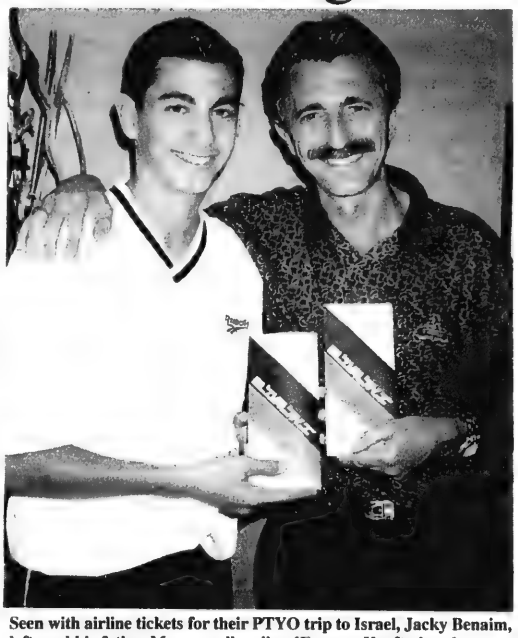
A continuity grant from Canadian Jewish Congress, a grant from the synagogue and some private funding also helped keep the cost down to $1700 per student.

It's the first time Petah Tikva and PTYO are organizing an event of such magnitude, said Max, although a small delegation of Toronto youth joined a 1987 Israel trip run by the Canadian Sephardi Federation in Montreal.

"Hopefully [the teens] will get a feeling of being proud of being Jewish, and being Zionist," Max said before leaving for Israel.

The last night of the trip underscored that sentiment for Jacky and other participants. Shortly before they caught their flight to Toronto, they stopped to join thousands of other youngsters at the World Zionist Congress singing Israel's national anthem and admiring a fireworks display commemorating 100 years of Zionism.

"That was the most touching and emotional ending, or even moment, in lots of our lives," said Jacky.



Seen with airline tickets for their PTYO trip to Israel, Jacky Benaim, left, and his father Max are all smiles. [Frances Kraft photo]

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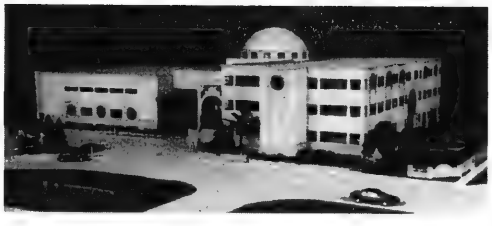

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Dry Bones
RATS!! THEY'VE GOT ME SURROUNDED!
BUT WAIT!... WHAT IS THAT BUGLE SOUND I HEAR?
WHY... IT'S THE UNITED STATES CAVALRY
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Most poignant legacy

By now, everyone knows how the names on the dormant Swiss bank accounts from World War II came to be published. The Swiss bankers were shamed into it by the World Jewish Congress (WJC) through the initiative of Edgar Bronfman.

In October, the Swiss Bankers' Association is scheduled to release the names on the remaining dormant bank accounts. Some 18,000 names are expected to be published and added to the 1,800 names already disclosed to the public. Not surprisingly, the account holders were not all Jews. But the vast majority were.

The search for the rightful heirs and claimants to the property in these accounts has now begun and will continue through the coming months and years. But the money in these accounts is only part of the property which the Swiss and others unlawfully withheld or even stole from their rightful Jewish owners. Unaccounted for are the untold treasures and heirlooms looted from homes and businesses, the gold detached from individuals or from their corpses, and the funds and personal property stored in safety deposit boxes.

Ultimately, as a matter of justice, there will be a reckoning. We must be prepared for that day.

Wherever property can be traced to an heir or next of kin or rightful family claimant, it must be returned. But wherever property cannot be so traced, where unfortunately it no longer has any identifiable rightful claimant or claimants, we suggest it devolve, *on certain terms*, to the World Jewish Congress (WJC) and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), the two universally recognized non-governmental but central Jewish bodies in the name of and on behalf of the Jewish people worldwide.

Those terms cannot be delineated comprehensively in this space. But in our opinion the use of untraceable, unclaimed funds should conform to the following broad principles and parameters.

- All such unclaimed funds should be combined with the undisbursed monies presently in the hands of the central restitution organizations into one Jewish Future Fund.
- Monies from the fund should be used to help alleviate the poverty, misery and suffering of needy individual survivors.
- The central purpose of the fund should be to help alleviate the greatest need of the Jewish people on a worldwide communal basis, namely, the need to ensure a creative, knowledgeable Jewish future.

The most effective way to do that is through education. This has been established beyond any doubt by countless experts in countless communities. Education, of course, must be defined broadly to include adult education, summer camp experiences and Israel experiences. But the cornerstone of education, the foundation on which the entire structure rests, is the education of our children. Moreover, in the years ahead, in a variety of ways, both for the sake of our children and for the sake of Israel-Diaspora relations, Israel will have to play a greater role in worldwide Jewish education. Developing and enhancing JAFI's ability to be one of the key instruments for imparting that education will be an important component of the Jewish education enterprise.

It is our suggestion therefore that the Jewish Future Fund be used to subsidize, if not fully underwrite, *in perpetuity*, the cost of Jewish education through high school for every Jewish child whose parents seek Jewish education for him or her in every community where Jews reside. The administrative infrastructure for doing so already exists. The appropriate formulae can be established among the WJC, JAFI and local federations or equivalent local Jewish councils.

Could there be a more poignant legacy from the millions who were murdered to the millions of Jewish children yet to be born?

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(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

August 21,1843 fire destroyed Toronto's Theatre Royal, causing W.G. Noah, the city's first Jewish theatre manager, to lose his job.*(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Honest claims of ordinary Jews refused

Your reader Charlotte Lintzel (*CJN*, Aug. 7) has made a good point with respect to her claim for reparations. It does not "conform exactly to conditions set forward by the Claims Conference." I agree with her that simply the fact of "being a Jewish child in Hitler's Germany," let alone spending even a brief time in a ghetto or camp, hiding, or even escaping successfully from the Nazi terror, should merit a positive response from the Claims Conference. Were lives and education not disrupted, psychological or physical damage not sustained, normal development not interrupted and simple pleasure not turned to horror for Jewish children and their families?

Unfortunately, Lintzel has to be told that the Claims Conference is an independent Jewish body founded in 1951 by the World Zionist Organization to process reparations to Nazi victims outside Israel (*Jerusalem Report*, May 15). And that this strange body, as the owner and arbiter of payments and properties claimed by Jews, is making its own hostile rules for withholding its assets from survivors and their heirs.

It appears to me that with all of our preoccupation with the misappropriation of funds by Swiss banks, we are neglecting the inappropriate behavior of our own elite toward the honest claims of ordinary Jews who may be in need.

Samuel Levy
Montreal

Shamed by Canadian vote on Israel at UN

While I applaud the leadership of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien in many instances, I am ashamed of our nation's vote at the UN recently, with regards to Israel.

I am profoundly ashamed that Canada turned its back on Israel. I would have expected much better.

Have we not gotten past the age of bigotry?

E. Shapero
Toronto

Don't use 'shiksah' or 'shaygetz'

Recently, the media reported on the Canadian Jewish Congress' quick and aggressive response, demanding an apology from a Western Canadian journalist who had used the term "jewed" during a broadcast.

The Jewish community is fortunate to have organizations on guard against verbal misdemeanors and insensitivity to language directed at us.

Ignorant misuse of the English language and the utterance of stereotypical pejoratives are not the monopoly of non-Jews, however. I have often heard people in our community – casually and sometimes unknowingly – use such terms as shiksah or shaygetz in reference to gentiles. According to Yiddish etymologists, the roots of these words come from the biblical term meaning "abominable," certainly not praiseworthy descriptions.

Although the words goyim and shvartzeh literally mean "the nations" and "the black" (in reference to non-Jews and blacks), seemingly harmless traditional adjectives, the intonation and underlying spirit with which these words are expressed by many of our community members are often less than complimentary.

L. Wittgenstin, an Austrian philosopher, said, "The limits of our language are the limits of our soul." Judaism states that it is important for one to "guard their words" and speak in a pure and knowing manner. We should therefore use some of our energy to stem the flow of hurtful epithets directed at us, to strengthen our own awareness and and educate ourselves about the language we may be directing at others.

Avram Rosensweig
Toronto

Against 'naysayers' on Israel's future

In his front page article "Nothing has changed: Caught in a trap" (*CJN*, Aug. 7), Josef Lapid tells us nothing. Unfortunately, his only contribution is to confirm his view that we are trapped in a corner with no solution. His comments of "damned if you do and damned if you don't" demonstrates a hopelessness which is not and has never been a part of Jewish attitude or past.

The CJN should lead with a more positive and optimistic line.

Ramy Dishy
Toronto

Decision time for Israelis and Arabs

At some point, the people of Israel will have to decide if peace is worth pursuing when their enemies do not want it and are not ready for a peaceful alliance. They also have to finally decide on the issue of borders and land area. The world must know that some borders are inviolable. Israel needs enough land to give it adequate protection and room to satisfy their needs. Left to the Arab world, the Israelis would be in the sea.

The Arab world has to accept their Palestinian brothers, help them with aid from their great oil and land wealth and help them to establish a country of their own instead of supplying them with weapons and terror training. Food, non-propagandistic education, social assistance and housing will do more for them than pushing them to fight. The Palestinians are being used as pawns of destruction in a larger game which involves the inability of the Arab world to accept their Israeli neighbors or anyone who does not follow Islam.

Gary Gerofsky
Dundas, Ont.

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Jerusalem: city of powerful passions

By GARY ROSENBLATT
New York Jewish Week

The poet Yehuda Amichai once wrote of a couple searching for a place to make love in Jerusalem. Their effort was in vain because every site was suffused with sanctity, every stone a battlefield for holiness.

Jerusalem is a city of powerful passions – political, cultural and religious – and that is why there is so much strife over physical and emotional turf here. This week's ugly showdown involving a group of Conservative Jews, excessively forceful police and taunting Haredim in the shadow of the Western Wall on Tisha b'Av, is just another symptom of the religious-cultural clash that threatens to destroy the country from within.

Jerusalem has become a city increasingly divided, and never mind the conflict between Arab and Jew. When Haredim, who now make up about 25 percent of the city's population, lay claim to a neighborhood, less observant Jews move away. So there are fewer "mixed" neighborhoods these days and secular Jews continue their flight from the city, abandoning it to the Orthodox.

The centrist Orthodox are outraged by the situation. As religious Zionists whose children serve faithfully in the army in addition to studying Torah, they have little tolerance for the Haredim who do not take up arms. And they resent that anti-Orthodox Israelis lump them together with their more extreme brethren who do not share their live-and-let-live attitude toward other Jews.

Ehud Olmert, the mayor who was elected on the strength of the haredi vote, continues to cater to his most powerful clientele. In frustration and anger, the anti-Orthodox rhetoric from critics of the Haredim, who see themselves as the keepers of the tradition, has grown increasingly ugly. Everywhere you go, people complain that the situation is getting worse, and that it could lead to a civil war.

And so it is that despite the delightfully cool evening breezes here, one can feel emotionally claustrophobic at times. With so many people choosing to live in Jerusalem to stake their claim, whatever it may be, the feuding groups are in each other's faces in this city, where every place is holy and thus worth fighting over, it seems.

One feels the need to get away, to see the less glamorous but more real Israel. For just as no one can appreciate Israel without visiting Jerusalem, the spiritual centre of Judaism, it is also difficult to understand the national psyche by spending time only in the holiest city.

I feel I got a more typical sense of life in this country in recent days by visiting such unremarkable cities as Hadera, Pardes Chana and Or Akiva in the north and Beersheva in the Negev.

In each, I saw people from economically lower and middle classes, people of many diverse backgrounds – Ashkenazim, Sephardim, Russians, Ethiopians and native Israelis – going about their daily life, interacting naturally. The scene in such cities is not idyllic. There are ongoing tensions between the haves and the have-nots, with the most recent immigrants being the lowest in the economic and social pecking order. But there is a basic sense of community, of people working toward a common goal.

Hadera, a city of about 40,000, has a slower pace than big cities like Tel Aviv or Haifa. The dress is casual and the architecture nondescript. On the downtown streets in late afternoon, the talk is more likely to be about the day's soccer match than the latest Mideast diplomatic machination.

Beersheva, about a two-hour drive south of Jerusalem, is of particular interest because some see it as the major Israeli city of the future, the oasis in the desert – in part because it is far removed from large Arab populations. There are about 150,000 people living in Beersheva today, 96 percent of them Jewish, and city planners say that by the year 2020 there will be more than 750,000 people living in the greater metropolitan area.

Large numbers of Russians settled here in the last decade, though some of the more successful ones have left for jobs in the centre of the country. But Ben-Gurion University, with more than 12,000 students, continues to grow, and more companies are building in the area. A prime topic among university social planners is their effort to dissuade the government from building a hazardous waste dump near Beersheva, arguing that in two decades it would imperil the population.

Driving back toward Jerusalem, ascending the winding roads, one feels the mood change in the thinning air. I am returning to the city where cosmic issues take precedence over daily ones, where the ancient stones are steeped in holiness but too many of the people lack compassion for each other.

If there is good news, it is that in the wake of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the religious-secular divide has grown so alarming that some people have begun to act out of genuine concern for the fate of the country. In the last year, dozens of dialogue groups have started for Orthodox and secular teens, as well as for adults seeking to bridge the gap; an experimental elementary school composed of secular and religious children and teachers is flourishing; and growing numbers of secular intellectuals are studying Jewish texts to reclaim their tradition.

Most of these efforts are based in Jerusalem, where the need is greatest, as a model for the rest of the country. What may work best are programs stressing basic tolerance rather than any romantic effort to accept the other's views. Mostly missing from this equation, though, are the Haredim, the most broad-minded of whom are not prepared to engage in serious dialogue.

The Mideast peace talks, as fragile as they are, offer a glimmer of hope because Palestinians and Israelis may come to appreciate a need to tolerate each other, recognizing that fate made them neighbors and neither side is moving away. The prospect of some similar accommodation between Haredim and secular Jews seems more remote, though, since they only have each other to live with and to blame.

Only when the mourning over ancient Jerusalem's stones turns to compassion for the modern city's flesh and blood will there be cause here for rejoicing.

Gary Rosenblatt, editor and publisher of the New York Jewish Week, *is a recipient of the Marie Syrkin Fellowship in the Humanities. He is in Israel for several weeks researching the religious-secular gap in Israeli society.*

Even the Western Wall, the symbol and focus of Judaism's hopes for national revival and where people from all walks of life gather to pray, has seen passions boil over and has been the scene of intra-communal strife in Jerusalem in recent times.

Opinions

Finding the centre of Jewish life

Lately we have been bombarded with articles bewailing the loss of Israel as the centre of Jewish life – as well as laments for the decline of the synagogue, the real centre of Jewish life; scorn for making anti-Semitism or the Holocaust the centre of Jewish life; concern over the demolition of the Jewish family, the centre of Jewish life; and panic over cuts to Jewish education, the centre of Jewish life. You get the idea. So where, you asked, is the centre of Jewish life?

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

After all, if we don't know what the wellspring of Jewishness is, how can we halt the perceived decline in Jewish values and the rise of assimilation – catchwords that tug at the communal heartstrings every year at budget time?

All over North America during the High Holy Days, synagogue presidents and rabbis will claim that the shul is the centre of Jewish life and needs our support and that of our children (many of whom are hanging out with their friends near the front door of the synagogue and will therefore miss the sermon). Soon through the mail will come membership renewal notices for community centres that proclaim themselves the centre for Jewish life in the community. Israelis travelling on behalf of many good causes in the promised land will remind us poor misguided Diaspora Jews that Israel, the centre of our Jewish hearts, still needs our dollars if not our bodies.

Of course many will argue that Torah-true Judaism is the centre of Jewish life, all 613 laws and uncounted *minhagim*; however, those claiming this will not all agree on what constitutes Torah Judaism. We can have a variety (some hostile to each other) from which to choose. Across the floor from the Torah Jews will be the devout secularists, for whom religion is irrelevant if not damaging. For them, Jewish history and culture, the ethic factor, is the centre of Jewish identity.

David Hartman, on a visit to Vancouver some years ago, tried to describe what he believed were the two most critical formative factors of modern Jewish life. For him they were the Emancipation of European Jews and the founding of the State of Israel. Members of the audience were horrified.

How could he, how did he dare, ignore the Holocaust and its destruction of European Jewry? It was a powerful moment for me. I realized that as we Jews could not agree on what has shaped us today; so we would remain at the mercy of emotional claims for our attention. Instead of a calm, rational debate over the importance of these three events – Emancipation, Holocaust, modern Israel – the evening became an impassioned defence of one or more as the deciding factor in shaping our identity.

We must distinguish here between what shapes us as individual Jews and what creates or damages our existence as a Jewish community. Our individual identities, it seems to me, can be only determined by the way we experience Jewishness in the smallest things – here it can be family, a friend, a role model, plus the way we react to the facts of Jewish history and contemporary events. For those who experienced the Holocaust first-hand, either as survivors or as observers, the experience is visceral. That generation cannot help but react to the emotional power that the Holocaust evokes. For today's youth, the experience will be much more intellectual. They will have to learn the experience and to develop emotional reactions affected by their own personal road-map. Is the Holocaust less central to their individual Jewish identity? I believe it is. Is that bad? No, it is just a fact of time and distance.

But the Holocaust or the rebirth of a modern Jewish state are factors that shape our communal reaction to world events, not always thoughtfully. A journalist who lends credence to Holocaust denial will arouse in us fierce communal anger, even though there might be a much more dangerous, more subtle threat in the absence of a well thought-out high school curriculum unit on genocide.

Or take another case: aliyah from North America to Israel. Israeli public spokespeople alternately decry the lack of aliyah from North America and proclaim their superiority to North American Jewish life and then prophesy its demise. Why they would want such a bunch of "wusses" and misfits in their country is a bit mystifying sometimes, but no matter. If as a community we believe and act as if our Jewish life here in Canada is inauthentic and weak, then it will eventually be so.

I don't suggest a way to resolve the question of the centre of Jewish life. But I do ask that we continually examine our assumptions about the centre, keeping in mind the many.

A national disgrace

The May issue of *Homemaker's* magazine featured an article by renowned social activist June Callwood.

The sub-headline proclaims: "How come almost a million and a half children go to school hungry in one of the richest countries in the world?" It quotes Statistics Canada, which says that nearly 1.5 million Canadian children, or one of every five under age 18, live in poverty. We have to go back to the Great Depression to find this level of social disintegration, more shocking because it comes at a time of growing prosperity.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Somehow we seem to think that fixing the problem is too expensive. But poverty – especially child poverty – is even more expensive. According to the article, studies show that "they become the heaviest users of hospitals, prisons, courts, drug and alcohol programs, police services, hostels, subsidized housing and welfare."

Callwood goes on to say: "This is not to suggest that poverty equates with joblessness and crime, because it doesn't. Rich people can, and do, raise problem kids, while adversity very frequently produces quiet heroes who rise above their unpromising beginnings to live exemplary lives. But being poor certainly stacks the cards: the stress of hunger, anxiety, envy and hoplessness cracks many a young soul, and makes children ill." The federal government is not unaware of the problem, but the latest budget has not made provision for these children.

Some 20 major national organizations have, however, banded together from across the country and community groups have become part of Campaign 2000, a drive to bring the issue to the attention of the Canadian public. But while Ottawa has given notice that it is aware of so many children living in stress and distress, the Ontario government has given little indication of any similar concern.

It is therefore heartening to know that a group of Jewish religious leaders – first sparked by an announcement of Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld of Temple Emanu-El in Toronto – have made radical proposals. Rabbi Bielfeld, in a letter to his congregation, suggested that people who benefit by the Ontario tax cut should donate the money saved to organizations that help disadvantaged children. Some will not be able to do this, but others will.

There is a popular notion that individuals have no voice in matters such as these. Callwood speaks of this when she says: "If you want child poverty in this country to end, you have to tell elected officials at every level how you feel and that you won't vote for anyone who doesn't agree that child poverty is a national disgrace…Canada's children have a right to a decent standard of living. They have the right to a level of dignity and respect, and hope for the future. Their poverty is every citizen's shame."

Our Jewish people, with an enviable record of giving tzedakah, will say amen, and I am happy to acknowledge that some of them are in the leadership of arousing our national conscience to this burning issue and have designated Oct. 17 to 18 as Children's Shabbat.

Help for the meeting-addicted

By SHEL KRAKOFSKY

There have been significant meetings such as the first Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland, in 1897, and the 1656 meeting in Amsterdam that excommunicated the philosopher Baruch Spinoza.

By Shel Krakofsky in London

This is not to exclude the marathon sisterhood meeting that took 10 hours to decide if it would be Mrs. Epstein and not Mrs. Horowitz who would present a bouquet to the guest speaker at their annual installation dinner. (Mrs. Horowitz understandably tendered her resignation and immediately joined another shul, where she is currently finishing her first term as chair of flowers.)

Ever since Moses was commanded to build a Tent of Meeting, the Ohel Moayd in the wilderness, we have been getting together more often than atoms in a physics laboratory. The ancient tribes were encamped in the form of a quadrilateral around the Tent of Meeting, the precursor of the modern community centre.

No matter our affiliations, interpretations and practices, what we do share with the ancients is our penchant for meetings. Today it is easier to get a quorum for a meeting than it is to get a minyan for prayer.

Some people need meetings as much as they need air, food and shelter. With nothing to attend, these people may be seen walking the streets or sitting alone as they sweat, twitch and hallucinate – classic symptoms of addiction and withdrawal.

If there is no imminent meeting, these people are forced to suffer at home and have even been known to graciously accept phone calls from telemarketers.

Aside from the number of meetings these addicts attend, there are telltale signs if somebody is falling into the morass of the meeting addicted: They carry a pocket edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*. They are on speaking terms with anybody else who owns a copy of *Robert's Rules of Order*. In restaurants, they ask for the minutes instead of the menu, selecting their meal using the phrase, "Point of order."

So desperate are some people for meetings that if there are none, these folks form new organizations, invent new crises and have even met secretly incorporating themselves as numbered companies. Instead of doing anything, the motto of these diehards is, "Strike a committee!"

There is no doubt in my mind that it was Jews who invented the football huddle.

Family life, already decimated and threatened on all fronts by innumerable factors, is not being helped by these endless rounds of meetings. The following statements are part of meeting addicted households: Forget dinner, I'm going to a meeting…Not tonight dear, I'm on a committee.

Trying to help these unfortunate souls is extremely difficult. The old bromides don't work. Telling these people, for example, to take time to smell the roses, to tend your own garden, that charity begins at home — none of this works — not even insulting them with the famous reminder that a camel is a horse designed by a committee. These people have come to adore camels.

What is needed is something dramatically different. Something with a proven track record on the addiction front. And that is a 12-step program for withdrawal.

These get-togethers are totally anonymous at publicly undisclosed places. There is no shame and the atmosphere is one of understanding, not judgment. Just as alcoholics, drug users and gamblers have successfully overcome their habits, so too can those in our community who won't refuse a meeting.

In addition, video cassettes could be produced to teach these people how to do crossword puzzles and play solitaire. There could even be a hotline linked to a bunch of malcontents and misanthropes, who are members of nothing and have never attended a meeting of any kind.

So if you think you or any of your friends or loved ones could be helped by such a program, organize a group soon. By simply uttering the phrase to the assembled, "Hello, my name is Moses [or whoever] and I am addicted to meetings," the beginning to recovery has begun.

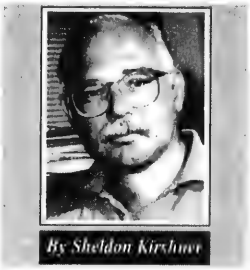
The withdrawal will be difficult but it will be cushioned. There will still be meetings.

The Kirshner File

Australian novelist David Malouf a late bloomer

Call him, if you like, a late bloomer.

David Malouf, hailed as one of Australia's finest novelists, did not write his first novel until he was 41. But in the past two decades, Malouf, 63, has made up for lost time, having produced an impressive body of work — novels, short stories, poems, a play and a memoir — that has earned him universal praise at home and abroad.



By Sheldon Kirshner

Malouf's last book, *Remembering Babylon* (1993), was short listed for Britain's prestigious Booker Prize, and his current novel, *The Conversations At Curlow Creek,* has been described as "memorable" and "brilliant" by the *New York Times.*

A descendant on his mother's side of a Jewish boxing champion, he is frankly surprised by his success. "There is no way you could predict it," he said in a conversation recently while in Toronto for a Harbourfront reading. "You don't know how your work will be taken."

A former supply teacher and university lecturer in English literature, Malouf has always been drawn to the written word. But, as he pointed out in his cautious, reticent manner, "it took longer to get it into publishable prose.

"You don't know what's there until you risk putting it down on paper," he added. "You have to be patient and persistent."

Malouf broke into print in 1962 with a volume of poetry. But more than a decade would elapse before he tested himself as a novelist. "We all have a view of the world and what it means, and fiction is often a way of exploring it and finding out what life is all about and what puzzles and disturbs you," he explained.

Born in Brisbane, Malouf studied English, French, Latin and philosophy at the University of Queensland, and left Australia in 1959, bound for Britain, seeking to expose himself to new influences.

When he gave up teaching in 1978, Malouf had written two novels, one of which, *An Imaginary Life,* launched him. He bought a house in Italy and immersed himself in his budding career. "I had to find out how many more books I could write," he said. "By isolating myself, I found out what I had to write."

Thematically, Malouf's novels, which are set in Australia, deal with such questions as nature and justice, reason and unreason, order and disorder, fate, survival and the force of love. Fountain pen in hand, he spends about two hours a day writing, reserving the rest of it for reflection. On average, he produces 500 words per session, constantly polishing his drafts. "Thomas Mann once said that a writer finds it difficult to write, and that's true."

A resident of Sydney, Australia today, Malouf is uncertain whether his novels have been influenced by his ethnic background.

His mother's Sephardi family settled in England during the Cromwell period in the 17th century. One of her forebears, the illustrious pugilist Daniel Mendoza (1764-1836), was inducted into the Boxing Hall of Fame about a century after his death.

Malouf's mother, Welcome, left England as a girl. She married George Malouf, a Lebanese Melkite whose father immigrated to Australia in the 1880s. Welcome and George raised their son as a Catholic, but he is not a practicing Christian. "I'm not very interested in the orthodoxies of any religion."

Still, he is intrigued by his Jewish lineage and by Mendoza, and notes that his collection of short stories, *Antipodes,* contains a number of Jewish characters, among them Holocaust survivors.

Malouf, whose stories have been translated into 12 languages, including Arabic and Chinese, is on the verge of starting a new novel. "I have an idea for something, but I don't know if I'll run with it. You don't want to leap too quickly."

Saga of Mischa Weisbord

David Vaisbord met his legendary uncle, Mischa Weisbord, in New York City in 1967 when he was all of six years old.

"We took an immediate liking to one another," recalled Vaisbord. "He picked me up, set me on his knee and told the greatest jokes I had ever heard. He was tall, handsome, fit and incredibly charismatic. He seemed like Superman."

By then, Vaisbord had heard hundreds of stories about this mythic figure. As a budding violinist, Weisbord had been a child prodigy, a wunderkind who had been favorably compared with Paganini. It seemed as if his protean talents would propel him to the pinnacle of fame.

"He had the training and the technique to have been on a par with the world's greatest concert violinists," observed his nephew. Instead, Weisbord squandered the promise of his youth.

In 1991, when he died in a Brooklyn rooming house, Weisbord was alone and forgotten, having been living on welfare and food stamps for years.

Now, six years after his death, Vaisbord, an independent filmmaker from Vancouver, has made a poignant documentary about Weisbord. Produced by the National Film Board of Canada in association with the Canadian Broadcast Corporation and in cooperation with Vision TV, *Mischa* was recently shown at the Canadian International Documentary Film Festival in Toronto.

Clearly a labor of love, the 44-minute movie traces the trajectory of Weisbord's life from his birth in Russia in 1907 to his tragic decline.

Weisbord, guided by his domineering father, was a virtuoso. His teacher, Leopold Auer, no minor violinist himself, recognized his genius. Weisbord impressed audiences and critics alike. When he was 20, he was due to embark on a tour of the United States. The plan fell through; his parents' marriage collapsed; his father — his indispensable manager — died.

Shattered by his father's passing, Weisbord went to Sweden, then to Israel and, finally, to the United States. Feeling unappreciated in Stockholm and Tel Aviv, he looked to New York City as his one last chance to redeem himself. He failed, having been reduced to playing at weddings and giving lessons.

"His temperament was his major flaw," explained Vaisbord, who travelled the world to acquire the funding for *Mischa.* "He was extremely volatile and not accepting of people's foibles. He would not play with an orchestra. He wanted to do only solos."

Considered an incorrigible eccentric, Weisbord retreated into himself, becoming something of a recluse. "He was a very, very strange man," said Vaisbord, who saw him last in 1980. "He had no life skills and couldn't take care of himself." Worse still, he was incapable of working with others.

Using a metaphor to describe him, Vaisbord said, "He was like a violin, his father having been the only person who ever knew how to play him. That was Mischa's tragedy."

When his body was discovered, Weisbord had already been dead for at least a week. "He had no close friends or acquaintances to check up on him. The violin was his only real friend, the only true love of his life."

With *Mischa,* Vaisbord feels as if an immense burden has been lifted from his shoulder. "Someone," he said, "had to tell his story once and for all."

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Greater Toronto Area

JIAS eases teenagers' transition to a new world

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Get 'em while they're young.

That's the philosophy behind a novel new project initiated by Toronto's Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS).

Launched last spring, the Jewish Immigrant Teen Program seeks to bring together young and recent emigres from the former Soviet Union to get them involved in the Jewish community and make them feel comfortable in it.

It used to be that JIAS set its sights on immigrant parents, facilitating job searches, accommodation and overall settlement. Now, the agency is also focusing on those at a particularly vulnerable age, trying to ease their transition to a strange new world.

The program, run jointly between JIAS, the Bathurst Jewish Centre and B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO), is funded by the Jewish Continuity Task Force, one of whose mandates was to stanch the rising tide of assimilation.

Thus, Jewish programming is stressed for young newcomers from the former Soviet republics, where Jewish identity and education may not have been strong.

Program director Ziva Shmorgun, an intake worker at JIAS, says the 12 active members (more are being sought), aged 16 to 18, have become fast friends and have helped one another acclimatize to life in Canada. They meet weekly to plan programs and outings.

All the members have been here for less than five years. Some came directly from the former Soviet Union, while others lived in Israel for a while. The "veterans" help the newest arrivals, Shmorgun says.

Programs have included a Yom Ha'atzmaut dance party at the BJC, attended by about 50 teens, and a pool barbeque to introduce members to BBYO. Next week, a trip to the klezmer festival at Harbourfront is planned.

"Our long-term goal," says Shmorgun, "is to introduce young Jewish immigrants to the Jewish community, and to help them feel comfortable." Eventually, she would like to see an entire BBYO chapter composed solely of immigrant teens.

And now that the school year is around the corner, the program wants participants to hook up with on-campus Jewish groups.

With roughly 25,000 Soviet-Jewish families in Metro, about half of whom arrived after 1987, there's a great need for this kind of service, Shmorgun notes.

Says member Artur Palvanov, 17, a native of Tashkent and who lived in Israel for seven years, "I've made a lot of friends because of this program. I feel at home."

Urban Alliance head urges black/Jewish talk

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Relations between blacks and Jews in Toronto are not as bad as some media coverage suggests, according to Bob Katz, new president of the Urban Alliance on Race Relations.

"Extremists on both sides make statements which are given a lot of play, but I don't see black-Jewish conflicts on a day-to-day basis," said Katz.

The Urban Alliance is one of the few forums in which Jews and blacks come together, he said. There are Jews on the board of the Alliance and it is in touch with representative groups in the Jewish community. He urged more communication between the two groups.

In some situations where Jewish-black conflicts have arisen, Katz said it is unfortunate that moderate leaders in the black community have not spoken up.

One of the important goals for the Alliance is to have ongoing discussions with the police about violence directed towards blacks.

"This is a problem that won't go away," he said. "There are too many shootings of blacks by police. We're pretty distressed about that."

The Alliance is also "very concerned" about the disproportionate number of minorities who end up in jail compared with the total number of people who are arrested.

Personally, Katz said, he favors a new employment equity bill which focuses more on results than procedures, is more selective in its targets and does not allow firms to achieve their targets by hiring people who don't need help.

However, he said, there is still debate among Alliance members about what kind of a new employment equity bill should replace the one cancelled by Premier Mike Harris.

A member of Darchei Noam Reconstructionist Synagogue, Katz, 52, a social worker, is rehabilitation director of Vocational Rehabilitation Associates. His wife, Giuliana, is a professor of Italian at the University of Toronto. They have two children, Reva, 25, a social worker, and Alessandra, 15.

Bob Katz

USDS AWARD WINNERS

United Synagogue Day School recently announced three major award winners. The Schecter Scholar in Israel Award for professional development in Israel was presented to Bracha Sabari (left), a Judaic studies elementary school teacher at the Richmond Hill campus, and Channa Sargon (right), a Judaic studies grade 3 teacher at the Bayview campus. Both educators participated in summer seminars offered by the Joint Authority for Jewish Zionist Education in the Diaspora. The other award winner is Stacey Wintre (inset), who won the Dr. Aaron N. Nussbaum Award for graduates of USDS who have demonstrated commitment to Jewish education, leadership and to the community. She will pursue her studies in the Rothberg School's One Year Program at the Hebrew University.

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Greater Toronto Area

Association offers programs geared to Jewish deaf

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Alan Cheifetz, president of the Toronto chapter of the Jewish Association of the Deaf has no idea how many deaf Jews live in Toronto.

"We have 40 or 50 members, but many Jewish deaf people have never heard of us — many are totally unconnected to the Jewish community and it is difficult for us to spread the word," he says.

Cheifetz, 38, who works for the federal government and also works part time teaching hearing parents how to sign with their deaf children, has been president of the association since January. He joined 10 years ago because he was anxious to be involved in both the Jewish and the deaf communities.

"We need to have all cultures represented in the Jewish community," he says. "Too many deaf Jews hide themselves at home. They are lonely, only because they can't experience what we are able to give."

Although the association, under the umbrella of the Jewish Deaf Congress, a North American organization, has been around for over 50 years, it only started to gather steam in Toronto in 1987 and now meets monthly in members' homes.

"We sponsor workshops, speakers and arrange for High Holy Day services."

He praises Rabbi Elyse Goldstein who has, on occasion, arranged for services with an interpreter for the group. Some Reform congregations have interpreters at their High Holy Day services.

"That began when one member of Temple Kol Ami became upset because there was no way for him to understand the service," he says.

The association hosted its first retreat in the spring and members are encouraged by its success. "We ran various activities that allowed participants to learn more about Jewish life and culture — we are trying to raise awareness of our religion. For the fall, we are planning a Jewish life course run specifically for the deaf. We are trying hard to get people involved."

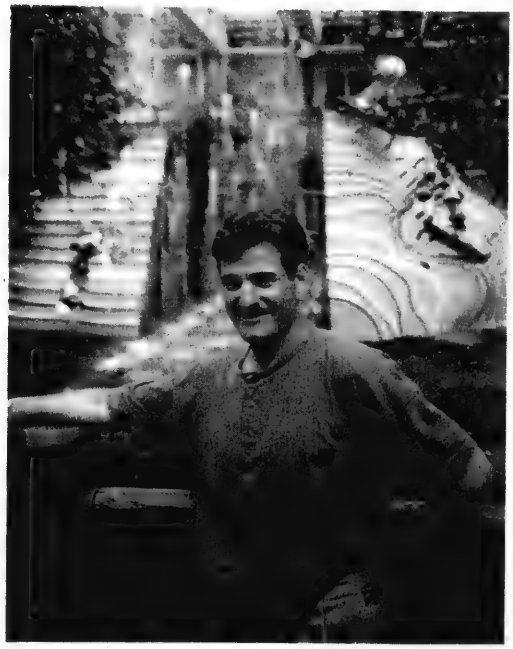
A conference of the Jewish Deaf Congress is set for California in 1998 and Cheifetz says his group is aiming to have the conference of 2004 in Toronto.

"We had one here in 1994 and it attracted over 250 people." he says.

He concedes, however, that, as with all service groups, money is the "eternal problem. We have a charitable number and we are trying to raise money through such activities as bingos, casinos and strawberry festivals. This money goes towards our newsletter, workshops and sending delegates to the convention. We are also hoping to start up a scholarship that will go towards sending Jewish deaf youth to school. We want to help these kids become community leaders.

"We encourage new members, young and old, and we welcome new ideas. We need to teach hearing people about our culture and we urge them to get involved with us."

For information on the Toronto Association of the Jewish Deaf call Bell Relay at 1-800-855-0511 and ask for TTY 416-973-1302 or 905-881-9704.



Alan Cheifetz

Greater Toronto Area

Deputy PM helps cheder celebrate bar mitzvah

From left, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Gluckowsky, Shmuel Zahavy Cheder Chabad executive director Rabbi Yona Shur, Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray and Leslie Dan. [Ron Csillag photo]

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — The bar mitzvah party lacked a bar mitzvah boy, but it did feature Canada's deputy prime minister.

Herb Gray was on hand last week to lend best wishes to the Shmuel Zahavy Cheder Chabad, which is marking its 13th year of operations.

"Mazal tov!" Gray said in his toast to the school at a dinner at Congregation Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto in Thornhill. "I salute Cheder Chabad on its bar mitzvah."

The annual dinner and ticket draw was attended by about 400 spirited supporters of Chabad and held in memory of Rabbi Yaakov Gluckowsky, a beloved leader in Toronto's Chabad community until his death in 1995.

Rabbi Gluckowsky, who had taught at Eitz Chaim Day School and elsewhere, was praised by former students and friends as a shining example of Lubavitch tenets. His son, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Gluckowsky of Rehovot, who serves as assistant chief justice of Israel's Chabad beit din, gave a stirring and heartfelt tribute to his late father.

Rabbi Yaakov Gluckowsky's sisters and other children were also on hand for the tribute.

Toronto philanthropist Leslie Dan, who has lent his name to many Jewish causes, presented Gray, his one-time University of Toronto classmate, with the cheder's National Leadership Award.

In his remarks, Gray recalled how in 1995, the school's choir performed at a Chanukah menorah-lighting ceremony at Rideau Hall before Governor General Romeo LeBlanc.

"They exemplified the work of Chabad," Gray said, going on to praise the cheder for imparting to its students "13 years of intellectual and spiritual development."

The audience wished Gray a refuah shlemah for his ongoing battle against cancer.

Also in attendance was Elinor Caplan, the new member of Parliament for Thornhill riding.

The cheder's executive director, Rabbi Yona Shur, reported that the evening raised $233,000, or nearly a quarter of the annual operating budget.

The cheder opened with eight students in 1984 on Edinburgh Drive in Downsview and now enrols 125 pupils from kindergarten through Grade 8. It's housed in Thornhill's Chabad headquarters, with some classes at Beth Avraham Yoseph. A mesivta (high school) was launched last year.

Rabbi Shur said the goal of the school's fundraising campaign is to unite all classes under one roof, somewhere in Thornhill.

In 1988, the school assumed its current name in memory of Shmuel Zahavy, who had been a student there until his tragic death in an accident earlier that year.

Israeli teens to perform

TORONTO — The Israel Scout Friendship Caravan is holding its annual community performance at Mel Lastman Square on Aug. 25, at 7:30 p.m.

The Friendship Caravan, composed of 10 Israeli teenagers, uses song and dance to showcase its message of friendship, culture and peace from Israel. The audience participates in the interactive program.

Hundreds of candidates nominated by their peers, compete for the honor to participate in the caravan. During the summer they travel through communities and summer camps from coast-to-coast in Canada and the United States.

The caravan is part of the larger Israel Scout Delegation, whose members serve as councillors in camps and communities throughout North America. Its mission, a national project of the Scouts of Israel, is to create a bridge of friendship between Israeli and North American youth.

The visit of the Friendship Caravan is co-sponsored by the Jewish Advisory Committee on Scouting and Guiding and United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.

Everyone is welcome to the concert and admission is free.

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Thursday, September 11 - 2pm

'Rabbinic Lecture Series with Rabbi Reuven Tradburks'.
"Can a Person Change? Or, Are We as We Are?"
Thursday, September 25 - 2pm

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UJA FEDERATION

Community Matters

UJA FEDERATION CAMPAIGN 98 READY TO ROLL

In less than a week, UJA Federation will launch its 1998 annual campaign with a campaign kick-off on Monday, August 25, 8:00 p.m. at The Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

The event will officially open UJA Federation's annual fundraising drive which raised $35.5 million last year.

"All the elements are in place for a successful campaign," notes Lawrence Bloomberg, who is co-chairing the launch with Carol Kassel. "The greater sense of economic security among our contributors will benefit campaign and those who depend on UJA Federation for help."

Funding priorities this year include financial assistance for the poor, increased support for supplementary Jewish education, the expansion of hospice services and improved counselling for battered women and victims of child abuse.

Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar and Vice-Chairs David Engel and Glennie Lindenberg are also asking the community to keep in mind the Jewish Agency's work in rescuing Jews from unstable parts of the world. This year some 60,000 Jewish men, women and children will be brought to Israel from the former Soviet Union.

If you and your family haven't registered yet for the campaign launch, there's still time to show your support for community and enjoy an exciting evening featuring renowned singer/songwriter Amy Sky, who starred in the Toronto theatre hit *Blood Brothers*, and Israeli recording artists Hashavim.

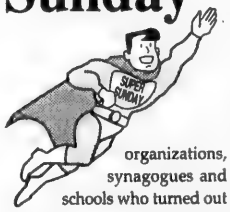
"It's very encouraging to see such a strong show of support from the community on behalf of people who really need help," says Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar. "This demonstration of commitment and strength reverberates throughout the community at large and instills tremendous pride in us all."

"The energy and spirit that radiates throughout the evening makes everyone in attendance feel like they're part of something very special," adds Kassel. "It's a very motivational event that sets the momentum for the rest of campaign."

Tickets cost $18 in advance and $20 at the door. Seating is limited. To order tickets call (416) 631-5700.

Israeli performers Hashavim will provide entertainment at the launch on August 25, 8:00 p.m. at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. (From left) Arkady Yakobson, Masha Bartanayev, Vica Rautbort, Na'ama Ben Natan and Eli Kazhiloti.

Calling community on Super Sunday



The countdown for UJA Federation's largest one day fundraising event has begun.

Next month hundreds of volunteers will be calling thousands of community members asking for their campaign support on Super Sunday, September 14.

Each year the day long telethon blitz raises more than $2 million dollars to fund the extensive network of social and human services supported by UJA Federation on behalf of Jews in need. More than 700 campaigners made close to 40,000 calls last year during Super Sunday and Super Week.

The first of the four three-hour shifts begins at 9:00 a.m. and the calls don't stop until 9:00 p.m. or until the last dedicated campaigner leaves. Throughout the day volunteers are kept energized by live entertainment, special visits from community leaders and local celebrities and plenty of snacks.

Jeff Cohen, who is co-chairing Super Sunday with past UJA Federation Women's Campaign Chair Vicki Campbell, expects to double the number of representatives from companies, organizations, synagogues and schools who turned out last year in "a tremendous show of community support."

"Seeing the diverse elements of the community coming together for one cause gives campaigners a real boost," adds Cohen.

Since this is the last year of the Three Year Vision which secured gifts from many contributors until the 1999 campaign, there's more time to acquire new donations. Approximately one third of UJA Federation donors subscribed to the Three Year Vision launched in 1995.

Vicki Campbell's message is straight to the point. "Be ready to commit when that phone rings." Campbell says she's "proud to be offering the Jewish community the opportunity to give tzedakah and help others."

If you would like to join hundreds of other community volunteers on Super Sunday, call (416) 635-2883 ext 115.

A couple of callers. Hilary and Allan Rabie lend their support and phone skills on Super Sunday last year.

Campaign to address urgent needs

Urgent communal needs are the driving force behind UJA Federation's 1998 Campaign.

As government cut backs continue to leave funding shortfalls in a wide array of social and human services, UJA Federation is intensifying its efforts to find the resources to preserve what makes Toronto's Jewish community one of the most admired in North America.

Some of the more pressing needs include financial assistance for the poor, which could face a shortfall of nearly $300,000 this year, the Jewish Hospice Program which provides care for the dying and support for their families and counselling for victims of women and child abuse.

Programs to preserve Jewish identity are also taking top priority. More funds are needed to enhance supplementary school education, campus programming and support of Jewish summer camps in the former Soviet Union. For just $50,000, nearly 250 youngsters can benefit from a special experience of Jewish discovery at a Russian summer camp.

"Our children are our future," asserts Alan Sandler, Vice President of Community Planning and Allocations at UJA Federation. "If we fail to invest in them today their Jewishness will be lost forever."

Although more than 800,000 Jews have been rescued from the danger and uncertainty of the former Soviet Union, many more people face a future of instability and insecurity. This year alone, the Jewish Agency will bring 60,000 more Jews from the FSU to Israel.

"The work of the Jewish Agency remains vitally important," stresses Campaign Chair Leo Goldhar. "Those people are counting on us."

Basketball is one of the favourite activities for boys attending UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency summer camps in the former Soviet Union.

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Economy picture perfect for Campaign

UJA Federation Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar believes a stronger economy and changes in tax laws will have a positive effect on community giving this year.

"People feel more confident and more secure than they did a few years ago," notes Goldhar, "and that translates into people feeling more comfortable about opening their hearts and wallets to charity."

Recent federal budget changes which improve tax deductions for charitable giving have already benefitted UJA Federation. "Some of our contributors have donated stocks and bonds and other assets, allowing them to realize a significant tax savings," explains Goldhar.

Goldhar hopes the improved economic climate and new tax incentives will lead to a 15% increase in gifts to the annual campaign, which raised $35.5 million last year. Goldhar would also like to attract 2,000 new donors this year to complement 3,000 who joined the UJA Federation family last year. "Our goal is to reach 5,000 new gifts by the end of campaign.

It would be nice to stop playing catch-up each year and start investing in much needed new programs and services which require new money."

But Goldhar doesn't base his optimism on economics alone.

"The more people learn about all the ways UJA Federation helps people the more they'll want to pitch in and help," he asserts.

UJA Federation, through its beneficiary agencies, provides financial assistance to the Jewish poor, and supports an extensive Jewish education network, services for seniors and programs to preserve Jewish identity, especially among the young. Since 1989, the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency has rescued more than 800,000 Jews from turmoil in the former Soviet Union and brought them to Israel. Thousands of Jewish men, women and children in the FSU are currently preparing for a fresh start in Israel.

"It's Jews helping other Jews whether here at home or thousands of miles away," remarks Goldhar. "It's about helping those who are unable to help themselves."

"We are a small Jewish community in terms of our global presence and we must stick together to have the necessary strength to prevent the 30s and 40s from ever happening again."

When Leo Goldhar isn't fundraising or running his construction company with his sons, he likes to meet his bagel buddies, a.k.a. "The Knights of the Round Bagel," for breakfast. Clockwise from front: Phil Litowitz, Al Green–former UJA Federation Campaign Chairman, Marvin Geist, Leo Goldhar, Moe Smith, Al Blackstein, Miriam Eany and Mal Coven.

Imagine A Mission

Nearly 300 new names have been added to the guest list for Israel's 50th anniversary celebration. They're newly signed up participants in what will be the largest mission to Israel in Canada's history.

Israel 50–Mission 98 participants will be treated to 5-star accommodations, top level government and private sector briefings, visits to Metulla, Eilat and many places in-between, shabbat at the Kotel, and a look at UJA Federation funded projects.

The group will also join thousands of well-wishers from all over the world in Israel 50 celebrations.

UJA Federation and United Israel Appeal of Canada are sponsoring *Israel 50–Mission 98*, February 23 - March 4, 1998.

The cost is just $2,498 per person with a minimum campaign contribution of $250 for each of the next two years.

A special *Imagine A Mission* information meeting on Wednesday, September 3, 7:30 p.m. at Adath Israel Congregation, will preview the VIP itinerary, screen a video of previous UJA Federation missions and provide potential participants with a taste of Israel, through food, music and dance.

Israel's Consul General Yehudi Kinar will also stop by to extend greetings and provide an update on the ever-growing calendar of events planned for Israel's 50th anniversary.

To RSVP for *Imagine A Mission* or for more information call the Mission 98 hotline at (416) 631-5698.

Mission 3000 participants digging in to the delights of Israel.

Just 3 of the 1,100 Canadians who participated in Mission 3000, the latest mega-mission to Israel.

PERSON TO PERSON

Himel finds comfortable fit with UJA Federation

Person to Person is a regular column in Community Matters *profiling members of the community who, in addition to succeeding personally and professionally, have enhanced their Jewish identity and commitment to community through their involvement with UJA Federation.*

Alison Himel

As head of a $1.5 million a year foam manufacturing firm, Alison Himel claims her ability to say "no" is one of the company's most valuable assets. But it's UJA Federation that gained a valuable asset when Alison said "yes" to chairing the organization's ATID program.

Himel, who heads this unique leadership development program for children of leading supporters with Gil Palter, says she couldn't refuse the position when her uncle, past Campaign Chairman David Goldstein, asked her to come on board.

"I knew very little about what UJA Federation did," recalls Himel, "and I saw this as the perfect opportunity to learn more."

Himel, 32, also felt she could identify with many other community members her age who were only marginally knowledgeable about the work UJA Federation does. "I was the perfect target."

The group, which meets roughly six times a year, is primarily focused on educating its 40 or so members about UJA Federation, its beneficiary agencies and the work performed by the Jewish Agency around the world. Highlights have included briefings from Jewish Agency Chairman Avrum Burg and *Jerusalem Report* Managing Editor David Horovitz and an exercise to familiarize the group with UJA Federation's budget allocations process.

"We were able to really wrap our minds around some important issues," says Himel. "It was a great way to learn about the community."

When she's not planning programs for ATID, Himel is busy at Vitafoam's Concord, Ontario factory doing "a little bit of everything." Although educated and professionally trained in marketing, Himel concedes that "running a small business means there's nothing you don't do."

The company, which was founded as a family business, sells $1.5 million worth of foam health care products a year to mostly Canadian firms. "Streamlining production, securing more reliable suppliers and better pricing," says Himel have led to the company's first profitable year.

When a big order comes in Himel can even be found on the factory floor operating the shrink-wrap machine. "It's the only machine my co-workers will let me go near."

On Campus

Bronfman fellow Shapero returns to York

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Judith Shapero just can't stay away from York University. A 1996 graduate of York's Jewish Teacher Education program who taught Hebrew language and Jewish studies at United Synagogue Day School last year, she has returned to her alma mater to take on a dual role as part of a 10-month Bronfman Yozma fellowship.

Shapero, 24, will divide her time between York's Centre for Jewish Studies, where she will conduct research in Jewish Education, and Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto (JCS) – the umbrella organization for Jewish student groups on campus – through which she will be involved in outreach and informal Jewish education.

Shapero loves studying Judaism and hopes to inspire others to "take their Judaism seriously" as well. A graduate of Associated Hebrew Day Schools and the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto with an impressive list of academic awards, she once thought of pursuing a career in science, but her heart wasn't in it as it was with Jewish education.

The turning point came after her first year of university, when she studied for a year at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, including a course with the late renowned scholar Nehama Leibowitz. "That was a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Shapero.

Through JCS she plans to establish and teach in an informal Beit Midrash program on campus, starting at York University.

Her first program will probably be a three-session course on the Role of the Teacher, using traditional Jewish sources ranging from the Torah to medieval texts to modern responsa.

"I like seeing students engage with the text, challenge it and demand from it," said Shapero. "When students argue with the text and challenge it, it means they're taking it seriously. That's real. I don't find it blasphemous. They want to make it relevant and meaningful to themselves."

Also in the offing are study sessions for women, and the incorporation of an educational component into some existing Jewish Student Federation programs at York.

Shapero has long been involved in informal education. Among the involvements listed on her resume are stints as a United Synagogue Youth adviser at Beth Tikvah Synagogue and as a special needs counsellor at Camp Reena. She also co-chaired the Jewish Education Students' Association in her last year at York.

"We're very excited about Judith working on campus," said Zac Kaye, executive director of JCS. "She will be a tremendous role model for women and will be developing some new initiatives on campus."

Judith Shapero

Through Shapero's work, Kaye looks forward to JCS and York's Centre for Jewish Studies developing "an even closer relationship" as partner agencies.

There has been collaboration over the years, confirmed Alex Pomson, professor of Jewish Education and coordinator of York's Jewish Teacher Education program, but "both parties have always been looking for ways to develop it further."

He sees Shapero's fellowship at York as "a very exciting development" and credits the Bronfman Foundation for providing opportunities both for young people and Jewish organizations.

The Bronfman Yozma fellowships were launched in 1995 to fund eight full-time Jewish community positions annually. Shapero is the first Canadian Yozma fellow. The word yozma is Hebrew for "resourceful initiative."

Among the academic projects with which Shapero will be involved is a study of how young people think about Jewish history, and the way their concepts change following study of Jewish history in an academic setting.

Another project, like the first a brainchild of Pomson, will focus on the complex role of the classroom teacher.

With her love of learning, research and teaching, Shapero sees the Yozma fellowship as an excellent opportunity to explore her interests. "I want to really contribute to Jewish studies and the Jewish community in any way I can."

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גידי קורן וחברים

צביטה בלב

בילדותינו הרחוקה, שנים מספר אחרי השואה, השיר "אידישע-מעמע" ייצג בעינינו, ילידי הארץ, את כל הבזוי והמאוס שבגלות: את הרפיסות, ההתקפלות בפני החזק, את הרגשנות, את כל מה שהחוויה הצברית נועדה לתקן. ומה לא עשו הורינו ועשינו אנחנו להתרחק מהחוויה הגלותית: החלפנו שמות משפחה, סרבנו לדבר אידיש או ערבית או כל שפה אחרת שסבא וסבתא דיברו (אם לא הכחידו אותם בשואה). היינו "קשוחים", לא בכינו בקטעים עצובים והשתדלנו שרגשות לא יצאו החוצה. אז איך זה שעכשיו אני יושב בסרט הנפלא "A Tickle of the heart" ועל המסך שרה זמרת נפלאה את "אידישע מעמע" ופני שטופים דמעות? כי היא מחברת אותי לחיסטוריה שלי, ולו גם לזו הקשה, הכואבת. זהו סרט שחור לבן על שלושה אחים שהיו נגני חתונות ובר מצווה בניו יורק, עד אשר יום אחד שמו לב בני הדור שלי שהאנשים האלה, הולכים ונעלמים, ועוד מעט לא יוותר מי שיספר לנו איך ניגנו במזרח אירופה לפני המלחמה. "ומאז קוראים לנו כלייזמרים ולא נגני חתונות" מתבדח הזקן שבחבורה, שבגיל 80 עדיין מביא שמחה להמון אנשים. זהו סרט דוקומנטארי שיחבר אתכם לבסיס האם. ואימותינו הרי הן אימהות יהודיות או "אידישע מעמע". אבל שישאר בינינו.

אבדות טנגלווד - ישרם סירצקי:

מעבר להרים ולנהר (הדסון) אומרות האגדות ישנו מקום, שמוסיקה עוטפת בו את היער. למקום קוראים טנגלווד, וזה שמו של פארק יפיפה במאסאצוסטס ליד גבול ניו יורק שהפך למכה של המוסיקה הקלאסית באמריקה הצפונית. כבר שנים רבות מופיעים כל קיץ על הבמה המפורסמת חברי מועדון המי ומי של המוסיקה הקלאסית בעולם. הגענו לטנגלווד חמושים בספרי יתושים, ונרות ריחניים לאותה מטרה. אחרי שנכנסנו לאתר למרות פקקי תנועה ענקיים, גילינו סכנה ענקית ומכוערת שבין קורותיה יכולה לחנות חטיבת שריון. בגלל המחיר אולצנו לתפוס מקום בקצה הסכנה רחוק מהבמה. וכאשר הנגנים התחילו בפעולה, הם נראו ממקום מושבי כמו מיניאטורות של חגבים. ובלילי המוסיקה שחפיקו הכלים הזכירו טרנזיסטור בגלים קצרים. אחרי רגע חושבים הגענו למסקנה שעל הדשא מחוץ לסככה לפחות רועמים הרמקולים ולכן פרסנו שמיכה, הדלקנו נרות נגד יתושים ויססנו ספרי שהיה מבריח בואשים, והתיישבנו עם עוד אלפים לשמוע את ברהמס. אך הצלילים ועוצמת המגברים לא השפיעו על טייסות היתושים. כשהסתיים הקונצרט וצעדנו למכונית מאוכזבים ועקומים, חשבתי לתומי שבמחיר זול כרטיסים אפשר היה לרכוש כמה תקליטי cd ולשמוע את יוהנס, וולפגנג ולודוויג בעזרת רמקולים משובחים ובלי יתושים מתאבדים. אז כמו שאמר המשורר: טנגלווד, אליך שנית לא נשוב.

גשר צר מאוד:

"גשר הירקון" הוא מושג היסטורי בישראל. עד שבנו עכשיו גישרון קטן להעביר את ספרטאי המכביה והוא קרס פתאום באות "אלף" וגרם למותם של יהודים אוסטראליים חמים ואוהבי ישראל. לו היה קורס באות "בית" היה האסון נופל על משפחות בבלגיה, ובאות "קוף" - בקנדה. וזה כל כך סימבולי שמה שייזכר מהמכביה שנועדה להיות גשר בין ישראל לגולה, הוא גשר קטן על הירקון. ועוד אסוציאציה עצובה: כשהיינו ילדים בתל אביב, הזהירו אותנו שלא לטבול במי הירקון שיש בהם בילהרציה ושאר חיידקים, ורק המתאבדים שביננו "בתיכון חדש" העזו, בעיקר כדי להרשים את הבנות. ועכשיו נפטרו מספר אתלטים מאוסטרליה מסיבוכים זיהומיים מן המים המטונפים ששאפו לריאותיהם. עוד לא המציאו אנטיביוטיקה מספיק חזקה להילחם במי הירקון.

GRENADE INSPECTION

An Israeli explosives expert closely inspects a hand grenade after another device exploded in a blacksmith shop, killing one Palestinian and wounding another. [RNS/Reuters photo]

FIGHTING CF

Nine year old Amanda Aronowicz poses between Frank Roberts, CEO of Obusforme and president of the 65 Roses Sports Club, and Pat Hentgen, Cy Young Award winner, as they receive a cheque for $60,000 raised in support of the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The money was raised through the efforts of the Club and the Blue Jays through this year's activities. "Cystic Fibrosis is one of the most tragic diseases I know of," said Roberts.

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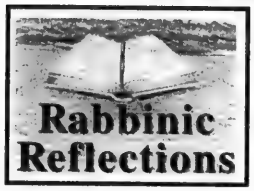


Parshat Ekev suggests dignity, respect for others

By RABBI RONALD WEISS

Now that Tisha b'Av is over, we begin to involve ourselves in a new, yet annual task.

Last Shabbat, we read a special haftorah — so special, in fact , that the very day itself is given a unique name. Shabbat Nachamu, the Sabbath of Consolation, signifies that the mourning and sense of sadness of Tisha b'Av, with which we have worked to generate and fill our days of summer, are truly over. Today, with the arrival of Parshat Ekev, the mood evoked by the reading of the Torah seems, to me, to be substantially different.

Parshat Ekev has long been used by rabbis and homiliticians as source material for the High Holy Days. It's rich in describing those ethical teachings that resonate deep within the Jewish heart and have been effective at stimulating our people to do tshuvah, to repent and strive to improve themselves as well as their relationship with the Almighty.

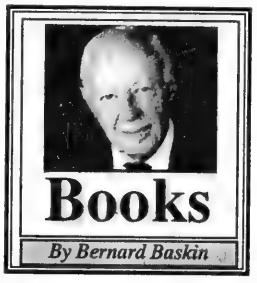
As an example of the wealth found within this parshah, let me cite just one source. We are told "Now, O Israel, what does the Lord, your G-d, ask of you? Only to fear the Lord, your G-d, to follow in His ways and to love Him and to serve the Lord, your G-d, with all your heart and with all your soul." (Deuteronomy 10:12) While the next verse explains that this is to be performed by the observance of G-d's commandments that are ultimately for our benefit, often people need specific instruction as to how this is to be accomplished. Perhaps a brief example will illustrate what I mean.

Maimonides, in his commentary on the Mishnah, discusses the teaching found in Pirke Avot (1:6) that says, *"V'he'vay dan et kol ha-adam l'kaf zechut,"* "Judge every person favorably." Maimonides explains that this means "if there is an individual who you do not know to be either righteous or wicked, and you see this person doing something that might be interpreted either favorably or unfavorably, interpret his actions as being for good and do not suspect him of doing evil."

Rav Yehuda Aryeh Leib Alter of Gur, in his understanding of this Mishnah, provides very clear and specific instructions as to how this is to be done. He translates the phrase *"kol ha-adam"* with a different emphasis than Maimonides. Whereas Maimonides understood this to mean "every person," which is the usual translation, Rav Alter interprets *"kol ha-adam"* as meaning "the whole of the person." Thus, according to Rav Alter, the Mishnah teaches us to "Judge the whole of the person favorably." Do not look at only the individual's faults when you judge him. Rather look at the whole of the person and you will certainly see good in him to judge him favorably.

As we begin to approach the High Holy Day season with the ethics stressed in Parshat Ekev, let us all remember that to follow in G-d's ways, to love the Almighty and seek to serve Him with our hearts and souls means treating each other with dignity and respect. Truly seeing "the whole" of each other will enable us to overlook one another's faults. This will permit us to judge each other favorably.

Rabbi Weiss is the director of Chaplaincy Services for Jewish Family and Child Service in Toronto.



***The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara*, by David Kertzer (Random House of Canada, $35)**

On the night of June 23, 1858, Edgardo Mortara, six-years-old, the son of a Jewish family in Bologna, Italy, was abducted by papal police. He was taken to the Dominican House of Catechumens in Rome to be instructed in the principles of the Catholic faith. The explanation of the Church was that a domestic servant of the Mortara family had secretly baptized the child six years earlier when she thought he was about to die — and that such a baptism was valid even if it had been carried out without the knowledge of the parents or against their will.

Outrage swept the Jews of Europe and America. Many Christian individuals and groups were also incensed by the kidnapping. Edgardo's parents vainly attempted to get their child back. The Jews of the Kingdom of Savoy appealed to the British Board of Deputies for their assistance. They, in turn, asked Sir Moses Montefiore, the most prominent and influential Jewish personality of the time to intercede.

Youth's kidnapping an astonishing story

In his diaries, Montefiore describes his frustration at the refusal of the papal authorities to consider the case or to hear his prepared presentation. He was denied an audience with Pope Pius IX, but eventually met with the papal secretary, which produced no change in the Church's position. In 1860, after the annexation of Bologna to the Italian kingdom, the Mortara family, filled with new hope, undertook new, but unfruitful overtures for the return of their son.

In the same year, Father Pier Gaetano Feletti, the ex-inquisitor of the Holy Office in Bologna, was arrested and accused of Edgardo's kidnapping. After several months in jail, he was tried and acquitted by judges who asserted that there were insufficient legal grounds for criminal proceedings. The decision was greeted with indignation and dismay by the Jewish community which had regarded his arrest as "a triumphant vindication and sweet revenge."

Reaction to the case revealed a great deal about the battle between conservative and progressive forces in mid-19th century Europe. More importantly, it was among the factors that motivated Napoleon III to commit his troops to join the Kingdom of Sardinia in driving Austrian forces from northern Italy, and to approve the annexation to the kingdom of lands that encompassed much of the Papal States.

Thus, the Mortara case had far-reaching results. The author asserts that, "The story of an illiterate servant girl, a grocer, and a little Jewish child from Bologna altered the course of Italian and Church history." Indeed, the maid who baptized Edgardo — dirt poor, and unable to write her own name — made a greater contribution to Italian reunification than many of the Risorgimento heroes whose statues preside over Italian town piazzas today.

Edgardo, reared and indoctrinated as a Catholic from an early age and a favorite of the Pope, became a priest and gained a reputation as a saintly, pious and tireless worker on behalf of the Church. He died, in 1940, an 88-year-old monk, in a Belgian abbey where he had lived for many years. The author writes without comment, "A month later, German soldiers flooded into Belgium, soon to begin rounding up all those tainted with Jewish blood."

The Mortara case is dramatic and many-sided and the author, a professor of anthropology and history at Brown University approaches it with the skill and style of an accomplished novelist. He weaves together the historical, social, religious and cultural stands of the astonishing story with clarity and compelling scholarship.

These unhappy events of a century and a half ago, speak for themselves. They cry out that blind prejudice and religious zeal can lead to tragedy and disaster.

Jewish Life

Rebbe embraced Jewish outreach

By RABBI ZALMAN A. GROSSBAUM

Guest Voices

The Talmud relates that Rav Chanina devoted all his time and talents to exploring the depth of Torah. He was certain that if the Torah would ever be forgotten, he could restore it through scholarship such as his.

He devoted himself to constant study to try to attain greater understanding of the Torah's depths. He was convinced that through *pilpula*, intensive Torah Diaglogue, Torah would not be forgotten. He was even prepared to risk alienating the common folk to achieve his aim.

His colleague Rav Chiyah was of a different mind. He was prepared to engage in the most mundane and elementary tasks to ensure Torah would never be forgotten. He elected to teach six children corresponding tractates of the Mishnah. In due time, they would share their knowledge with others. In this way, he was confident that Torah would never be forgotten.

Rav Chiyah was of the opinion that we must reach out to the masses, even if this would hinder expounding upon the Torah's depth. He believed that by providing learning opportunities for everyone even beginners, we could safeguard the *continuity* of Torah. Given the opportunity, the people would become familiar with Torah, thereby removing the fear of its ever being forgotten.

Rav Chiyah personally devoted his time stressing the teaching of Chumash and Mishnah. He knew that with patience and perseverance, students would master the basics and share their knowledge with others.

Although each approach has merit, the Talmud concludes: "How great is the work of Rav Chiyah." It is fair to assume that Rav Chiyah was among the trailblazers of the "outreach movement."

But it is beneficial to explore the fundamental difference of opinion between these two Talmudic giants.

The Rebbe provides insight on this issue in his recently published Torah notes .In a lengthy dissertation on the concluding two mishnahs of the Mishnayot, the Rebbe offers a novel approach to the observance of mitzvot and its reward.

In the first of the mishnahs Rabbi Yeshuah ben Levi states: "Each and every tzaddik will inherit 310 worlds."

In the second mishnah, Rabbi Shimon ben Chalafta notes: "G-d found no vessel to contain *brachah* save for [the vessel of] shalom."

Both mishnahs attempt to explain the purpose of Divine service and offer a glimpse at the reward in store. They allude to different forms of compensation. This corresponds to the dual objectives in the performance of mitzvot.

Initially we are instructed to serve G-d so that we will merit a portion of 310 worlds (Gan Eden). The extent of this reward is related to the extent of our service.

Then we are told of the loftier objective inherent in all mitzvot, namely, to establish a link between finite man and infinite G-d. Through the performance of a mitzvah, a fusion occurs which unites the Creator with the created. A bond is formed which transcends logic and defies reason.

Hence, the first mishnah enunciates a reward for the righteous that is exclusive. The latter mishnah is inclusive. It underscores the ultimate brachah *reserved for everyone who has forged a bond with G-d by observing even one random mitzvah!*

This paradigm sheds light on the philosophical and practical endeavors of the Rebbe. From the first day of his leadership he tried to reach out to every single Jew. Rather than dedicate the resources of Chabad to those who held special promise and potential, he stressed the commonality inherent in all Jews.

He also placed his emissaries strategically wherever Jews are found, even if it meant hardship and self-sacrifice. He strived ceaselessly to facilitate a bond between every Jew and his Creator.

The Rebbe elected to ignite a flame of G-dliness among the masses by encouraging the translation of basic Torah works so that they became accessible to all. Large chanukiyot were publicly displayed to create awareness and to boost Jewish pride. The radio, billboards, satellite and fax machine were used to disseminate Torah and promote mitzvot.

After more than 40 years of leadership, the revolutionary efforts of the Rebbe recognizing the intrinsic value of each Jew have become universally accepted. They have become the conventional method of "outreach" among all *kiruv* organizations which have recently begun to proliferate.

Rabbi Grossbaum heads the Chabad Lubavitch Organization of Southern Ontario. These remarks were delivered in observation of the Rebbe's yahrzeit on the third day of Tammuz.

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Swiss accounts on net

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Aba Aisenstadt, Wladimir Soloweitschik, Eva Zollino. These are just three of the names appearing on the list of dormant bank accounts released this summer by the Swiss Bankers Association **[http://www.dormantaccounts.ch/list.htm]**. The conflict over the restitution of the assets of Holocaust victims has received a great deal of coverage in the press. But much more background, commentary and debate can be found on the Internet.

After much anticipation, The Swiss Bank Dormant Accounts Web Site opened **[http://www.dormantaccounts.ch/]**. In addition to the list of names, it includes a question and answer section about the claim process, recent press releases and a copy of the detailed claim form.

The Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce has prepared a chronology of events and a summary of the various task forces examining those events **[http://www.amcham.ch/swissaccounts.html]**.

There are a few people who have spearheaded the fight for restitution. One of the most prominent has been Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, which has several policy articles, listed at **[http://www.virtual.co.il/orgs/orgs/wjc/dis10.htm]**. Another key figure has been Senator Alfonse D'Amato **[http://www.senate.gov/~damato/swiss.htm]**.

The claims process is being administered by Paul Volcker, former chair of the U.S. Federal Reserve System. His role is to institute an independent claims resolution panel. For a *Jerusalem Post* profile of Volcker and his work, see **[http://www.jpost.com/com/Archive/21.Jul.1997/Features/Article-0.html]**.

In May, Stuart E. Eizenstat, the leading Clinton administration official on restitution, released his report on the situation **[http://www.ushmm.org/assets/foreword.htm]**. Far from a dusty report, this is a passionate indictment of how these funds lay dormant for decades and what must be done to right these historical wrongs. Also see Eizenstat's April speech to Agudath Israel of America **[http://www.ita.doc.gov/media/gold.htm]**.

In July, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre **[http://www.wiesenthal.com/swiss/index.htm]** held a two-day conference in Geneva, entitled Property and Restitution: A Moral Responsibility of History" **[http://www.audionet.com/events/swc/property/]**. All the sessions were recorded and can be played back using RealPlayer **[http://www.realaudio.com/products/player/playerdl.html]**. And for more related stories, go to the end of **[http://www.cnn.com/WORLD/9707/23/swiss.banks/index.html]** and to Yahoo **[http://www.yahoo.com/News_and_Media/Current_Events/Swiss_Banks_Reveal_Dormant_War_Accounts/]**.

Next week, we'll look at international press reaction to this story and at the effect of this controversy on potential heirs.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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ONLY 2 WEEKS LEFT

(Top to Bottom) The smiles of success from event chair Joy, and husband Barry Gales.

Mimi Greenspoon, President of the Women's Auxiliary with her husband Mel.

Florence Minz-Geneen, Chair Baycrest Centre Board of Directors with Stephen W. Herbert President and C.E.O. of Baycrest.

George and Kitty Grossman with Maria-Elena Stern.

(Top to Bottom) Lesley Binstock-Offman and Allan Offman, Chair of the Baycrest Campaign.

Sandy and Alan Posluns.

Three generations of the Cooper family.

Ira Gluskin and Maxine Granovsky Gluskin.

(Upper Centre) Bill and Phyllis Clarfield share the spotlight with Shirley and Harold Lederman.

(Lower Left) A Koffler collection.
The family came to play and have fun.

(Lower Right)
Michael Shulman, Karen and Paul Morton.

(Top to Bottom) Alan Karp and David Goldstein.

Lois and David Buckstein–just may have the winning key!

The team that made it happen!
The Gala Committee
planning last minute touches for perfection.

Allan and Susan Fenwick.

(Top to Bottom) Lieutenant Governor Hilary M. Weston is presented with a gift of resident artwork by Gilda Goodman, past President, W.A.

Honey and Barry Sherman.

Edwin Goldstein, Chair of the Over the Top Committee with his wife Joyce.

Merle Friedman & Manny Mitchell with Leo and Andrea Fine.

Photos by Rosemary Goldhar

From coast to coast

Montreal hospital to close operating room

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The reported shutdown of one of the Jewish General's Hospital's (JGH) 10 operating rooms this fall will have a "particular impact" on the Jewish community, says the hospital's chief anesthetist.

"There's a particular impact because the Jewish community is aging," Dr. Simcha Kleiman said in an interview with *The CJN*.

Kleiman, who has headed his department for four years, said cuts in provincial government funding to Quebec hospitals – including $13 million last year at the JGH – and a shortage of anesthetists have made it increasingly difficult to provide a suitable level of access to health care in the province. However, he stressed that he was confident the "very high level" of individual care at the JGH will not suffer from the closing of the operating rooms.

The JGH, between last fall and the coming fall, will suffer a net loss of two anesthetists, part of a general shortage of anesthetists in the province, which was also a major factor in the closure (a similar closure will take place at the Montreal General Hospital).

As a result, Kleiman said, lengthy waiting lists for surgical procedures such as cataracts or hip replacement – now already as long as two years – will be lengthened by 10 percent, although the triage system for evaluating the relative priority for surgery will ensure that acute or emergency cases will not be delayed.

Kleiman attributed the shortage of anesthetists to several factors, including that not enough are being trained to counteract the attrition rate and that government fee scales are failing to attract new anesthetists to the province while encouraging locally trained specialists to practise in rural areas.

Moreover, Kleiman said the Quebec Association of Anesthetists "miscalculated" and "underestimated" the shortage of specialists in Montreal.

The association has said the problem should be rectified by the year 2001, when 100 new anesthetists will graduate.

But Kleiman said he would "not want to be the patient" whose access to health care is delayed for the next four years.

Newly trained anesthetists practising in Quebec, Kleiman said, earn during their first few years of practice only about 70 percent of the norm elsewhere.

Moreover, he added, complex provincial regulations make it virtually impossible to bring into hospitals or university research centres anesthetists who are trained outside of Canada.

"The government could make it easier," he said. "We need more training positions at universities and the government has to be willing to recognize that there is a shortage.

"It has to create a situation that makes it more attractive to start a career here."

Kleiman said the JGH, due to its special status as both a public and a Jewish community institution, is "uniquely underfunded" by the province for the "level and quality of care" it provides.

"As a Jewish institution, we see ourselves as one of the jewels in the crown of the Jewish community."

Besides seeking to maintain its high level of care, the JGH is kosher and serves a special role in making members of the Jewish community feel comfortable there, Kleiman said.

Kleiman, for his part, feels a special loyalty to the hospital and has no plans to leave. But he feels there is a role the Jewish community can play in helping the JGH cope with the latest "challenge."

"As a member of the hospital community, we are happy with the kind of support we have received from the Jewish community. We have built an exceptional department" because of it, he said.

Through the hospital, he said, the community can help by bolstering efforts to recruit leading academics, researchers, teachers and practitioners for universities and the JGH.

RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS

Roelof Vis of Smithville, Ont., surrounded by his wife, children and grandchildren, holds the Righteous Among the Nations medal bestowed by Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. Vis, a one-time member of the Dutch wartime resistance, received the designation at a recent ceremony in Toronto presented by the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem and attended by the consuls general of Israel and the Netherlands. Vis was honored for helping to save Jews in Nazi-occupied Holland during World War II.

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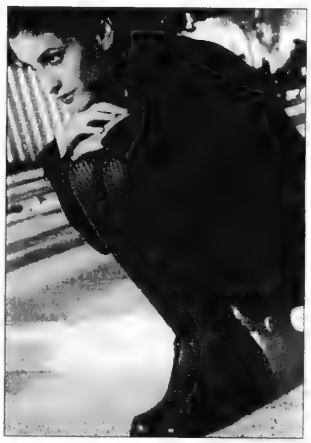
Naot is marketed in Canada exclusively by Solemates. Partners Corinne Lissoos and Sandy Galet take pride in bringing you a constantly expanding range of footwear for all ages and walks of life. Naot offers "barefoot comfort all year round", indoors or outdoors, suitable for relaxation and leisure, but elegant as well.

Made with natural, water-resistant leathers, Naot footwear is insulated to keep your feet cool in summer, warm and dry in winter. The cork footbed, common to each style, consists of a cork base, latex foam cushion, and a layer of suede on which your foot rests. Recommended by orthopedists and podiatrists, it insulates your foot against dampness and temperature changes.

Solemates is introducing several exciting new fall and winter styles for women and men. A full range from casual to dress-up is offered, from sandals for the warm days of early autumn, to dress pumps for a formal evening out, to warm boots for the coldest days. You'll find your entire foot wardrobe here, in a broad spectrum of colours from the traditional browns, blacks and earth tones to greens and reds. For younger women, the rugged, funky *Wildlife* collection includes a walking and hiking boot with balloon rubber sole and extra-sturdy zipper. The more mature woman will like the *Weekender* loafers and casuals in stunning suede and leather combinations. And after a successful trial run, the *Metro* collection, distinguished by its stylish block heel, has been expanded to a full line of office and evening wear.

The hand-stitched clogs with removable footbeds — full and half clogs for men and women — combine comfort with a casual look. Men's footwear now includes both casual and office wear: two shoe styles and one desert or safari-style ankle boot. For the woman who spends long hours on her feet, the pumps are ideal for year-round office and formal wear.



Solemates' main business is wholesale, to Capezio, Corso and other fine retailers across Canada from Vancouver Island to Prince Edward Island.

For the dealer nearest you or further information on Naot's product line, call their head office at (416) 650-5637. If you're calling from out of town, Solemates' toll-free number is 1-800-461-NAOT.

From coast to coast

Israeli teen dies at BB camp in Quebec

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Campers and officials of Camp B'nai Brith (CBB) in Lantier, Que., were devastated following the sudden death at the camp Aug. 3 of a visiting Israeli teenage boy.

Daniel Avraham, 13, was at the camp with a sibling and a group of other Israeli children, when he suddenly collapsed while entering the camp "rec" hall.

He was pronounced dead after being transported to a hospital in Ste. Agathe.

According to CBB president Marvin Libman, after an investigation by the Quebec chief coroner's office it was determined that Avraham died of natural causes, possibly the result of a congenital brain aneurism.

For that reason, he said, the coroner's office released Avraham's body for return to Israel on Aug. 5, although confirmation of death by natural causes would not be official until the coroner released a written report, which he said was expected late last week.

Israeli Consul General Daniel Gal, whose office was in contact with Avraham's family in Israel and helped in expediting the return home of his body, said the teenager was standing with a group of friends at the camp when he collapsed without warning.

Gal said that Avraham's father apparently died of the "same condition" while serving with the Israeli military 12 years ago in Lebanon. Libman called the sudden death a "devastating, terrible tragedy."

To deal with the trauma, the camp held a memorial service for Avraham.

Since Libman does not read Hebrew, he had "no comment" to make on published reports in the Israeli media on the death that quoted family members as suggesting that Avraham may have struck his head after a fall while playing.

He reiterated, however, that there was absolutely no doubt that the death was due to "100 percent, natural causes."

He said Gal had been in personal contact with Avraham's family in Israel to explain to them the finding here of the cause of the death.

CBB director Frank Weinstein, although declining to comment on the circumstances surrounding the death "for security reasons" until the Israeli children departed, was enraged by the Israeli press reports.

"The problem with what's been printed is that all those stories had no information. They're all made up," he said.

In a letter to a *CJN* reporter, CBB executive vice-president Penny Meshwork held off commenting on the death until all the facts were in, but called it, "a very sad and traumatic experience for everyone."

Young adult programs source of pride

MONTREAL — If Richard Diamond needed a boost of confidence about Canada's Jewish communities, then the recent meetings of the Keren Hayesod (KH) International Young Leadership Executive proved to be the perfect tonic.

Diamond, Canada's representative on the executive, said many of his counterparts from around the world were astonished by the success of Canada's young adult campaigns and some of the programs established by the country's Jewish federations.

He says representatives were particularly impressed by many of Canada's young adult programs, including Montreal's ProMontreal initiative, an effort to retain Jews in Montreal through social programming and a job placement service; Toronto's ATID program for future leaders and a similar program for young leaders in Vancouver.

The executive, composed of young Jewish community leaders from Canada, Europe, Australia, South Africa and Latin America meets once a year in Jerusalem and holds several teleconferences throughout the year. It was established three years ago to enable young leaders to share ideas and develop solutions to challenges unique to young adults.

Among the issues discussed at this year's meeting were efforts to reach unaffiliated Jews and ways in which to turn Israel's upcoming 50th birthday celebration into an effective fundraising tool.

For more information on Keren Hayesod or any young adult programs, call Glenn J. Nashen, director of the Young Adult Division of FEDERATION CJA, at 514-345-2637 or Eli Rubenstein, director of Young Leadership for United Israel Appeal of Canada, at 416-636-7655 (e-mail: eli@passport.ca).

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Aug. 25, is deadline for Sept. 4 issue, and Tuesday, Sept. 2, is deadline for Sept. 11. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Aug. 23

SHABBAT SERVICES

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion and Federation of Jewish Brotherhoods traditional Conservative Shabbat services, 10 a.m. to noon, kiddush following, Sunnybrook Synagogue. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

REFORM MINYAN

Catch it while you can! Downtown Reform Minyan summer Shabbat services, 10 a.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. Everyone welcome.

Sunday, Aug. 24

KIDS OPEN HOUSE

The National Ballet of Canada hosts Esso Kids Open House, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at its new home, the Walter Carsen Centre for the National Ballet of Canada, 470 Queens Quay West (just west of Spadina). Watch a rehearsal, participate in demonstrations, do activities in the "Kids Studio". 345-9686, ext. 317.

ART SHOW AND SALE

Celebrating the Arts in the Park art show and sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Earl Bales Community Centre and Park. 395-7873.

Tuesday, Aug. 26

HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAEL

New Israel Fund Canada program, Defending Human Rights in Israel: The New Israeli Constitution and the Canadian Contribution with **Moshe Cohen**, a lawyer with the Association for Civil Rights in Israel. For details, 781-4322.

And What Else Is New

TRIBUTE DINNER

Beth Tzedec Congregation special tribute dinner in honor of **Jack and Libby Orenstein** on the occasion of Jack's retirement, Thursday, Sept. 18. Cocktails 6:30 p.m., dinner following. Couvert $60 per person. Seating is limited — on first come, first served basis. **Allison** 781-3511, ext. 20.

KADIMA CENTRE

Kadima Centre meets at 100 Elder St. (Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue) Tuesdays 4:30-6:30 p.m. for Supper Club and Sundays 2-4 p.m. This is a social recreational centre for developmentally disabled adults 18 years and over. The Open House and Welcome Back Dance honoring **Rabbi Joseph Kelman,** founder of Kadima Centre, is Sunday, Sept. 21, 2-4 p.m. **Suzanne Agasee** 635-6800 evenings only.

Volunteers are needed for the Sunday programs. Call Suzanne.

JF & CS GROUP

Relatives of Adults With Schizophrenia or Manic Depression is a 6-week group beginning Monday, Sept. 22, 6:30-8 p.m. **Marsha Berniker** 638-7800, ext. 257.

FAMILY HISTORIES

Ancestors from east of Germany? A six-week course, cosponsored by the Ontario Genealogical Society with the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living and the North York Board of Education, assisting people researching Poles, Czechs, Slovaks, Ukranians, Russians, Germans in the Ukraine or Russia, or Jews in those countries, will run Mondays, 1-2 p.m., beginning Sept. 29 at the Bernard Betel Centre. Instructor is **Sonia Tkachuk van Heerden.** 225-2112.

HEBREW CLASSES

Register now for Canadian Zionist Federation Hebrew classes with instructors **Chana Sargon** and **Mira Starkman**, held at 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300. 633-3988.

Morning and evening classes begin September: Beginners I, Tuesday mornings; Beginners II, Monday evenings; Intermediate, Thursday mornings or Wednesday evenings; Advanced "Chug Ivrit", Monday evenings (day school graduates welcome).

Special Crash Course: simple

[Cont'd on page 27]

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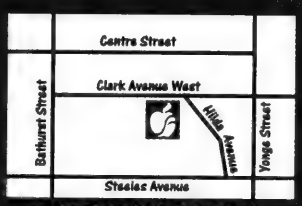

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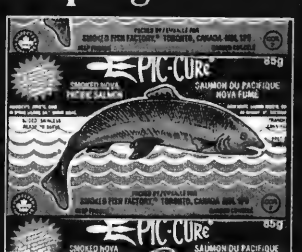

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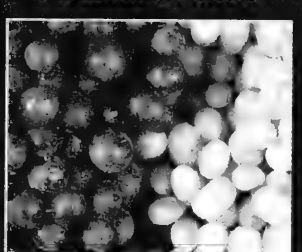

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La Biscotte Rice Cakes
Assorted Varieties
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From the Deli, Levitt's, 3.08 /100 g
1399 lb.

Green or Wax Beans
Product of Ontario
2.18 kg
.99 lb.

Rainbow Trout Fillet
Fresh
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599 lb.

Tradition Noodle Soup Cups
Assorted Varieties
70 g cup
.79

Jumbo Muffins
From The Bakery
pkg. of 6
299

French Bread
From the Bakery
425 g loaf
.99

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, AUG. 17 UNTIL SATURDAY, AUG. 23, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd from page 26]

and comprehensive approach to Hebrew reading (prepare for Yom Tov services) with an introduction to writing, three consecutive Sundays: Sept. 7, 14, 21, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

MOVIES AT THE LODZER

Every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Jewish movies are screened at the Lodzer Centre Congregation, 12 Heaton St. No charge.

CALLING NEW MOTHERS!

A new chapter of Toronto Hadassah-WIZO comprised of mothers and their babies (up to 1 year of age) is being formed. Come out and hear interesting speakers, bond with other new mothers, share experiences. **Lisa Adler** 630-8373.

THE CHORALAIRS

The Choralairs of North York, a volunteer choir singing for seniors and disabled persons, welcomes singers of all ages, voices in all ranges. Ability to read music is not a pre-requisite. Rehearsals Tuesdays 8-10:30 p.m., Earl Bales Park Community Centre, Room 2, starting Sept. 2. Repertoire includes pop, Broadway, folk songs. Membership is $45/person, $70/couple with tax receipt. **Fay Cohen** 633-7233 or **Judy** or **Myer Gordon** 221-3161.

GASTRONOMIC DELIGHT

Na'amat Canada presents Pleasures of the Palate with 20 celebrated chefs in an evening of culinary artistry preparing foods from varied styles of cooking. Sunday, Sept. 21, 7 p.m. at Taboo Wine Bar and Grill, 2345 Yonge St. There will be entertainment, door prizes, a live and silent auction. $50 includes free cookbook of the foods prepared. Proceeds go to Na'amat's free legal advisory clinic for women in Toronto and its abuse centre in Tel Aviv. 636-5425.

COFFEE HOUSE

Jewish Youth Learning Centre presents a Saturday night coffee house with music and food where single Jewish adults in their 20s are invited to come and bring their friends, every Saturday 10 p.m., 601 Clark Ave., W. Apt. 315, beginning Aug. 23. **Rabbi Danny Bahar** 633-5722.

MAVEN BOWLING LEAGUE

Maven Bowling League is looking for new members and teams. This fun social league for singles and couples, male and female, 30s and 40s, starts Thursday Sept. 4, 7 p.m. at a centrally located bowling alley. Also, a pre-season barbecue Saturday, Aug. 30, 7 p.m. Information/RSVP **Ron Caine** 481-4211 days, 905-889-8333 evenings and weekend.

HEBREW ACADEMY

Beth Israel Hebrew Academy is accepting registration for Sunday and weekday classes in Thornhill and Richmond Hill for ages 5 to bar/bat mitzvah, also adult classes. **Lillian Benlolo** 905-770-1082.

LEARNING DISABILITIES

The Learning Disabilities Association of North York is offering Social Skills and Socializing Programs for learning disabled children/adolescents. Groups meet after school on a weekly basis for 10 months. 229-1680.

JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Living With Your Teenager: Who is This Stranger in My House?, begins Sept. 9; Separation and Divorce Group begins Sept. 8; Bereavement Group for younger widows/widowers begins Aug. 21. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 211.

FOR SENIORS

LZA Seniors Club is taking registration for the Miami trip 1998 Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing is Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. and the Cultural Discussion group is Tuesdays at 10 a.m. The centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 21, bingo and games; Tuesday, Aug. 26, picnic at Earl Bales Park 11 a.m., non-members $2; Thursday, Aug. 28, Israeli video. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning — video of the film *Mr. Holland's Opus* Nov. 3; musical *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Aug. 26 Dixie Mall; Aug. 28 *Jolson*; Sept. 17 Casino Rama; Sept. 22-23 Haliburton; Sept. 25 Casino Niagara; Oct. 26-31 Washington and Atlantic City; Nov. 5 shopping in Buffalo. Please note Aug. 24 dance is cancelled. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Public affairs forum, Sex and Seniors in the 1990s: Part II, Wednesday, Aug. 27, 1:30 p.m. Panelists **Jan Karin Boyd,** social worker, Baycrest Centre; **Charmay Crane**, chief of psychology, Branson Hospital; **Sam Ruth**, consultant to Baycrest Centre; **Dr. David Ryan,** psychologist, Sunnybrook Health Care Centre. Emcee is **Lou Goldenberg**, chair of public affairs forum. Admission free.

Legal Information Clinic presented in connection with Young Leadership Cabinet of United Jewish Appeal Federation, Sunday, Aug. 24, 3-5 p.m. Free of charge.

Israeli Etrog Club meets Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Programs include movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-a-longs, dances, bingo. Aug. 27 is a sing-a-long. **Anna.**

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, Aug. 26, 1:30-3:30 p.m. The Decision Aid Program, Making Choices: Hormones After Menopause, will be reviewed.

Wellness lecture, Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria, by microbiologist **Prateek Lala**, Thursday, Aug. 28, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

The movie *Gypsy* Sunday, Aug. 24, 2:15 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Register now for preschool music, fitness, cooking, creative arts and Judaic programs. Ext. 248.

ABOUT PEOPLE

TRANSNISTRIA EXECUTIVE

At a recent special general meeting of the Transnistria Survivors Association, **Osias Nadel** was elected president, **Etty Zigler** vice-president and **Arnold Bauxbaum** secretary.

GREEN RECEIVES AWARD

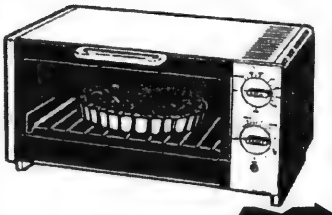
Mendel M. Green receives the 46th annual Humanitarian Award of the Brotherhood of Beth Sholom Synagogue. Looking on is his wife Helen.

ISRAEL SCOUT FRIENDSHIP CARAVAN

The Israel Scout Friendship Caravan, composed of 10 Israeli teenagers, tell stories of Israel through song and dance, Monday, Aug. 25, at 7:30 p.m. at Mel Lastman Square. Admission is free. The visit is co-sponsored by the Jewish Advisory Committee on Scouting and Guiding and United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc. Members of Scouting and Guiding please come in uniform. For information 490-6364, ext. 246. In case of rain, bring an umbrella.

NEWLY ELECTED DIRECTORS

Newly elected directors of Canada Israel Securities. From left, standing: Eric Slavens, George Cohon, Mike Florence, Len Shapiro and Mitch Garfinkle. Seated: Alex Grossman and Norman Spector.



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From coast to coast

Firm fires KKK 'grand dragon'

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The firing of an ADT Security Services Canada salesperson last week for sending out a Ku Klux Klan (KKK) letter using the company's logo-imprinted postage metre capped a "week of hell," president Roy Maguire said in an interview with *The CJN*.

But although ADT was completely cleared of any wrongdoing, the incident also proved embarrassing for the company and raised sensitive questions over the rights of employees in a free society to associate with undesirable groups without fear of dismissal.

Maguire, both in an official statement issued Aug. 6 and in speaking with *The CJN* from Vancouver, was quick to term former employee Bryan Taylor's affiliation with the KKK and use of the company metre as "reprehensible."

"It was not in keeping with the philosophy of the company or my personal philosophy as an individual," he said.

But ADT also found its hands legally tied after it was discovered six months ago that Taylor used an office photocopier to reproduce a KKK poster, which referred to "White Pride."

At the time, the company issued Taylor a strong letter of reprimand over the content of the poster. He was an employee of 10 years good-standing whose KKK sympathies or ties were not known to management until the photocopier incident. Nor were they known to his fellow workers until now.

ADT's actions at that time were limited to a reprimand, Maguire said, because both a lawyer hired by the firm and the hate crimes unit of the Vancouver police department advised ADT that Taylor would have had solid grounds for a wrongful dismissal suit had he been fired at that time.

"The material," said Maguire, "was not considered illegal.

"It's impossible to screen people [before they're hired] for their beliefs."

In that sense, Maguire seemed to acknowledge that Taylor's use of the company postage metre gave ADT a legitimate basis for letting him go.

According to Maguire, on Aug. 6, Taylor, having fielded a call from the media about the discovered letter, which included the phrase, "We'll be back with a vengeance," approached him to inform him that he had "mixed up business and personal mail," including its KKK content.

"I told him not to go far from his desk," Maguire said.

Within the hour, a reporter also called Maguire, and he immediately summoned Taylor, who was identified as the "Grand Dragon" of the KKK's B.C. chapter, to his office and suspended him without pay.

The next day he was fired.

The company's quick actions evoked praise from human rights groups and the Vancouver region of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

In an August 12 statement and in a personal letter to Maguire, CJC president Goldie Hershon and Pacific region community relations chair Zena Zimces commended ADT and said:

"No employer should tolerate the presence of someone who is part of such a notorious hate group, particularly a firm dealing with security."

In an Aug. 13 article in the *Vancouver Province*, Taylor, 45, is quoted as saying that he now intended to sever his KKK ties of four years and to "burn his robes." He also said ADT was "totally justified" in firing him.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Due to the Labour Day weekend, there will be an early deadline for the Sept. 4th issue. Deadline will be Tuesday, August 26th by 4:00 p.m.

For rates or to place an ad, call: Lisa at (416) 391-1836

***The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

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Syria ready for peace, says Israeli Arab MKs

By LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A delegation of Israeli Arabs returned from its week-long visit to Syria last Friday and said at Ben-Gurion Airport that Syria is ready for peace, but sees little chance of reaching it under the Netanyahu government.

The 42-member delegation faced strong criticism on its return for the radical pro-Palestinian and anti-Israel statements some members made in Syria.

Labor party MK Sallah Tarif stressed that in his meetings with President Hafez al-Assad and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa it was clear that Syria wanted peace but they did not think they would be able to achieve that goal with Benjamin Netanyahu.

Abdel Wahab Darawshe, leader of Israel's Arab Democratic party, said that "the Syrians let us know they were very frustrated with Netanyahu's government, and are not hopeful that Netanyahu would be flexible enough to be a true negotiating partner."

MK Nawaf Masalha said Sharaa suggested he was interested in renewing talks, and that the Syrian leader told him that "it would be a miracle if Netanyahu were to sign a peace with Syria, but in the last century we have had a few miracles."

A government spokesperson responded that Netanyahu was "ready and willing to sit down and negotiate peace without any prior preconditions."

The delegation was also the first of Israeli representatives, Jewish or Arab, to hold high-level meetings with Syrian leaders.

Darawshe told reporters the criticism against him in Israel was unjustified. His call at a refugee camp for the full return of Palestinians to Jerusalem provoked angry condemnations from right- and left-wing Knesset members last week.

"It was a mission of goodwill with a message of peace and that's what we delivered," Darawshe said. "We were all very happy with the visit."

Police complaints have been filed against some delegates and there have also been called to lift some of their parliamentary immunity.

Tarif said he had been told by unofficial sources in Syria that three Israeli soldiers missing since the 1982 Sultan Yakub battle in Lebanon were buried in the Jewish cemetery in Damascus.

Yona Baumel, whose son Zacharia is one of those missing, said that the International Red Cross had disproved that information several years ago after examining the graves.

One grave turned out to contain the body of a fourth soldier, Zohar Lipshitz, who was killed in Lebanon. These remains were returned to Israel two years later and reburied in Holon.

Baumel said "the other bodies were those of Arabs. That means that my son is still considered missing."

Masalha said he also met with Syrian Maj.-Gen. Salah Abd Hai, who told him that as a PLO commander during the Lebanon war, he was involved in the capture of several Israeli servicemen still considered missing by Israel.

Masalha said Abd Hai told him some of the servicemen were buried in the Damascus Jewish cemetery. Abd Hai would not say if any of the others were alive or where they were, he said.

Murder case brings brief halt to rhetoric

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A murder case involving a Jerusalem taxi driver brought only a brief pause to the hostile Israeli-Palestinian rhetoric.

Israeli officials last week praised the cooperation of the Palestinian Authority that led to the swift capture of three Palestinians who admitted killing taxi driver Shmuel Ben Baruch.

But the officials stressed that the capture did not meet Israel's demand that the authority clamp down on terrorist infrastructures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israeli sources said that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dispatched a close adviser, attorney Yitzhak Molcho, to the Gaza Strip to thank Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat for his quick response in apprehending the three Palestinians.

But Netanyahu spokesperson David Bar-Illan said the arrests were "not the same as destroying the infrastructure of the terrorist organizations."

Israel called for the Palestinian crackdown on terrorism after the July 30 twin suicide bombing in Jerusalem that killed 14 Israelis.

In an effort to pressure Arafat to take steps against Islamic militants, Israel imposed a full closure on the territories and withheld the transfer of millions of dollars from tax and customs revenues it owes the Palestinian Authority.

Netanyahu also announced that negotiations with the Palestinians would not resume until Arafat demonstrated that he was prepared to fight terrorism.

Palestinian officials countered that they were considering a boycott of all Israeli goods to retaliate against the sanctions.

Arafat said that the Palestinian Authority would not accept "dictates" from Israel and would not carry out mass arrests of Islamic militants.

During his latest shuttle mission to the region last week, U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross succeeded in convincing Israeli and Palestinian security officials, along with CIA officials, to resume meetings aimed at re-establishing security cooperation.

After a three-way meeting was held in the West Bank town of Ramallah, an Israeli official reportedly voiced the hope that his Palestinian counterparts would provide information on the explosives used in the July 30 attack.

In a related development, the head of Israel's Shin Bet domestic security service, Ami Ayalon, was reportedly in London to probe claims that the attack had been carried out by Arab militants based in Britain.

Arafat cited the arrest by his forces of the three Palestinians who confessed to murdering Ben Baruch, as proof that the Palestinian Authority was working with Israeli security forces.

A Palestinian military court sentenced the three Palestinians hours after the 45-year-old taxi driver's bloodied body was found in a well in the Jericho area.

The court sentenced two of the men, aged 19 and 20, to life in prison with hard labor for premeditated murder. The third, aged 17, received 15 years in prison for complicity in the crime.

The three said they had only intended to steal the car, but killed Ben Baruch when he tried to run away.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Israeli budget cuts approved

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The Israeli cabinet has approved a 1998 budget of some $46 billion that includes more than $650 million in spending cuts.

The Treasury had argued that the cuts were necessary for the government to meet a deficit target rate of 2.4 percent of the gross domestic product.

Finance Ministry officials previously announced that lower than expected tax revenues had forced the government to look for other ways to meet the deficit target rate.

The government also endorsed an inflationary target rate for next year of seven to 10 percent – slightly higher than the rate preferred by Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel.

The budget decision provided only a broad outline for next year. Specific elements, including where the cuts will come from, have yet to be worked out.

The budget also includes plans to privatize state-run companies. In response, Israel's Histadrut trade federation authorized members to go on strike Sept. 2.

But a Histadrut official said contacts with the government could prevent a strike.

The budget proposal, put forward by Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman, was approved at a cabinet meeting Aug. 13 by a vote of 9-3.

Ministers Zevulun Hammer and Yitzhak Levy of the National Religious Party, and Eliyahu Yishai of Shas voted against the proposal.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai did not vote. He walked out of the meeting to protest the denial of his request for an increase of some $100 million to the military budget. He had sought the increase for new weapons and ammunition supplies.

Foreign Minister David Levy also left the meeting.

Earlier this year, the cabinet cut some $226 million from the current year's budget in order to meet a deficit target rate of 2.8 percent.

At its meeting, the cabinet also endorsed reforms proposed by the finance minister, including opening the fuel and electricity markets to competition.

Histadrut declares labor dispute

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Histadrut declared a labor dispute on Sunday and threatened a general strike to protest a cabinet plan approved last week for further privatization and capital market and foreign currency reforms.

The government was given a deadline of Sept. 2 to open talks on these issues or face a nationwide walkout.

Labor officials also accused the government of failing to legislate pension rights and of trying to undermine collective agreements.

The crisis between the Histadrut and the government deepened after an apparently tense meeting Sunday night between Finance Minister Ya'akov Ne'eman and Histadrut chair Amir Peretz.

Peretz accused Ne'eman of "breaking every rule in the game" and of trying to trample on workers' rights."

Ne'eman said before the meeting that he doesn't understand why a labor dispute was declared and that Histadrut's fears are groundless.

Mazel Tov

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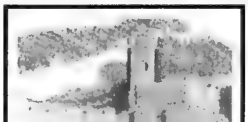

The Week in Israel

Aug. 11

• The Machane Yehudah bombing claimed its 14th victim, Eli Adorian, 49, of Kfar Adumim. Twenty-six injured remain in hospital.

Aug. 12

• The IDF released the identity of the soldier killed by Hezbollah attacks in the southern Lebanon security zone last week. He was Staff Sgt. Ronen Cohen, 20 years old.

• Thousands of Palestinian demonstrators marched in the West Bank to condemn Israel and the United States and praise the Palestinian Authority (PA) for refusing to implement a crackdown on militants. The protest was jointly organized by the PA and Hamas.

Aug. 13

• Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu assumed the powers of the Religious Affairs Ministry to comply with a court ruling ordering that a Reform Jewish woman be appointed to the Netanya religious council. Religious Affairs Minister Eli Souissa, ousted from the position after refusing to comply with the ruling, was expected to be asked to return to the post.

• Shas leader Aryeh Deri threatened to withhold support from the Israeli government if the prime minister didn't follow up on a promise to introduce legislation giving the Orthodox sole authority over religious councils and Jewish conversions.

Aug. 14

• Israel lifted the closure on Ramallah and Hebron, leaving Bethlehem as the only autonomous town still under travel restrictions. The closure between the territories and Israel remained in effect.

Aug. 15

• *Yediot Aharonot* reported that Syrian foreign minister Farouk A-Shara delivered a message to Netanyahu that Syria was prepared to resume peace negotiations immediately.

• A Gallup Poll published in *Ma'ariv* showed that 42 percent of the public would support Ehud Barak for prime minister, as opposed to 38 percent for Netanyahu.

With files from the JTA.

Ross achieves little in mediation effort

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Dennis Ross, the U.S. special envoy to the Middle East, left Israel last week after four days of intensive talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders and officials. But he went back to Washington with few tangible results, leaving the Oslo peace process hanging by a thread at a moment when Israel's tense relationship with the Palestine Authority (PA) has reached a nadir.

The ostensible purpose of the trip, his third in eight months, was to coax the PA into re-establishing security co-operation with Israel as a way of addressing broader political issues. The PA broke off these relations in March, following Israel's decision to build a massive housing project in Har Choma in the eastern sector of Jerusalem, claimed by both sides but subject to final status negotiations which have yet to begin.

The security question, one of the pillars of the Oslo process, assumed a far greater urgency after Hamas suicide bombers killed 17 Israelis in two separate terrorist incidents, the first in March in Tel Aviv and the second three weeks ago in Jerusalem.

As a result of the second bombing, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who was elected with the promise of bringing Israel "peace with security," suspended bilateral talks with the PA, sealed off the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and withheld tax revenues owed to the Palestinians. Netanyahu declared that Israel would not return to the negotiating table, nor ease the punitive measures, until the PA arrested a list of terrorist ringleaders, disarmed Islamic militants and smashed the terrorist infrastructure in the Palestinian autonomous territories.

Against the backdrop of this daunting situation, Ross tried (but essentially failed) to convince PA president Yasser Arafat to meet Israel's demands. Neither did he, nor King Hussein of Jordan, manage to persuade Netanyahu to lift the siege or the harsh economic sanctions. On Aug. 18, however, Israel eased the restrictions.

In accordance with their tough new policy, the Palestinians continue to insist that security co-operation must be inextricably linked with political coordination. Israel, they say, should freeze the Har Choma project and stop expanding settlements in the territories. Israel's position is that political matters such as these cannot be discussed until there is *full* security co-operation.

Incapable of breaking this fundamental deadlock, Ross was able to point to only one modest, face-saving achievement: the formation of a tripartite panel, consisting of top Israeli, Palestinian and American intelligence officials, whose mandate is to review and monitor security co-operation between Israel and the Palestinians. On Aug. 17, they held their first meeting.

In Israel's view, this is a step in the right direction, but hardly a universal solution. Given the PA's reluctance to make mass arrests or to confront Islamic fundamentalists in the absence of Israeli political concessions, Israel still awaits drastic, concrete steps from Arafat, who has threatened to boycott Israeli goods.

The PA, though, is working together with the Shin Bet in an effort to establish the identity of the two Jerusalem bombers, who, Arafat claims, came from abroad.

With Ross having returned home, the focus is now on U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who is expected to make her maiden voyage to the Middle East next month. Albright has neglected the region, and in the interval, the "core bargain" of Oslo — security for Israel and self-determination for the Palestinians — has broken down, according to the outgoing U.S. ambassador to Israel, Martin Indyk.

Albright believes that the current peace process is gravely imperiled by Palestinian terrorism, which destroys trust and violates the Oslo accords, and Israeli unilateral acts, which predetermine the outcome of negotiations. In a recent speech, she called for a fresh start, declaring that "the interim (1993) agreement needs to be married to an accelerated approach to permanent status."

It is a noble goal, but is it achievable in this climate of increasing mutual acrimony? Skeptics don't think so.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Conversion panel hoping to break deadlock

By MICHELE CHABIN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A committee charged with finding a way to resolve a crisis over conversions in Israel will make another bid to break its deadlock.

The committee failed to come up with a recommended solution by last week's deadline.

But instead of disbanding, the committee members were planning to convene again this week to discuss whether to extend the deadline.

Both Orthodox and non-Orthodox committee members stressed in interviews that the negotiations are not dead.

"The fact that we are continuing to meet means there's hope," said Rabbi Nahum Rabinovitz.

One of the other Orthodox members, Rabbi Simcha Meron, tendered his resignation last week, according to the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*.

Although Meron has not officially retracted his resignation, he does plan to attend this week's meeting, sources close to the committee said.

The committee, headed by Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman, was created by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to forge a path acceptable to the three major Jewish streams to avert the passage of controversial pending legislation.

That legislation would codify the Orthodox monopoly over conversions performed in Israel.

The committee, which includes one Conservative, one Reform and five Orthodox representatives, had been meeting daily since June 30 in an effort to submit its recommendations by the deadline.

It was expected that the governing coalition would act on the recommendations by Sept. 5.

Although discussions on the question of how to register non-Orthodox converts in Israel were reportedly going well in recent weeks, the negotiations began to break down last week, according to the sources.

Bobby Brown, the prime minister's adviser on Diaspora affairs, indicated that the committee's negotiations began to break down after the High Court of Justice ordered the appointment of a Reform woman to the Netanya religious council.

That decision prompted protests from Israel's Orthodox establishment.

Religious tensions were further exacerbated by an incident last week at the Western Wall during Tisha b'Av, when police forcibly removed a group of Conservative men and women who were praying together at the edge of the plaza.

Haredi men, who find such egalitarian prayer groups offensive, tried to drown out the prayers of the 200 Conservative worshippers before the police intervened.

Despite the religious tension in the country, some committee members remained hopeful that a recommended solution could still be developed for the government to consider.

"Within the committee there is a great deal of goodwill," said Rabbi Rabinovitz. "This is a very complex matter. The committee is trying to solve a problem that has been building up for many years."

Said Rabbi Reuven Hammer, the Conservative representative, "There's a general feeling in the committee of wanting to extend [the negotiations], but the exact details have yet to be worked out."

The agreement to establish the committee came after more than two months of talks between coalition representatives and Reform and Conservative leaders, including last-minute marathon talks that involved Netanyahu himself.

As part of the compromise, the coalition agreed to suspend legislative work on the bill codifying the Orthodox conversion monopoly, and the Reform and Conservative movements agreed to suspend litigation pending before Israel's High Court of Justice.

Israel-PA talk security

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The PA maintains that the Machane Yehuda bombers came from abroad and that there was no security lapse by the PA that was not also an Israeli lapse.

Government sources said Arafat and Molho also discussed the sanctions Israel imposed on Palestinians after the bombing.

Arafat rejected Israeli allegations that his planned "national unity" talks with militant groups amount to "appeasement of terrorism.

The *Sunday Telegraph* report claimed Ayalon had flown to London to meet with MI5 and other security officials investigating the activities of Palestinian militants in London, an alleged international centre for Islamic extremists. It also said the two suicide bombers had entered Israel using British passports.

"It makes absolutely no difference whether they arrived with British or other foreign passports," said David Bar-Illan, Netanyahu's communications adviser.

He contended that the most essential points are that "the terrorists' information comes from here, the explosives were obtained here, and their physical support was provided here."

Describing the growth of pro-Hamas organizations in the United States as "scary," Bar-Illan contended that the bulk of Hamas's funding comes from the United States.

He said that Hamas has "strong connections" with various groups in different countries. Israel, he said, was seeking information from foreign governments about Hamas activities.

Security forces are still trying to determine the identity of the two suicide bombers who simultaneously detonated explosives in the Jerusalem market, killing 14 persons and themselves, and injuring more than 150.

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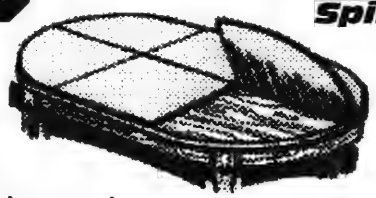

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Challah program aids cancer patients' treatment

By MARILYN SILVERSTEIN
The Jewish Exponent

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — Walking down the halls of the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital with Leon Kartzmer on a Friday morning means navigating a sea of hugs.

Every few steps, Kartzmer, a retired accountant from Newtown, Pa., sets down his shopping bags and first this nurse, then that aide floats into the orbit of his arms.

The 67-year-old Kartzmer then picks up his bags and resumes his walk to 2 Core, the medical oncology unit at the hospital.

Each bag is brimming with more than 15 loaves of kosher challah for the coming Shabbat. But in Kartzmer's hands, the challahs are more than just bread. They are braided loaves of blessing — gifts for the cancer patients of Dr. Michael Nissenblatt, a medical oncologist.

"It really brings a smile to their faces, which is what we hope for," Kartzmer says.

For the past three years, Nissenblatt has been the man at the heart of the Challah Fund project, handing out challahs to his cancer patients, Jew and non-Jew alike, as a sign of life and hope.

Kartzmer has brought his hands and heart to the project since February 1995, when he lost his wife, Leila, to colon cancer. She was Nissenblatt's patient.

"In the Bible, there's manna from heaven," Nissenblatt says as he joins Kartzmer on 2 Core this Friday morning. "Bread is the modern representation of that biblical event.

"When a person is sick, the giving of bread, to me, is a sign of my expectation of ongoing life," says the physician, co-director of medical oncology on 2 Core.

"If I'm actually giving sustenance to a person — literal sustenance — I'm also giving literal life," he explains. "It's such a basic concept. If you get bread, that must be a symbol, a sign — 'They must expect me to live.'"

Nissenblatt and Kartzmer enter a room on 2 Core to deliver challas to two patients with lymphoma — Joseph Levit of East Brunswick, N.J., and Sheldon Kaplan of Parlin, N.J.

Receiving the challah is a reminder of things Jewish, says Levit, a native of Buenos Aires who describes himself as "not a very observant Jew."

Nissenblatt tells Kaplan that he is responding very well to his first chemotherapy treatment. "We're going to give you some bread as a way of magnifying your response."

This is the first time Kaplan has received a challah in the hospital, Nissenblatt notes.

"Frankly," Nissenblatt says with a smile, "I hope it's your last at Robert Wood Johnson and the first of many you will have at home on Shabbat."

As he takes the challah into his hands, Kaplan says the gift fills him with warm feelings.

"It makes me feel that I'm not alone — that there are other people out there who really do care for me," says Kaplan, a Grade 4 teacher.

The inspiration for the Challah Fund came from one of Nissenblatt's patients, an Orthodox Jew named George Kossof, who created a matzah fund for Jews who could not afford Passover food.

"That just settled in my mind," the physician says. "Then, in 1994, I was making visits in the hospital and there was a Jewish woman who had multiple myeloma. She was very depressed. She wasn't sure whether to make a gallant effort to stay alive or just to acquiesce to the cancer."

That week, erev Shabbat, he decided to buy an extra challah and bring it to the patient, Nissenblatt says.

"She was completely stunned, and a big smile came to her face," he says. "The next day, she was sitting in her chair."

"That one experience made me realize there was some healing power to that gift that transmitted much more than bread," says Nissenblatt.

"It was the symbolism of giving sustenance. It wasn't physical; it was metaphysical."

The experience made him want to harness the healing power of challah for his other patients, he says. Soon, he was distributing 30 to 40 loaves each week. To date, Nissenblatt estimates, he has given the healing gift of challah about 4,000 times.

"It's a lot of challahs," he says delightedly. "This has brought me great solace. Fridays became my happiest days."

Each of his patients has an uphill battle, says Nissenblatt, as he and Kartzmer share some bagels and coffee in the physicians' lounge. The challahs offer them some fuel as they negotiate that journey.

"It's a way of taking their minds and thoughts off the immediacy of their illness," he says, "[a way] to adapt whatever intrinsic ability they have to their advantage.

"That's my job as an oncologist: to take whatever positive things a person has and turn it to his advantage."

For Kartzmer, the Challah Fund became a way to fill the emptiness after his wife died.

"I was focused 100 percent on Leila," he explains. "Now, I've extended that focus, and it's done me a world of good."

For the past two years, Kartzmer has been "the bread man" at Robert Wood Johnson.

Each Friday morning, at 6:30, Kartzmer leaves his home in Newtown for the long drive to the strictly kosher Berkeley Bakery in Highland Park, N.J., where he picks up his challahs.

"When I first started doing it, I would just go home and cry — for myself, for them, for everything," he says. "It's part of the grieving and the healing process, being able to give to somebody else."

In addition to helping him heal, the challah project has opened up a whole new world to him, Kartzmer adds. "I've been able to reach out, where I wasn't able to before," he says. "Now, it's part of my life. I wouldn't change it for anything."

Licorice plant root used to help fight cholesterol

TORONTO — Scientsts at the Technion in Israel have discovered that the root of the licorice plant (anise) contains an ingredient that prevents cholesterol build-up in the arteries. When taken in the form of tablets, this ingredient yields results and a slowing of cholesterol build-up in the arteries.

The Technion team, headed by Prof. Michael Aviram of the Technion's Faculty of Medicine and Rambam Hospital, succeeded in extracting from the licorice a chemical ingredient called glabridin, a type of polyphenol molecule that delays the oxidation of "bad cholesterol."

Technion team

A high level of cholesterol in the blood is the main risk factor in accelerating the development of arteriosclerosis. Most of the cholesterol in the blood is carried by the "bad cholesterol," which is made up of a component called LDL, which settles on the artery walls. Oxidized LDL is the main factor in accelerating cholesterol build-up in the arteries.

Ingredients which can delay oxidation may be able to prevent cholesterol build-up on artery walls.The licorice, whose mechanism slows oxidation, is connected with the active ingredient's ability to trap within it free radicals, which are the main factor in the cholesterol oxidation process.

In the course of this research, 20 Technion medical students took licorice extract tablets in daily doses of 100 milligrams. After two weeks, blood tests revealed that the "bad cholesterol" had become oxygen resistant, in comparison to its state at the beginning of the experiment.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Canada-Israel trade soars in wake of pact

By JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Almost eight months into the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement, reports released from the Israel Economic Mission here reflect increasing trade between the two countries.

Two-way trade between Israel and Canada grew by 38 percent during the first four months of 1997 over the same period last year. Canadian exports to Israel rose by over 50 percent and Israeli exports to Canada rose by 40 percent during the first six months of the agreement, the Economic Mission report said.

According to the report, these figures may be understating the trade growth as many Canada-bound Israeli exports are shipped via U.S.-based warehouses and distributors and not counted in the overall trading figures. This could represent a further 30 percent increase in the values listed above.

Active players in Israeli-Canada trading are still working to identify the ways in which free trade affects their business. Some are already taking advantage of the elimination of duties.

One of the immediate beneficiaries is Loblaws, Canada's largest food chain. Prior to Jan.1, 1997, Loblaws was facing duties of up to 50 percent. This placed Canadian companies at a disadvantage as American goods could enter Israel duty free. Currently 100 President's Choice products are being shipped duty free to the 18 Greenberg grocery stores in Israel. It is expected Israelis will have access to some 1,000 President's Choice products by 1998-99.

Free trade may have "politically" helped Canadian Highways International Corporation's (CHIC) bid on Cross-Israel Highway. Although CHIC was involved in the bid prior to the agreement, president John Beck said the agreement has helped "warm-up" the business relationship between Israel and Canada.

Where the agreement could help CHIC, is in shipping its unique electronic tolling system technology, a similar system to what is being used on Ontario's new Highway 407. "One of the benefits of any free trade agreement is to make people more aware of international opportunities," said Mitch Patten, vice-president of Communications and Public Affairs at CHIC.

Revelle Home Fashions Inc., an importer of textiles and linens, has been doing business in Israel for a

[Cont'd on page 36]

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

YIDDISH REVUE COMING TO LEAH POSLUNS

Yiddish Is Yiddish: This show, presented by the Toronto Jewish Theatre, features Israeli comic **Yankele Bodo**, Israeli singer **Jenny Feyerman** and the **Ted Labow Trio** for an evening of Jewish humor and song at the Leah Posluns Theatre. Three performances only.

Yiddish is Bodo's *mameloshen* (mother tongue) and when he appears on stage with his small figure, funny face and sparkling eyes, everyone knows it's time to laugh, to enjoy a joke and the beauty of Yiddish.

Tickets are $25 for evening performances on Sept. 6 and 7 at 8:15 p.m., $22 for the 2:15 matinee on Sept. 7. For tickets, phone 416-222-0234 or visit the Negev Book Store or Matana Judaica.

Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St., North York.

* * *

Ashkenaz Approaches: Ashkenaz, for those who don't know, is "a week-long explosion of sound and motion, a kaleidoscopic carnival of music, dance, film, theatre, song and visual art." This year it runs at Harbourfront Aug. 25 to Sept. 1.

The first Ashkenaz festival two years ago attracted roughly 30,000 people over six days. This time, there's no telling how many people will turn up to celebrate a culture reborn. The fest brings to Toronto some of the best klezmer and Yiddish performers on the planet, including the **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band**, **Adrienne Cooper & Zalmen Mlotek**, **Davka**, **Theresa Tova** and the indisputable zaydes of klezmer, the **Epstein Brothers**.

Most events are free, but tickets are required for some special performances. For information phone 416-973-3000.

The Ashkenaz Parade is scheduled for Aug. 31. To join this joyful procession of swirling color from Kensington Market to Harbourfront Centre, meet at 12 noon, Aug. 31, at Bellevue Square Park in Kensington Market.

* * *

Media Watch: Look to *Lilith*, the Jewish feminist magazine, to explain why Adam dumped his first helpmate in favor of the more familiar companion we know as Eve. "Lilith was Adam's first companion, predecessor to Eve," the 21-year-old mag recounts in its summer issue. "She was Adam's equal in every way, so goes the legend, until Adam declared that he should be the boss.

"Lilith replied that 'we're equal; we were created from the same dust' – and when Adam continued to declare himself her superior, Lilith fled from the Garden of Eden. Adam then asked for a more tractable woman and got Eve – born from his rib and younger than he."

The mag has just published *Meet the Matriarchs*, a compilation of articles about Lilith, Eve and other biblical women. It's available for $12 (US) from Lilith, 250 West 57 St., New York, N.Y., 10107. The mag is also offering free sample copies of the current issue. Phone, 212-757-0818. Subscriptions are $18 a year from the same number.

* * *

Theatre Notes:

• Life Jacket Theatre, an independent student-formed production company, presents *Short Lives*, three original one-act plays, at the Fairview Library Theatre, 35 Fairview Mall Dr., North York. 416-225-5193.

• *Dr. Faustus*, by **Christopher Marlowe**, adapted and directed by **Steven Rumbelow**, previews Sept. 17 and runs Sept. 18 to Oct. 5 at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander St., Toronto. Tickets $16 to $20 (preview $10, Tuesdays pay what you can). 416-975-8555.

• Friendly Spike Theatre Band presents *I Will Not Fail*, a mixed media musical play about wife assault and family violence. Featuring **Marlene Charney.** Previews Sept. 19 to 23, runs Sept. 25 to Oct. 5. The Theatre Centre, 1032 Queen St. W., Toronto. 416-516-4740.

Literature and Arts

Canada is rich in Jewish writers, many of whom continue Jewish literary legacies and explore Jewish traditions in their writings. Ashkenaz is presenting a 5-and-10 (finf-un-tsen) minute cabaret program includes these award-winning writers appearing at the Urban Square Tent at Harbourfront Centre, Toronto.

On Aug. 31 at 3 p.m., Ronna Bloom, Adeena Karasick, Norman Ravvin, Libby Scheier, Jason Sherman, Rhea Tregebov and Eddy Yanofsky.

On Sept.1 at 2:30 p.m., Matt Cohen, Ruth Mandel, Janis Rapoport, Veronica Ross, Emil Sher, Simcha Simchovitch.

And just recently announced, one of the last great Yiddish writers, Holocaust survivor and award-winning author of *Der boym fun lebn (The Tree of Life)*, Montreal-based Chava Rosenfarb will read in Yiddish and English, Aug. 31 at 7 p.m.

Dancing With The Leviathan: The largest exhibition-of-its-kind ever mounted in Toronto, this show features 38 visual artists whose work deals with the issue of cultural identity.

Running from now until Sept. 7 at the Lonsdale Gallery, 333 Lonsdale Rd., this exhibiton features the works of 21 artists including Isaac Applebaum, Yael Brotman, Sybil Goldstein, Nadine Norman and Harvey Yalonetsky.

The York Quay Gallery opens Aug. 28 and runs to Oct. 13. It features nine artists including Sharon Epstein, Simon Glass, Diane Pugen and Gail Schwartz.

The Community Gallery features a solo show by Mayer Kirshenblatt and the Premiere Dance Theatre has an installation by Candida Girling, both Aug.25- Sept.1

There are also four commissioned site-specific installations on the Harbourfront Centre grounds running Aug. 25-Sept.1.

On Aug. 27 at 7 p.m. at the Brigantine Room, artists Devora Neumark, Howard Podeswa, Cyril Reade and Yvonne Singer participate in a panel on The Artist as Jew, The Jew as artist. Moderator Sylvia Ptak.

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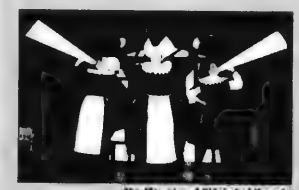

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- **Ashkenaz Dance Trilogy: *Zummel, Bella, Discipledom***
  Zummel: North American Premiere: Aug. 31 & Sept. 1, $18 & 25
- **Ashkenaz Fidl Kapelye**
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www.harbourfront.on.ca www.ashkenaz.org

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

TOLEDO: THE JERUSALEM OF SPAIN

It is an imperial city on a hill, flanked by valleys on three sides. It has a Jewish quarter, old synagogues, and many churches and mosques.

Welcome to Toledo, the Jerusalem of Spain.

Even the name suggests a certain Judaic character. Etymologists speculate that it may have derived from the Hebrew word toledoth, meaning descendants or history.

Nestled in a U-shaped bend of the Tajo River about 70 kilometres southwest of Madrid, Toledo is home to only one known Jewish family today. But in medieval times Jews made up roughly one-third of its estimated population of 40,000 inhabitants.

The centre of the Castillian region of the same name, Toledo bred many Jewish poets and Torah scholars of renown, including Yehudah Halevi, Meir Abulafia and Asher ben Yehiel. Samuel Halevi, an influential merchant, built Toledo's lofty Transito Synagogue. Joseph Caro, author of the Shulhan Arukh, was born here.

According to historian Juan G. Atienza, Toledo's medieval Jewish community was "the most important contingent of Jews in Spain."

In his Guide to Jewish Spain, Atienza discusses Toledo's former significance as a "second Jerusalem" and points out a bizarre and astonishing cartographic phenomenon involving "the similarities of the names of several Toledan towns with other Palestinian towns, whose distances to Jerusalem correspond to the distances of these towns to Toledo."

The Spanish town of Escalona corresponds to Ashkelon, Atienza says, and likewise Mequeda corresponds to Maggido, Yepes to Jaffa, Layos to Lachis, and Noves to Neve.

But one need not look at maps to see the lingering legacy of a community that was expelled more than 500 years ago, after peacefully coexisting for at least 1,000 years. (Jews first reached the vicinity of Toledo in the 4th or 5th century CE but likely first arrived in the Iberian peninsula from Babylon in the time of Nebuchadnézzar.)

This spectacular old city, dominated by the imposing Alcazar fortress and huge 13th-century cathedral, boasts not one but two former Jewish quarters, the smaller of which is located within the shadow of the cathedral.

Transito synagogue in Toledo [Bill Gladstone photo]

The Little Jewish Quarter was a Jewish business area; an adjacent street is still known as Calle de la Sinagoga. Perhaps not surprisingly, the remains of a synagogue were discovered three years ago in the courtyard of Corral de Don Diego, a local commercial garage.

Toledo's main Jewish quarter, whose handsome stone buildings and narrow laneways slope down to the river, boasts two of the most spectacular synagogues in all of Spain.

Evidently, just as Jews converted and became Conversos in order to survive, there was also Converso architecture. Completed in 1357, the Transito Synagogue (Sinagoga del Transito) survived the Inquisition by becoming a Catholic hospital and later a church. The name of Toledo's second synagogue, Santa Maria La Blanca, evokes a similar tale.

A grand edifice that draws busloads of visitors, Transito still boasts two lengthy Hebrew inscriptions, wrapped around the high walls of its main sanctuary. The adjoining Museo Sefardi (Sephardic Museum) provides many displays and artifacts of Spain's long Jewish history. (The explanations are in Spanish only but the gift shop offers guidebooks and other materials in English.)

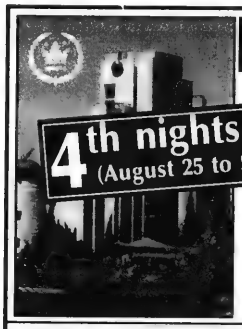
An architectural delight, the mosque-like Sinagoga de Santa Maria La Blanca is a big room with 32 columns featuring moorish-style horseshoe arches.

Bearing many original Moslem symbols, the building has been much transformed with Christian iconography. Its one Jewish symbol, a Star of David, is located high up on a central pillar at the back.

With a bit of luck, you'll encounter many other sites of Jewish interest in Toledo. Near the synagogues, in the basement of the antique shop along Calle de Los Reyes, is a catacomb-like passage that once led to a hidden mikvah or ritual bath. Beside the Transito is El Greco's home, now a museum, formerly the residence of Samuel Halevi.

No plaques mark the Plaza de Zocadover, Toledo's picturesque main square. Centuries ago on this placid spot, thousands of Jews and Christian heretics were burned at the stake in the auto-da-fes that were among the Inquisition's greatest horrors.

Bill Gladstone traveled to Spain as a guest of the Tourist Office of Spain with the assistance of Iberia Airlines.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Canada-Israel trade picks up after deal

[Cont'd from page 34]

few years but director Freddy Faust points out the firm's penetration into the Israeli market was accelerated once Free Trade negotiations started.

He said there has been a 10 to 16 percent drop in the costs they pay on textiles and a 22 percent saving on finished goods. Faust believes in the long run, new employees will be hired, and sales will increase because of the agreement. He sees an opportunity in importing Israeli textiles into his 50-person plant in Canada and then shipping finished goods under North American Free Trade to the United States.

Bernie Klein, chair of Aztech New Media Corp. which publishes and develops value-priced software must continue to study the agreement before all the benefits are understood. "(The agreement) has some benefit for Canadian firms, but not in the immediate," he said.

Even the Israel Economic Mission report uses caution when looking at recent trade figures. While business enquiries to the mission offices here and in Montreal have doubled in recent months, it is still to early to draw firm economic conclusions.

Travel, Arts & Business

An internment camp in New Brunswick for enemy aliens.

Documentaries among Reel Ashkenaz films

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Yiddish cultural festival, Ashkenaz, is hosting a Jewish film festival called Reel Ashkenaz from Aug. 25 to Sept. 1.

The features, documentaries and shorts span the years 1926 to 1997 and are from Canada, France, Germany, Poland, the United States and the former Soviet Union.

The Canadian movies, which will be screened on Aug. 28 at about 8 p.m. at the Studio Theatre, are *Nothing To Be Written* by Wendy Oberlander and *In Living Memory* by Amy Gottlieb.

Nothing To Be Written, mixing historical documentary with personal narrative, traces Oberlander's search for her father's past.

An Austrian Jew who found refuge in England after being exiled from his homeland, Heinz Peter Oberlander was arrested by the British authorities after being branded an "enemy alien."

Britain did not distinguish between Austrian and German Jews and German prisoners of war. As a result, 2,000 Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria were dispatched to labor camps in Canada. Oberlander's father was in one of the camps.

In her engaging 57-minute film, Oberlander's quest to acquaint herself with his experiences as an enemy alien is balanced by his desire to suppress that episode.

Oberlander, a restless and dogged researcher, extracts the story and discovers telling kernels of truth: her father and his fellow deportees were initially housed with German and Italian prisoners of war; the camp commandant in New Brunswick was an anti-Semite; and Frederick Blair, the xenophobic director of Canada's immigration department, actually believed that Britain's policy with respect to the internees was part of a cunning plot to flood Canada with Jews.

Despite Blair's paranoia, the detained Jews were given refugee status in 1941, the year Heinz Peter Oberlander was allowed to pursue university studies in Montreal. Within two years, the rest of the detainees were released. And so, the circle was closed on a bizarre chapter of World War II.

In Living Memory is a daughter's ode to a beloved father, a kindred spirit who taught her to see the world visually and politically.

An old man sits in a park and speaks to a woman. He is a retired silkscreen artist and she is the filmmaker. As they chat, it becomes clear that he, her father, no longer recognizes her, having lost his memory.

Gottlieb accepts his infirmity, but regrets that their relationship has been transformed by it. This 14-minute documentary is never less than poignant.

The other films in Reel Ashkenaz:

• *Benya Krik,* a silent movie from the Soviet Union about Jewish gangsters in Odessa.The script was written by the novelist Isaac Babel.

• *Overture To Glory,* a 1940 American Yiddish film in which the irrepressible Moishe Oysher plays a Lithuanian cantor enticed into leaving his synagogue in Vilna to perform in Warsaw.

• *I Want To Be A Boarder* and *Jolly Paupers,* both from 1937, are Yiddish comedies from the United States and Poland. The first stars Leo Fuchs, the so-called Yiddish Fred Astaire. The second is enlivened by the comic talents of Shimon Dzigan and Yisroel Shumacher.

• *Trembling Before G-D* explores with sensitivity and humor the situation of Jewish gays and lesbians in the Orthodox world.

• *Tomboychik* looks at life, love and sexuality through the prism of an inter-generational conversation.

• *A Tickle In The Heart,* a German-Swiss co-production, showcases the exuberant talents of the Epstein brothers, aging klezmorim from Brooklyn.

• *Ivan And Abraham* recounts the adventures of two boys, a Jew and a Catholic, who flee a Polish village in the 1930s.

• *Wandering Stars* is billed as an animated film for children.

Klezmer bands tuning up.

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Harbourfront Centre becomes one of the best places to hear good klezmer and Yiddish-style music next week when dozens of internationally renowned musicians descend on Toronto to perform at the Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture, Aug. 25 to Sept. 1.

Two years after the festival premiered to much hoopla and international recognition, the second Ashkenaz promises to generate at least as much excitement and danceable music. While this is a full-fledged festival of the Yiddish arts, more than 100 of the 150 artists involved are musicians and at least 60 of the 90 scheduled performances are musical.

David Buchbinder, artistic director of the festival, and leader of the popular **Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band**, waxes enthusiastic about the roster of musical talent set to perform. Most concerts are free.

Hailing from New York, **the Klezmatics** "have been on the scene about 10 or 12 years," he said. "Their music is very strong, very original, and deeply rooted in the Yiddish traditions, with all kinds of other styles mixed in."

Andy Statman, leader of the **Andy Statman Quartet**, "is in some ways the musical heir to Dave Tarris, one of the great klezmer musicians of this century," Buchbinder said. "Andy is probably the single player in the Yiddish revival who most expresses the musical and spiritual depth of Yiddish music" as part of a jazz quartet.

Andy Statman

The festival also features the indisputable kings of old-style klezmer, the **Epstein Brothers**, who are enjoying a heightened popular demand as a result of the recent popular film *A Tickle in the Heart*. "Other klezmer groups are better known, but they've certainly got the biggest buzz right now because of that film."

Festival organizers have assembled a special group, **the Fidl Kapelye**, styled as a 19th-century Yiddish string orchestra, combining professional players of Yiddish music and local young string musicians. According to Buchbinder, "It's an unprecedented opportunity to hear the music played in the pure traditional style on stringed instruments only."

Reached by telephone in St. John, N.B., where the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band was performing in the Festival By The Sea, Buchbinder seemed equally enthused about the various other musical groups performing at Ashkenaz. The pity, he said, was that he couldn't name them all.

"There's so many interesting things going on. There's **Esta**, a powerful quartet from Israel that explores a more Mediterranean and Sephardic sound. There's **Naftule's Dream** from Boston, doing really interesting jazz fusion. There's **John Zorn's Bar Kochba**, performing his *Masada Cycle* compositions with a group of New York improvisers." Buchbinder's own Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band is also scheduled to perform its irresistible klezmer rhythms infused with contemporary sounds.

Detailed Ashkenaz programs are available in many stores along the Bathurst Street corridor, particularly around Eglinton Avenue and in Thornhill. They're also available at the Bloor JCC, the Bathurst Jewish Centre in North York, or from Harbourfront, 416-973-3000.

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$227,500 YK. MILLS/LESLIE TOWNHOME
3 bdrm., move-in! Must sell! L. Richman* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

OLDE THORNHILL - 308 FT. LOT $795K
Build/live in, updated 4 br. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

THORNHILL - 3 BR. - 2 CAR GARAGE - $259K
Main fam. rm., 4 appls. & more! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATKINSON & CENTRE - VALUE AT $203,900
3 br., 4 appls. & central air. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

AURORA GOLF COURSE - REDUCED $399K
4 bed., 4 bath & fin. basement. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

BELLE EWART 5 BDRM. COTTAGE
Great lot, close to all! Rose Simon* 226-1987

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

---

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Thornhill, uniq. 4 bdrm, 4 bth, fin bsmt, $439K. 905-738-9293

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Bath./Lawr,55',spac lrg 3 bdrm bung,bright,upgrades,new deck & kit,fin bsmt.**Private**. 782-1984

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED $70,000 TO SELL NOW!
Estate sale! Spacious ranch bungalow on gorgeous 60 x 117 ft. lot, asking $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN - STORE FOR SALE - REDUCED!
Popular retail strip, good opportunity for user, only $199,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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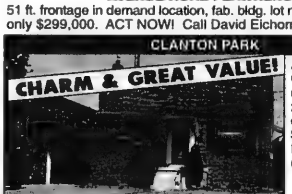
51 ft. frontage in demand location, fab. bldg. lot near Avenue Road, only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

CLANTON PARK



A real charmer! Gorgeous 3 bedroom home on 50 x 155 ft. lot, spacious deck, asking $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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3,700 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. Bright open concept, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, sauna, hot tub, only $449,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — SPACIOUS RANCH BUNGALOW
Huge corner lot in desirable location, 54 x 138 ft., surrounded by luxury homes! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
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BATHURST STEELES
4 bdrm. bung., 3 bths., sep. liv. & din., mod. kit., fin. w/out bsmnt., dble drive, gar.

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OVERBROOK WILMINGTON
Spac. 6 bdrm., 5 bths., up-to-date kit., prof. fin. bsmnt., dble. gar.

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LAWRENCE ALLEN RD.
Tri-plex 2-3 bdrm. +1-1 bdrm., balcs., bths. ensuite, steps to subway.

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BATHURST STEELES CONDO
$159,900, 2 bdrm., 2 bths., lndry. ensuite, 5 appls., balc.

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Thornhill, 2150', det, 4 bdrms, 3 bths, lge lot, fin bsmt, cac, cvac, alarm, 2 car gar, $295K. 905-886-2762.

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Redmount Rd. - Bath./Laurelcrest (Clanton Pk. neigh), a single family, 3 bdrms, 2 full bths, 2 stry well kept home on a lge. lot. Please call (416) 964-0325.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Antibes, Exq., sunny, renov'd kit, 2 full bths, 1200', 3 bdrm + sol, shabbas elev, 5 appls & more upgrades. Asking only $167.9K. 416-661-8869.

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Bath./Carscadden,beaut.1 bdr, Sept/Oct, quiet bldg, secluded grnds. 398-3628 or 636-0137.

Bath./Lawr., 2 bdrm bsmt apt, immed occup, 1 pkg space incl, $900./mo., close to shops & TTC. Day: 787-5663 or Evg: 445-8440.

Beaut. 2 bdrm duplex apt at **Bath. & Glencairn**, avail. Sept. Rent of $1,100., incl. heat, hydro, cac, 2 car pkg in driveway. Call 780-0447 and leave a name and ph#.

Thornhill, new semi-priv bsmt, Bayt,TTC, $450. 905-886-2273

Wilm./Overbrook, 1 bdrm bsmt apt,bright, spac, clean, n/smkr, n/pets,$700.,pkg incl. 633-0312

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath/Steeles, lux condo, use of all facil, $550./mo, female only, n/smkr, reliable,refs. 661-5474.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Muskoka - modern 3 bdrm, scrnd porch, on lkefrnt, safe, sandy beach, Jewish community, 905-731-4466, evgs.

122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE

2 adj. timeshare condos, **Hollywood, Fla.**, Xmas/New Year/Jan. wks.; 1 bdrm, sleeps 4, low rise on beach, pool, boardwalk, free prkng, amen. $9,500 U.S./wk. Tel: 514-487-4120 or fax: 514-487-4055.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

The **SKYMARK** *Specialist*
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NEW LISTING - Prime upgraded S.E. corner, 2 bedroom & family room. Approx. 1,700 sq. ft., 2 parking spots. For our updated inventory, please call Mr. Santee Leung, F.R.I.
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441-2003
(24 hrs.)

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About 2,600 sq. ft., executive 3 bdrm. condo, marble, hardwood, 3 car parking, 2 balconies, appliances +++. EXQUISITE! $389,900.
Ted Waxman, sales rep.
(905) 764-7200
Alan Newton Real Estate Ltd.

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Bright, corner, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, balcony. $224,900.
ED GELERNTER
Re/Max Venture
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125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

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LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT

Senate 2/2	$52,000
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Consulate 2/2	$185,000
Envoy 3/3	$310,000

Call for further details
Charlotte Sharkey Real Estate
561-640-4199

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boca Raton, Century Village, 2 bdrm,2 bth,furn,secur.225-9555

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Century, West Palm, req. 1 bdrm, lower, for 3 mos., from Jan. 416-782-7400.

Clean & reas. furn, 1 & 1 1/2 condo, with cac, in **Century Village, West Palm Beach,** from Dec. 1 - April 1. 416-224-5970.

180 OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

Ottawa, Nepean, exec. 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bths, fin bsmt, swimming pl., 2 blks from syn., walking dist. to schools, $245K. Call 613-726-1341 (evgs.)

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

Lot for sale, Lake McCay, nr. Bracebridge, suit. for bldg, no Sat. calls. 785-5695.

Want a holiday, but are tired of all the commercialism? Need a place of beauty & serenity? Amelia Island still has that "Old Florida" feeling! Exclusive oceanside villa being offered to Cdn. snowbirds at a reduced rate.(Toll free) 101-6321-1-905-665-7988.

LAKE SIMCOE paradise south of Barrie. 2,800 sq. ft. upgraded luxury. 3+2 bdrms., 2 fireplaces, boathouse, guest cabin, heated pool, 3/4 acre, private. $699,000.
Pattie Harper, Sales Rep.
PRUDENTIAL ANDREWS REALTY GROUP
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230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Business Wanted. Indiv. with over 15 yrs. mgmt exper. & successful family bus. seeking estab. small to med. size bus with intention of future ownership. Strict confidentiality. Evgs. 905-524-2585.

247 DAY CARE

Babysitting avail. full or part time, from 3 mos. & up, beginning Sept., refs. avail. Shomer Shabbas. Call 905-881-5433.

Day Care - I Care, Thornhill, more for your child, more for your money. Personal care. Loving, safe & educational environment in home pre-school. In operation since 1988 with ECE teacher, over 15 yrs. exp., limited space, full or part time. Refs., receipts. 905-764-6936.

Day Care avail in my home, kosher facil, ages 1+, for more info please call 416-225-5101.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Attendant care, fully exper with Sr's,avail anytime,refs423-0371

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
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Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
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Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs.416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Cleaning lady avail for homes/apts,refs/exp. 636-3369.

Exper. cleaning lady, Ukranian, Russian, Polish & English speaking, refs. 744-0659.

Exper. live-in/out, nanny's, hskprs.,HCA's avail, refs. **Piece of Mind Personnel. 291-7554**

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Loving & energetic. A babysitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency, 222-4912.**

Russian cleaning lady with exper. seeks job. Call 663-3725 or 762-6094.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Housekeeper req'd, 3 afts./wk, Ave Rd./Wilson area, small house, one 8 yr. old boy, simple cooking, driver lic. req'd. Call Robin at 638-5794 (eve.).

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Certif. HCA will work in home/inst. **Priv. Care.** 905-477-6019.

RN's, RPN's, seek job in priv. homes, to offer quality nursing care, foot care & palliative care. Affordable Rates. Call 391-0582

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

1 match can light a fire! At least 1engagement/mo.Bringing People Together 905-731-5204

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1410** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee.** 483-4151

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fred & Sheila Levitt are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Johanna** to **Ricky,** son of **Ruth** and the late **Sandy Brooks.** Proud grandmother is Minnie Tishler.

Koffman-Galansky. Norman and Donna are very pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Dr. Allyson Koffman** to **Mr. Gavin Galansky,** son of **Ivan Galansky** & **Janine Downing,** of Capetown, S.A. Delighted brothers are Jess Koffman and Graeme Galansky. Proud grandparents are Dave and Dayna Kowall and Gus and Gywneth Wisenberg. Wedding plans are Sept. '98. **Mazel Tov!**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Attr, tall, athletic, prof. male, 38, seeks female for serious relationship. 633-3863.

DF, mid 60's, attr, fin. indep, would like to meet someone special for a meaningful relationship. CJN Box 6958.

DJM, 56, tall, fit, sincere, would like to meet a lady for meaningful relationship. CJN Box 6949.

Female, 37, brown eyes, kind, warm, loving, seeks marriage-minded male,n/smoker,between 38-42. CJN Box 6959.

Indep. widow, early 60's, wishes to meet intelligent, gentle man, with interests in culture, travel, etc. CJN Box 6953.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:
Box #_____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

SJM, attr., late 40's, prof., enjoys tennis, would like to meet a prof. SJF, 35-45, intell., attr., n/smkr., **believes in Jewish values,** enjoys life & is serious about a relationship. Photo if poss. CJN Box 6957.

Supportive gentleman in his 60's, who thinks he is in his 50's, would be pleased to meet a unique lady in her 50's, who thinks that she is still in her 40's. A close, warm, loving relationship is desired. CJN Box 6960.

Energy-age- important to you? I-tall, attr, prof. 50's woman, have both. You have a sense of humour,trim,youthful,fit, emot. & fin. secure,inter. in healthful lifestyle,enjoy music, travel, arts; We may hit if off! CJN Box 6956

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Grosman family wishes to thank all family & friends for their kind expressions of sympathy.

330 OBITUARIES

ADLER, Belle - on Aug. 1, 1997, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
COHEN, Arthur - on Aug. 2, 1997, late of 342 Spadina Rd., #302.
ROSENBERG, Harold - on Aug. 3, 1997, late of 92 Old Forest Hill Rd.
ERLICK, Erving - on Aug. 4, 1997, late of 28 Moodie Dr.
GROSMAN, Nathan - on Aug. 5, 1997, late of 46 Barksdale Ave.
LEWIS, Harry - on Aug. 5, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
FRIEDMAN, Josef - on Aug. 6, 1997, late of 110 Promenade Circle, #1403.
PALMER, Morris - on Aug. 7, 1997, late of 10 Shallmar Blvd., Ph. #5.
ROSENZWEIG, Irwin - on Aug. 7, 1997, late of 120 Promenade Circle, #1001.
STILLMAN, Betty - on Aug. 7, 1997, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

FRIEDMAN, Martin - on Aug. 4, 1997.
GOLD (Goldman), Sam - on Aug. 5, 1997, late of 50 Ruddington Dr.
OSTROVSKI, Michael - on Aug.7, 1997, late of 4300 Bathurst St.
BENATAR, Elias - on Aug. 8, 1997, late of 25 Cedarcroft Blvd.
GRANKOWICZ, Sala - on Aug. 9, 1997, late of 2 Fraserwood Ave.
KERTSMAN, Faina - on Aug.9, 1997, late of 4300 Bathurst St.
CARSON, Murray - on Aug. 10, 1997, late of 159 Combe Ave.
COHEN, Simone - on Aug. 10, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
ISACOFF, Gordon Jerry - on Aug. 10, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

DUE TO THE LABOUR DAY WEEKEND, THERE WILL BE AN EARLY DEADLINE FOR THE SEPT. 4TH ISSUE. DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING WILL BE TUES, AUG. 26TH BY 4:00 P.M.

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

330 OBITUARIES

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!

Donation cards for all occasions

Phone: (416) 487-5246

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

MOE KUCHINSKY ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 31st, 1997 at 10:30 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

MIRIAM RESNICK ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 24th at 10:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst S. of Steeles
Adath Sholom Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

FRANK GULA ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 24th, 11:00 a.m.

Dawes Road
Linzter Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

ADAM SILVERBERG ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 24th, 11:15 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ostrovster Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

HELEN KARTOWSKA ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 24th, 1:30 p.m.

Mt. Sinai Memorial Park
Workman's Circle Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

FRANK SILVERBERG ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 24th, 10:00 a.m.

Roselawn Cemetery
Eitz Chaim Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

ISRAEL OSTROWIECKI ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 24th, 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Memorial Park
Bathurst S. of Steeles
Zaglembier Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

AUDEY LEOR STANLEIGH ז"ל
beloved son and brother

will take place

Sunday, August 24th, 11:30 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery
B.A.Y.T. Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

Dairy Treats *Restaurant & Catering*
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3522 Bathurst St. *(S. of Wilson)* (416) 787-0309

DUE TO THE LABOUR DAY WEEKEND, THERE WILL BE AN EARLY DEADLINE FOR THE SEPT. 4TH ISSUE. DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING WILL BE TUESDAY, AUG. 26TH BY 4:00 P.M.

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FOR ADVERTISING RATES

***CJN* Classifieds Really Work!**

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The Canadian Jewish news

A1

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Israel
Carol, Judith and Nachum
4485 Bathurst Street
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year

B1

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Israel
Carol, Judith and Nachum
Wish their relatives & friends a happy and healthy New Year

A2

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel
The Israel Family

B2

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
The Israel Family
4485 Bathurst Street

A3

Ben & Hannah Israel
4485 Bathurst Street
Wish their relatives & friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

B3

Ben & Hannah Israel
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year

$60.00 (includes GST) **$53.00** (includes GST)

DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1997

Please call with your choice.

(416) 391-1836

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Maccabiah medalists home and cooled out

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada's contingent to the Maccabi Games is home and cooled down now, with many athletes no doubt searching for the perfect place to display their medals.

Here's an updated list of Canadian medal winners, based on information provided by Maccabi Canada. Team coaches and other officials are not included.

• Basketball, men's: Seth Adler, Nathan Aryev, Andrew Bier, Dan Birsan, Alex Bougaieff, Alex Brainis, Adam Eisenstat, Ari Hunter, Isaac Kodsi and Joel Perlman, team gold.

• Basketball, women's: Eva Ain, Ella Ashkinazi, Danielle Goldfarb, Dalia Greenberg, Stephanie Hart, Netta Krumer, Robyn Lerer, Kim Model, Karen Shaw, Audra Sherman, Stephanie Splitter and Dena Weinroth, team bronze.

• Basketball, masters: Bill Birnbaum, Stephen Bitton, Kevin Oogen, Morrie Herman, Daniel Katzman, Max Korn, Irwin Mintz, Ian Mulcher, Melvin Stein, Gerry Sternberg, Ron Polsky, Ronald Kimmel and Stanley Strug, team bronze.

• Bridge: Stephen Aarons, Fred Gitelman, Peter Schwartz and Sheri Weinstock, team silver.

• Fencing: Sandro di Cori, one gold, one silver.

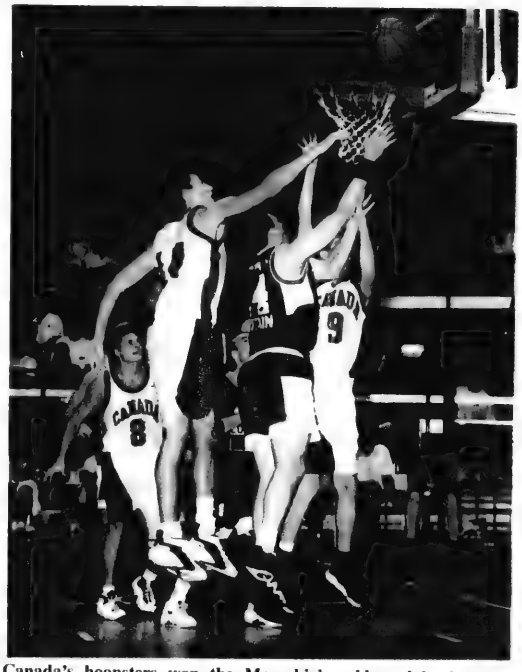
• Gymnastics: Kevin Sharfe, one gold, one bronze and Justin Gerson, silver.

• Gymnastics, junior: Michael Levy, one gold, one bronze and Leah Dlot, one silver, one bronze.

• Hockey: Joel Bond, Aaron Brand, Ryan Donovan, Greg Gardner, Michael Henrich, Harold Hersh, Jamin Kerner, Emanuel Labranche, Allen Lisbona, Stuart Marsten, Earl Morris, Daniel Nathan, David Nemirovsky, Mikhail Nemirovsky, Corey Pecker, Larry Routtenberg, Matt Saper, Jean Alain Schneider, Leeor Shtromm, Jamie Sokolsky, Rob Starke and Brian Wilks, team gold.

• Judo: Olia Berger, gold; Igor Korol, bronze; and Andrea Mendell, bronze.

• Karate: Susan Adaskin, silver and Iris Barr, bronze.



Canada's hoopsters won the Maccabiah gold medal when they defeated Britain 76-60 in the championship game. [Israpet photo]

• Rowing: Adam Berger, two silver, one bronze; Ari Taub, one silver, two bronze; Felix Soibelman, two bronze; and Jeremy Gould, bronze.

• Sailing: Jason Kobrick, bronze and Rolf Wagshal, bronze.

• Softball: Mark Bendahan, Warren Cohen, Jonathon Ehrlich, David Fabien, Phil Gigan, Stephen Goldsmith, Bob Green, Mark Green, Rick Green, Matthew Levenson, I.J. Schecter, Ira Smith, Michael Solomon, David Strauss and Adam Wolff, team gold.

• Squash, junior: Gregory Hunter, bronze.

• Swimming: Chantal Harrison, one gold, two silver, two bronze; Barbara Bonder, two silver, three bronze; Sharon Werner, two silver, two bronze; Debbie Werner, two silver, one bronze; Peter Ackman, three bronze; Ari Mednick, three bronze; Jason Singer, two bronze; Kevin Gordon, bronze; Aaron Lightman, bronze; and Michael Weber, bronze.

• Swimming, disabled: Danny Heuman, bronze.

• Swimming, junior: Martin McGinnis, one silver, one bronze; Benjamin Carp, bronze; Dana Eilath, bronze; and Melanie Herscovitch, bronze.

• Swimming, masters: Norman Dennill, three gold, one bronze.

• Tae kwon do: Micha Meroz, silver; Raz Keshles, bronze; Robert Kurlender, bronze; Robert Bradley, bronze; and Corey Mincovitch, bronze.

• Tennis: David Abelson, silver; Charles Wright, silver; Shiera Stuart, two bronze; and Yael Stuart, bronze.

• Tennis, junior: Jordan Bohnen, bronze and Helena Vander, bronze.

• Tennis, masters: Debbie Schwartz, silver.

• Ten-pin bowling: Penny Lyons, gold; Paula Marcelli, one gold, one bronze; Lisa Abush, bronze; Linda Kornblum, bronze; and Fran Pomeranze, bronze.

• Track & field: Leslie Heller, silver; Deborah Adleman, bronze; Ilana Block, bronze; Emily Kerner, bronze; and Sandra Zagury, bronze.

• Track & field, junior: Diana Mannerow, two gold; Brent Zacks, one gold, one silver; and Jesse Sternberg, bronze.

• Triathlon: Joanne Kay, one gold, one silver; Allison Meadow, silver; Sydney Kastner, silver; and Shawna Novak, bronze.

• Water polo: Karil Boudko, Guy Dollinger, Mike Dykman, Mike Gordon, Ryan Gordon, Mike Greenwood, Aaron Malkin, Val Muscalu, Mark Resnick, Mitch Schipper and Ted Schipper, team silver.

• Wrestling: John Matile, two gold; Jeremy Podlog, one silver, one gold; Oleg Ladik, gold; and Amichai Tsarfati, bronze.

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LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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- 3/4 cup bulgur
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- 1 cup zucchini - chopped
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon

Heat water and apple juice to boiling, add bulgur, and return to boil. Reduce heat and simmer 20 minutes, until liquid is absorbed. While bulgur is cooking, saute the apple and zucchini (peeled or not, as you prefer) in a bit of apple juice or water, until softened. Stir in the salt and cinnamon, then add the cooked bulgur. Serves 6.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

My wife is a Alzheimer victim. She is fine some of the time, but I never know what kind of behavior I can expect. I love her very much, but I am 85 years old and sometimes find it too hard to take care of her. She does not let me out of her sight, so please don't suggest a day centre or home help. Is there anything else that I can do?

Exhausted

Dear Exhausted,

To provide care, you must be well and have some time off yourself. It may be difficult initially but the options you don't feel are viable may be the only alternatives. Consider all the possibilities. A housekeeper who comes in, at first, while you're at home, might become familiar enough to your wife so that you can have some time for yourself. Recruit family, friends and neighbors to give you a little respite. Tell the health professionals in your community that you need help.

Call your local Alzheimer organization. If there are none in your community, call the Canadian Alzheimer Society in Toronto at 416-925-3552.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

ATTN: ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

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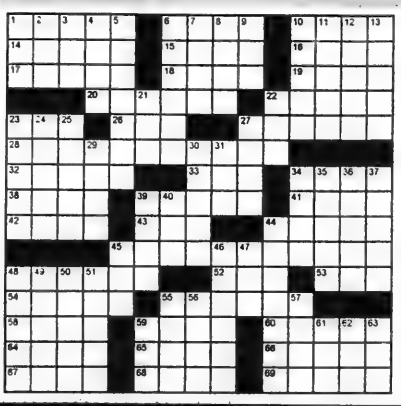

Across

1. Elijah at the Seder
6. Comic Mort
10. Musician Getz
14. "Lou Grant" actor
15. Not Kosher
16. Schnorrer (Eng)?
17. Matzoball server
18. __ Hashanah
19. Tel-__, Israeli city
20. Hebrew letters
22. Circumcision tool
23. Jonas Salk's org.?
26. Prophesize
27. G_d's house (Heb)
28. Pitcher for the Oakland As
32. Actor Alan
33. Galilee to Golan
34. Ten commandments
38. Equipment for Koufax
39. Mountain
41. "Night" writer
42. Adam's son
43. Got yal!
44. Yours, biblically
45. Waters of Megiddo
48. Son of Benjamin
52. 52
53. Sin (Eng)
54. Home for Herod
55. Vantz (Eng.)
58. Strauss
59. Machpelah
60. Tov (Good Luck)
64. Erevs
65. Ribicoff and Geiger
66. __ Minister, Netanyahu
67. Lion's lairs
68. Saucy
69. Admiral Rickover

Down

1. Olympiad Friedman
2. "Lands of the Covenant"
3. Alenu
4. Offer
5. Pollard crime?
6. Hester or Bar-Ilan
7. Gad's boy
8. Myra, pianist
9. Lillian Florence Hellman
10. Biblical "to do"
11. Shanah___ (Heb)
12. Obey
13. Potok specialty
21. Brooks
22. Cardozo to friends
23. Eilat gulf
24. Saul's oldest daughter
25. Leg joint
27. Boxer Max
29. Tel (Eng)
30. Midian King
31. Alphabet run
34. Samson's triumphant site
35. Breathing
36. Kedem and Manischewitz
37. Micah and Isaiah
39. Tuches?
40. Expressions of ease
44. David over Goliath
45. Schlissel (eng)
46. Simeon to brothers
47. Need for sopher
48. Needed chicken soup?
49. Singer Lawrence
50. New Amsterdam
51. Eden condition
55. Bris star
56. E'er to Ha-Levi
57. Schandling or Lewis
59. Kippah (Eng)
61. Israeli shipping line
62. Mother (Heb)
63. Nimoy casually

(Last week's answers are on page 42.)

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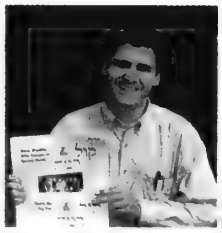
This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Ontario gov't. 'philosophically' accepted funding for religious dayschools. **Page 3**

'Overwhelming' evidence worked against Konrads Kalejs. *Backgrounder.* **Page 4**

On Campus



Journalist adds 'wow!' to Camp Ramah newsletter. **Page 30**

International

Some U.S. Jewish groups withdraw from commemorating 200th anniversary of Vilna Gaon's death. **Page 38**

Arts

Israeli film blends bizarre fantasy world with stark realism. **Page 47**

Business

Ontario firm shortlisted in cross-Israel highway project. **Page 49**

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 18
On Campus 26
Yiddish Corner 28
Coast to Coast 29
International 33
Health 43
Travel, Arts & Business 46
Sports 54
Classified 55
Ask Susan 55

Shabbat: Re'eh
Candlelighting: 7:39
Av 26, 5757
Havdalah: 8:44

Axworthy writes to Arafat:

Control violence, terrorism

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has sent a hand-delivered letter to Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestinian Authority (PA), urging him to act more forcefully in combatting terrorism, *The CJN* has learned.

The letter was dispatched last week to Arafat's headquarters in the Gaza Strip, via Canada's embassy in Tel Aviv.

Its contents remain secret, but Rodney Moore, a spokesperson for the Department of Foreign Affairs, said Axworthy had called on Arafat "to do everything in his power to control violence and terrorism."

Axworthy also wrote to Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy, encouraging Israel to ease the closure of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Israel sealed off the territories, suspended peace talks and stopped the flow of tax revenues to the PA after a Hamas suicide bombing in Jerusalem on July 30 that killed 14 Israelis.

In his letters to Arafat and Levy, Axworthy reaffirmed Canada's commitment to the Oslo peace process as the best means of bringing tranquility and stability to the region.

Since July 30, Canada has been urging Israel and the Palestinians to return to the negotiating table and to resume security cooperation, Moore said.

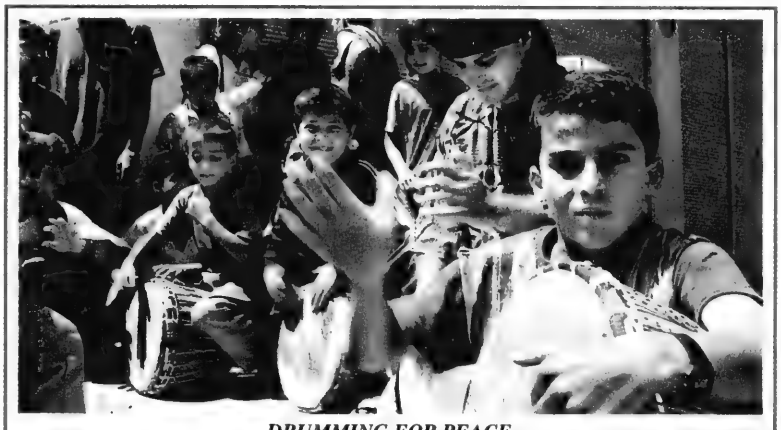
By all accounts, Axworthy contacted Arafat after the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) and the Canadian Friends of Peace Now urged him to do so.

On Aug. 6, a week after the bombing in Jerusalem, the CIC's national executive director, Robert Ritter, wrote a letter to Axworthy.

Ritter asked Axworthy to urge Arafat to "move in a deliberate and sustained fashion to progressively reduce and ultimately dismantle the terror network operating in areas under the Palestinian Authority's jurisdiction."

A day earlier, in a telephone conversation with a Foreign Affairs official, Simon Rosenblum, national co-president of Canadian Friends of Peace Now, suggested Canada should remind Arafat of his obligation under the Oslo accords to fight terrorism.

Moore said it is not customary to divulge the contents of letters



DRUMMING FOR PEACE

Young Palestinian boys join Eyal Davidov (second from the right) in a ceremony to "beat peace into Hebron," shortly after the Israeli drummer arrived last week in the town's central square and started drumming for peace. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

China won't help Iran build reactor

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

TOKYO — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu began an intensive working visit to Japan on Monday after a stopover during which he was assured by China that it will not help Iran build a nuclear reactor.

China's deputy prime minister for foreign trade Li Lan Chin interrupted his holiday to confer with Netanyahu for more than an hour at Beijing Airport on Sunday. Their discussion included several key security issues, including Iran's attempts to buy ballistic missiles and materials for nuclear reactors from China.

"I insisted that it was dangerous for Iran to be armed with atomic weapons and, of course, ballistic missiles," Netanyahu said. "I asked that China exert its influence to block these deals."

He quoted Li as saying that China had decided against supplying Iran with the means to build a nuclear reactor.

"We welcome this as something that is very important and hope it will serve as a guiding light to other countries in their contacts with Iran," Netanyahu said.

Netanyahu attributed his interest in expanding trade with Far Eastern nations to his view that "the world is changing" and they are the world's fastest-growing markets. He suggested the possibility that China may emerge as the largest economy in the world and contended that it could develop a demand for Israeli products.

Stressing the incomparable value of Israel's technological prowess, Netanyahu said: "Israeli know-how is of infinitely greater value than Arab oil."

He added that Israel's effort to increase trade with the Far East "will not be achieved at the expense of existing commercial links with Western Europe and the United States, but as a supplement to them."

Netanyahu began his visit to Japan with a call on Crown Prince

Continued on page 38

CJN PHOTO CONTEST

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Israeli soldier admits killing British tourist — please see page 33

The News in Brief

CANADA

Romanians' Plight

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has expressed its concern over the plight of the Romani (Gypsy) population from the Czech Republic and Slovakia, many of whom recently sought refugee status in Canada.

CJC international affairs committee chair Les Scheininger acknowledged the fact that many Romanis are fleeing the region because of racism in their homeland. There have been reports of individuals being attacked by skinheads.

Principal Appointed

KITCHENER — In a first for the area, the Kitchener-Waterloo Hebrew Day School and the Beth Jacob Talmud Torah have appointed a single individual to serve as principal of both schools. Heidi Gottlieb will be moving from Toronto to take up the position beginning in September.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Hebrew Day School is a full-day, privately funded Jewish day school that provides a secular education from JK through Grade 6; it has been in operation since 1991. The Beth Jacob Talmud Torah is a Jewish afternoon school which has been providing a basic Jewish education to children for over 50 years.

ISRAEL

Sanctions Eased

JERUSALEM — Israeli-Palestinian relations showed hints of a thaw last week after Israel partially relaxed some of its sanctions on the self-rule areas.

Israel announced that it would transfer 30 percent of the tax revenues it has withheld from the Palestinian Authority since July 30, when two suicide bombers killed 14 Israelis in Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda market.

Rwandan Orphans

JERUSALEM – Thanks to the efforts of 50,000 Israeli schoolchildren, 1,500 Rwandan orphans will be equipped with school supplies when classes begin next month.

The supplies were purchased with funds raised by the schoolchildren, the Israel office of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the U.S.-based Jewish Coalition for Rwanda.

In addition, Project Back to School will pay high-school tuition fees for 250 Rwandan orphans during the next four years.

Immigration Down

JERUSALEM — Immigration to Israel, especially from the former Soviet Union, has dropped by 16 percent in the first half of 1997.

The decline was caused partly by increasing economic stability in parts of the former Soviet Union, Arik Hellman, a spokesperson for the Israeli Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, said last week.

Officials also said most of the Jews from the former Soviet Union who wanted to leave have already done so.

In the first six months of 1997, some 33,000 immigrants arrived in Israel, 16 percent fewer than in the same period last year.

The Jewish Agency estimated that an additional 50,000 immigrants would arrive by the end of 1997.

WORLD

Non-Orthodox Mikvah

CHICAGO — Illinois will soon get its first non-Orthodox mikvah, thanks to an anonymous donation by a Conservative Jew.

Unhappy with a family member's treatment at an Orthodox mikvah in Chicago, the donor pledged a major contribution for construction of a new mikvah to ensure that non-Orthodox Jews would no longer have to rely on Orthodox officials for ritual immersion purposes.

War Crimes Trials

VILNIUS — An accused Nazi war criminal who was stripped of his U.S. citizenship before returning to Lithuania may finally stand trial here later this year.

Legal proceedings against Aleksandras Lileikis, 90, were postponed last month after medical experts determined that he was not fit to stand trial. Under Lithuanian law, suspects cannot be brought to trial if medical experts rule that they are too ill.

Lileikis is accused of having handed Jews over to death squads in Vilnius during World War II when he was head of the Nazi-sponsored Lithuanian security police, known as the Saugumas, from 1941 to 1944.

German Reparations

WASHINGTON — A Jewish delegation negotiating Holocaust reparations in Bonn last week urged Germany to pay long overdue compensation to Eastern European survivors.

The head of the Jewish delegation said he had received assurances of support from German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Pro-Hess Demonstration

NEW YORK — Police arrested about 400 people in Germany and approximately 50 people in Denmark on the 10th anniversary of the death of Rudolf Hess.

Hess, Adolf Hitler's deputy, has become a cult figure among right-wing extremists since he hung himself in Berlin's Spandau prison.

Many of the arrests in Germany were made as right-wing extremists headed for rallies. German courts had banned pro-Hess demonstrations in much of the country.

Swiss Celebrate Zionism's 100th

BASEL, Switzerland — The Swiss are throwing a 100th birthday bash for Zionism, but the party atmosphere appears likely to be muted by anguish over the host's wartime history and the criticism it has recently received in the media.

Unusually heavy security surrounding the event is also likely to mar the festivities by underscoring the recent increase in the number of anti-Semitic incidents in the country.

The weeklong celebration will culminate Aug. 31 on the date and in the hall where Theodor Herzl concluded the first Zionist Congress 100 years ago, laying the foundation for the birth of the Jewish state.

Poor participation – at least from North America – and tepid interest from Israeli officials are foiling Swiss efforts to use the centennial as an international showcase of goodwill toward Jews.

The Swiss are still reeling from the international outcry over revelations that they profited from their wartime dealings with the Nazis and failed to return bank accounts and other Jewish assets to their rightful owners after the war.

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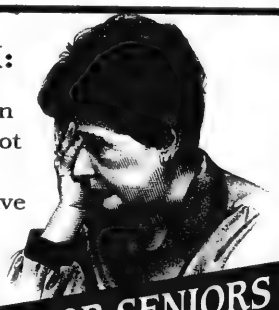

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CIRCULATION
Average circulation per issue: 46,711 copies.
Average net paid circulation per issue: 45,109 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement March 7, 1997.

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Breakthrough seen in school funding

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The Ontario government has "philosophically accepted" funding for religious day schools. The issue now is where the money will come from, and how and when it will be distributed.

This was the summation given to *The CJN* following a meeting Aug. 19 between high government officials and a delegation from the Working Group on Educational Equality representing 40,000 of the 50,000 students attending faith schools, including 10,000 in Jewish day schools.

The delegation included Henry Koschitzky, chair, Ontario Jewish Association for Equity in Education (OJAEE) and Manuel Prutschi, executive director, Ontario Region, Canadian Jewish Congress.

At the meeting, the first held by the coalition with government, were John Weir, executive assistant to the minister of education, and Bruce Smith, MPP, parliamentary assistant to the minister.

"They agreed philosophically with the following three principles," said Prutschi:

• Parents in Ontario have a right to determine the way in which their children will be educated and the place at which that education will occur .

• Parents are entitled to public economic support in the choice they make for their children's education.

• Recipients of public economic support will cooperate with the minister of education regarding suitable achievement standards, to be met by all students in Ontario.

The key to the latest breakthrough is the legislation giving Queen's Park control over fundraising and fund disbursement in the education system, said Koschitzky.

Without the legislation giving Queen's Park control over education funding, agreement on help for day schools would be "light years away", he said.

The measure consolidating school boards becomes effective in January, 1998, and on funding in September, 1998.

Forming the Working Group on Educational Equality gave the government a body to consult on the issue, Prutschi said. "It was important for us to come together on our own."

'Gradual process'

In addition to the OJAEE, the group is comprised of the Ontario Federation of Independent Schools (OFIS), the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools (OICS) and the Ontario Multifaith Coalition for Equity in Education (OMCEE).

The delegation that met with Weir and Smith included Elaine Hopkins, OFIS president, M.D. Khalid, OMCEE, and John Vanasselt, OACS.

"I think the government is being very cautious," said Prutschi. "They are concerned that the capacity of the public to absorb all the changes it has introduced is saturated and that there has to be time for the public to catch its breath."

Last spring the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the Ontario government was not obliged to extend public funding to faith-based schools in addition to the Roman Catholic schools but it had the legal right to do so, if it wanted.

BAT MITZVAH GIRLS

Masha, Paulina and Sonia, all from Moscow, were among 13 Russian youngsters who celebrated their bar and bat mitzvahs in Israel this month, in the second year of an Israeli Forum project to strengthen Jewish life in the former Soviet Union.

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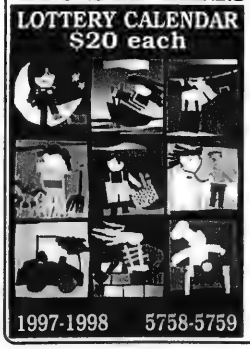
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These days, Hanna Citrin needs a lot of emotional strength. She finds it at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency. Since her husband Gennadi is quite ill, Hanna tries to spend as much time as she can at the Centre to recharge her mental and physical energy. "We used to come here 4 or 5 times a week. Because Gennadi is in the hospital, I spend 8-10 hours a day with him. I still make time, though, to be at the Centre. Many people depend on me, and I too rely on them for emotional support in this difficult time," says Hanna.

A CLUB TO CALL THEIR OWN

Unique to the Bernard Betel Centre is the Russian Golden Age Club, to which the Citrins belong. The club, which offers lectures, wellness groups, community support programs and various other social services, has 423 members ages 65-95, and the number is on the rise. "It feels like a piece of life back home when we're all together," Hanna notes.

JUST LIKE HOME

Hanna and Gennadi Citrin emmigrated to Canada from Kiev in 1973. Searching for ways to meet new friends and interact with other Russian immigrants, the Citrins discovered the Centre and never looked back. "This is a wonderful way to meet people with similar backgrounds," explains Hanna.

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Greater Toronto Area

'Overwhelming' evidence worked against Kalejs

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Nazi war criminal Konrads Kalejs may have finally found a safe haven for himself in Australia.

After three years as a visitor in Canada, and after earlier being removed from the United States, Kalejs, 84, was deported last week to Australia, where he is a citizen.

Backgrounder

While his presence there outraged the Jewish community, the Australian Federal Police believe the evidence against him is insufficient for a criminal conviction.

In Toronto, meanwhile, immigration adjudicator Anthony Iozzo ruled that by serving as commander of guards outside the Salaspils concentration camp, Kalejs was an accomplice to war crimes. Inside the camp, prisoners were worked to death, beaten, hanged and otherwise mistreated in the most brutal way.

For those who sat through months of hearings going back to May 1996, Iozzo's finding did not come as a surprise. The evidence against Kalejs was "overwhelming," greater than in most cases he has tried, said Justice Department lawyer Donald MacIntosh.

But sitting in the Edward Street hearing room last week, listening as Iozzo read his 60-page decision, it appeared for a great portion of the morning's proceedings that Kalejs had beaten the system and would be permitted to live out his years in Canada.

For 50 pages of his 60-page decision, Iozzo went to pains to describe why Kalejs did not participate in war crimes.

Many of those present – residents of the North York condominium in which Kalejs lived, representatives of Jewish organizations, MacIntosh – felt uneasy as Iozzo appeared to disregard the evidence that painted Kalejs as a war criminal.

For the first two hours of Iozzo's judgment, everything seemed to be going Kalejs' way.

Iozzo said there was evidence Kalejs joined Latvian nationalists after the German invasion of June 1941 to hunt down Communists, but no evidence Kalejs committed war crimes in that period.

Next, Iozzo turned to the heart of the Crown case that alleged Kalejs was a senior lieutenant in the Arajs Kommando (AK), a unit of nationalist volunteers that murdered tens of thousands of Jews.

Iozzo found Kalejs was a member of the unit from July 29, 1941 onwards but that there was no evidence he participated in the unit's worst crimes.

He made that finding despite Kalejs' own numerous denials of membership in the organization.

Iozzo also discounted Kalejs' denial he ever was at the Salaspils camp during the war, believing instead the eyewitness evidence of former Arajs Kommando men.

Despite catching Kalejs on two clear falsehoods that went to the heart of his defence, Iozzo showed little skepticism about the rest of Kalejs' testimony. The crown even showed that after he was ordered out of the United States, Kalejs assumed a false name, went into hiding and then employed a concoction of lies during his Toronto hearing to explain it away.

Nevertheless, Iozzo inexplicably never branded Kalejs a liar. He never mentioned the word "credibility" in connection with Kalejs, he never said Kalejs was lying to protect himself.

Instead, he seemed to bend over backwards to accept Kalejs' version of events and his descriptions of his own character, which fell just short of sainthood.

While he dissected [illegible] details of the testimony of other witnesses, most of whom served with Kalejs in the Arajs Kommando, he accepted much of Kalejs' version of events, particularly his description of the battles at two Russian villages in early 1942.

This went directly to the strength of one of the Crown's main allegations against Kalejs, that he participated in war crimes during battles on the Eastern front in the villages of Sanniki and Zabalotye.

Kalejs, a professional soldier before the war, said he had been called to duty by the Germans in early 1942 and given command of a ski unit before the attack on the village of Sanniki, which was a partisan stronghold. Testimony from AK men on the scene said after the German commander, Gen. Walter Stahlecker, was mortally wounded, Kalejs' unit went into the village, burned it down and massacred civilians. Kalejs, on the other hand, said there was a fight, houses were engulfed in the cross fire and his unit never massacred anyone.

Why Iozzo accepted Kalejs' version of events, after already determining he lied on the stand, is baffling. Two former AK comrade-in-arms said they had learned of the massacres from Kalejs' men shortly afterwards. In addition, the scorched earth/massive reprisal policy was precisely what was described by historian Konrad Kwiet as the modus operandi of Nazi units.

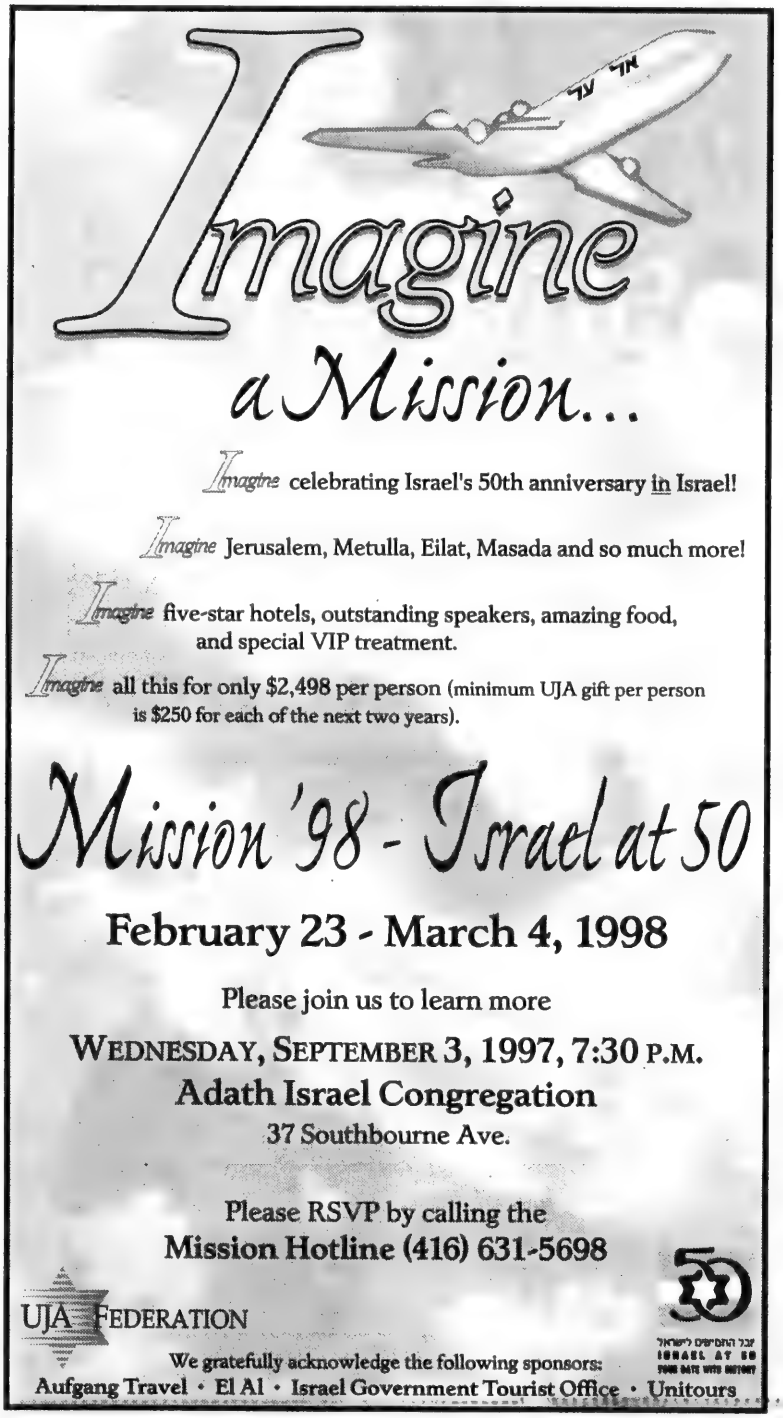
What had seemed like convincing evidence was turned to mush by Iozzo.

He rejected the stories told to the two AK men on the scene as "the braggadocio of soldiers." But what kind of soldier boasts about annihilating villagers? Clearly, only those for whom such conduct was routine.

MacIntosh said he was "astounded" that Iozzo did not find Kalejs committed war crimes on the Eastern front. He attributed it to his error in applying the wrong standard of proof to determine the truth of the allegations. Instead of basing his decision on "reasonable grounds," Iozzo "was at the high end of 'on the balance of probabilities,'" a much stricter standard, MacIntosh said.

Keith Landy of Canadian Jewish Congress and David Matas of B'nai Brith Canada, said it appeared to them the standard was closer to the one used in criminal trials.

[Cont'd on page 6]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From the editor's desk will return next week

Greater Toronto Area

Family 'forced' to send child to Catholic school

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OAKVILLE, Ont. — A Jewish woman is hoping that a last-minute decision from Ontario's education ministry will prevent her daughter from effectively being forced to attend a Catholic school.

Monique Charlebois has appealed to Education Minister John Snobelin, as well as to the ministry's Languages of Instruction Commission, to help her.

Charlebois' daughter, 7-year-old Simone Betito, will enter Grade 2 on Sept. 2. But since Charlebois and her husband want a French education for their children, Simone has had to attend a Catholic school because the local school board has no public French schools.

Charlebois says the case amounts to discrimination, and charges the Halton Board of Education with ignoring findings that there are enough children in the area to warrant French-language public school classes.

Simone is going to re-enter Ecole Ste-Marie, a French-language Catholic school in Oakville, where she is not exempt from instruction in Catholicism.

"In Grade 2, she'll begin studying for first communion," Charlebois told *The CJN*. "She already knows more about the life of Jesus than most of her classmates."

Simone also attends Sunday Hebrew classes at Shaarei Beth El in Oakville, a Reform temple where her mother is a board member.

Charlebois says the school board has offered to transport her daughter by taxi to a French public school in Etobicoke, 40 kilometres away. But that's "worrisome and disruptive. Besides, it's probably more expensive than setting up [French] classes right here."

Property assessment rolls late last year showed there were 740 French-speaking public school supporters in the region, Charlebois says.

Earlier this year, the Halton board's French Language Advisory Committee contacted some 1,700 families. Charlebois says 127 families representing 187 elementary school-aged children said they were interested in French public classes. The board received 40 registrations from those interested.

Charlebois says the board then offered a wing of a school for the classes, but only 17 parents expressed interest – too few, the board said, to warrant classes.

According to Charlebois, the reason the numbers dropped is that the board did not say where the classes would be held or who the teachers would be.

She says the board is being "terribly unfair" in relying on the lowest number and in rejecting the higher ones found by one of its own committees.

Dusty Papke, director of the Halton Board of Education, told *The CJN* that trustees "weren't comfortable" with just 17 respondents, "not enough to provide a viable program."

He said he could neither confirm nor deny the other figures Charlebois cites.

Charlebois believes there are enough interested students to fill French classes from kindergarten through Grade 4, but she's not interested in French immersion. "It's just not the same. There's no comparison."

She says there are other francophone Jewish children in Catholic schools, as well as Muslims and other non-Christians who want French language education.

Charlebois, a lawyer, has applied to the federal government's court challenges program for funding to take the board to court, based on the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

She's also received a letter of support from her rabbi, Edward Goldfarb.

In the meantime, she's waiting for an 11th-hour ruling from the education ministry, which she says has the authority to overrule the board and set up classes.

The CJN's calls to the education ministry were not returned by press time.

Charlebois says her plight is ironic, given that 40 years ago in Quebec, her French-speaking husband was forced to attend English schools.

CORRECTION

The article about Petah Tikva Youth Organization (*CJN*, Aug. 21) stated that PTYO received a continuity grant from Canadian Jewish Congress for its recent Israel trip. In fact, the grant was given by the Action Committee for Jewish Continuity of UJA Federation. *The CJN* regrets the error.

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extend thanks to the many friends and colleagues who visited, and brought flowers, cards and gifts to our beloved daughter and sister during her illness last year.

A special "Thank You" to the medical team at the Credit Valley Hospital, Drs. Fine, Kaiser, Myers and Higgins.

To the staff of the Oncology Clinic and the nurses on 2C for their wonderful care.

To her co-workers at Borden and Elliott, the board of governors of the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, The Haemophilia Society of Ontario, the staff of the Dr. Abraham Shore Shearim Day School, and to her many personal friends and business acquaintances and the members of the Shore family. We are deeply grateful.

We also wish to extend our thanks to Rabbi Kelman, Simon Kalkstein and many others who visited during the shiva.

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The unveiling will take place Sunday, September 7th at 11:00 a.m. at Lambton Hills Cemetery (Royal York Rd.) – Hebrew Men of England section.
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COUSIN CLUB REUNION

Members of the Goldstein family, composed of eight siblings from Kirkland Lake, Ont. at the turn of the century, were recently reunited. Three cousins traced the family tree, reunited relatives and met at simchahs to introduce younger cousins to each other. A turnout of over 100 family members resulted. The second annual "cousin club" family reunion will take place next spring. Shown here are the organizing committee cousins, (from left), Hindy Lev, Brenda Lewis, Barbara Lev and Sheila Mostyn.

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Arthur Rudolph case recalled

[Cont'd from page 4]

Despite requiring that high level of proof, Iozzo did go on to find that Kalejs commanded the external guards at Salaspils, even though he denied it. That point alone sealed Kalejs' fate.

But the question remains. Why did Iozzo bend over backwards to accept Kalejs' description of himself, his character and of wartime events?

The decision brought to mind the Arthur Rudolph case, in which the former Nazi rocket scientist also came to Canada after being deported from the United States. Rudolph too enjoyed the North American lifestyle and did not wish to relocate.

A member of the Nazi party from the early 1930s, Rudolph claimed not to know about the party's racist policies. While a vast amount of evidence was offered to show that slave laborers were dying all around him during the construction of V2 rockets, Rudolph claimed not to have seen any of it.

Incredibly, immigration adjudicator William Willoughby accepted almost everything Rudolph said.

He too bent over backwards to accept Rudolph's story even when it defied belief.

MacIntosh, who also headed the case against Rudolph, suggested "some adjudicators are influenced by the old man factor." They see a grey-haired senior before them and find it hard to believe they could have committed horrible crimes as young men.

Despite Kalejs' deportation, Matas believes Kalejs got "a three-year free ride in Canada. That's way too long.

"The result is that he goes back to Australia where he'll have a safe haven," illustrating the point that "we don't have a global system of justice, but a global system of immunity for the worst crimes," Matas added.

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Community Matters

UJA FEDERATION KICKS OFF CAMPAIGN '98

UJA Federation's 1998 Campaign is officially underway. It was launched earlier this week at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, with the help of over 1,000 enthusiastic community members and Canadian singer/song writer Amy Sky.

Amy Sky

Young Israeli artists *Hashavim* also performed to the sold out crowd and Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut delivered the evening's keynote address.

More than 200 of UJA Federation's leading supporters attended a special dinner, sponsored by CIBC Wood Gundy and co-chaired by Elizabeth Wolfe and David Y. Green, prior to the launch.

Carol Kassel, who co-chaired the launch with Lawrence Bloomberg echoed the campaign theme of *One People Forever* when she said "UJA Federation has always been the place where the things we hold in common count for so much more than the things that keep us apart."

Lawrence Bloomberg praised Toronto's "flourishing and self-reliant Jewish community" but stressed "it is important that we not become complacent because the needs are ongoing and the challenges still daunting."

Last year's UJA Federation campaign raised $35.5 million to help hundreds of thousands in need. In addition to addressing local needs, UJA Federation continues to fund the rescue of Jews living in unstable parts of the world such as the former Soviet Union.

UJA Federation Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar, who has visited numerous Jewish communities in the FSU since beginning his term, compared the work of the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency to that of the early *chalutzim* (pioneers) who built the State of Israel.

Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut

"I have had the privilege of seeing first hand the life-saving, humanitarian work that our dollars pay for," said Goldhar. "I see that we have helped create an insurance policy for Jews everywhere which must be supported and sustained no matter what our political or religious views."

During the last two years UJA Federation has introduced new initiatives including a satellite office in York Region, in order to expand community resources for more than 170,000 Jews in the Greater Toronto Area.

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Coin unspent

We had seen the photo that made the electronic and print rounds last week, and variations on its theme, countless times before. In full embrace, cheek to cheek and kissing, were Yasser Arafat, signatory to the Oslo accords, and a leading opponent of those very same accords.

Last Wednesday it was Abdel Aziz al-Rantisi, a leader of Hamas. On Thursday it was Nafez Azzam, a leader of Islamic Jihad. Both men, Rantisi and Azzam, are high profile, fanatic proponents of violence and murder against Israel and Jews. Arafat brought them together, along with other members of the rejectionist roster such as George Habash of the Popular Front and Nayef Hawatmeh of the Democratic Front, for a set of meetings in Gaza City and Ramallah to demonstrate the unity of the disparate Palestinian factions.

More sorrowfully now than angrily, we must observe again that Arafat is leading his people further and further away from their aspiration of self-rule and independence. He cannot achieve his ends through military means. He can only do so through political and diplomatic means. But to succeed, he must establish with the Israeli public a reasonable measure of belief that he is a reliable, if not trustworthy, partner.

But last week's highly-publicized "unity" kisses suggest more and more that such a belief would only be heresy.

"Resistance of every kind is the right way to confront [Israel]...We must leave the Oslo plan," Rantisi was reported as saying.

"We must cancel the Oslo agreements and return to intifadah," Azzam was reported as saying."

"We are one on our path to Jerusalem, the capital of the State of Palestine, whether anyone likes it or not...There was an uprising for seven years...We can erase it and do it again from the beginning. There is nothing far from us. *All options are open to us*," Arafat was reported as saying.

From Rantisi and Azzam one expects to hear the language of violent hatred. But from Arafat, whose signature is on the Oslo documents, one now expects, indeed demands, to hear the language of moderation and restraint.

Arafat's scorn and incitement to violence merely sow further doubt in the Israeli heart over the viability of any possibility of peace with him.

But far worse for the possibility of peace than the doubt he has sown in Israeli hearts is the hate that he continues to nurture in the hearts of Palestinians. By proclaiming to the Palestinian people that "all options are open," Arafat purposefully did not rule out the option of terror and murder. In fact he implicitly approved them to be appropriate tactics to achieving Palestinian political aims. Rather than setting a new example, an example demanded by the language of peace, a moral example, supporting secure, peaceful coexistence with Israelis and tolerance for peaceful disagreement, he exemplifies the old ways, the ways that are antithetical to peace, the ways of terror, violence and murder.

Even the Americans were dismayed. "It simply makes an already difficult situation more difficult," one senior official was reported as saying. Trying to avoid expressions of utter disbelief, U.S. State Department spokesperson James Rubin said: "We are going to judge...Arafat by deeds. Deeds are the coin of the realm when it comes to fighting terrorism."

Unfortunately, as the bitter past has proven when it comes to this realm – fighting terrorism – Arafat keeps his fist tightly clenched and the coin unspent.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"Such is the existing liberation of the emancipated Jew in western Europe. He has given up his specifically Jewish character; but the peoples let him feel that he has not acquired their special characteristics. He has lost the home of the ghetto; but the land of his birth is denied to him as his home."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

Dry Bones
IT'S THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ZIONISM, AND OFF IN ISRAEL...
AUG 29
MR. SHULDIG WILL BE WEARING AN OPEN SHIRT, NO TIE, A JACKET, AND PLAID SLIPPERS
DOOBIE WILL WEAR A "KOVA TEMBEL" SHORT PANTS, AND KIBBUTZ SANDALS
BUT THEY'LL BOTH BE ENJOYING AMERICAN FAST FOODS AS THEY WATCH NETWORK SITCOMS ON CABLE TV.
HEY!?
WHATCHA LOOKIN AT?!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

August 29, 1858 the initial meeting of the Jewish community of Victoria took place at the home of Kady Gambitz, owner of Victoria's first dry goods and drapery store.*(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Her parents were religious Jews

I appreciate the article (*CJN*, Aug. 14) describing the department established at Bar-Ilan University in memory of my parents, Frank and Vilma Martin (Szusz). However, I would like to clear up one error in the article, which referred to my parents as "strongly committed but not religious Jews."

From the time we first arrived in Canada in the late 1940s, my parents kept a kosher home and were members of an Orthodox synagogue. From their perspective, at the very least, my parents were religious Jews.

Mira Koschitzky
Toronto

Onus on Ottawa to act on Arafat

Jewish community spokespersons from across the political spectrum have recently commented that there was a serious imbalance resulting when, at the United Nations, the Canadian government condemned Israel's Har Choma policy and remained largely silent on the failure of the Palestinian Authority to fulfil its Oslo security obligations.

Just as Israel's Har Choma construction is an obstacle to peace and contrary to the spirit of Oslo, so also Arafat's hesitancy to systematically confront Hamas and the Islamic Jihad is totally at odds with the Palestinian responsibilities under Oslo. Consequently Canadian Friends of Peace Now has asked the Canada-Israel Committee to organize a community-wide initiative requesting the Canadian government to publicly call upon Yasser Arafat to disarm and dismantle extremist Palestinian military organizations.

Balance on Middle East issues is a precious commodity and surely, if we expect it from ourselves we should require the same of our government.

Dr. Frank M. Guttman
Simon Rosenblum
National Co-Presidents
Canadian Friends of Peace Now

Jews in the B.C. interior

Re: The article on the Jewish residents of Nelson, B.C. (*CJN*, Aug.14).

I have hitchhiked from Kelowna into central British Columbia, continuing up the Alaska highway into the Yukon Territory as far as Skagway, Alaska. In doing so, I encountered a Jewish presence in some of the most unusual places, including Fort St. John, Fort Nelson, Kamloops, Dawson Creek, Prince George and Whitehorse.

Apparently there are no synagogues or other religious institutions, but I met people by accident working in shopping malls, hospitals and government institutions who turned out to be Jewish or knew of others who were, and they supplied me with names and phone numbers. When I spoke to some of these people they were thrilled to hear from another co-religionist. Some of the people I encountered did not know that they were Jewish, though their grandparents or one of their parents were.

My opinion is that because of their loose affiliation they need outreach help to keep them within the Jewish fold. With that outreach, coupled with added services provided by the Canadian Jewish Congress, their religious and cultural identity would be enhanced.

Ben Linden
Montreal

Labor Zionist says Diaspora in danger

With all due respect to tradition and to the various religious views in Judaism – from chassidic and Orthodox to Reform, Reconstructionist and Egalitarian – without the spirit of the Enlightenment, which began in the late 18th century, Jewish existence in the Diaspora is facing extinction as a result of assimilation and intermarriage. Hopefully, that is not possible in the State of Israel, with its secular Jewish lifestyle, including a modern system of education, industry and army, features which also benefit the Diaspora.

The point I am making concerns the Labor Zionist movement, which I joined as a boy of bar mitzvah age when I joined Hashomer Hatzair. Later I joined the Poal Zion Youth-Hechalutz and still later, in the 1930s, I was a part of kibbutz life in Eretz Yisrael. For the past several decades, I have played a role in Canadian Jewish affairs through what is presently called the Labor Zionist Alliance.

What matters now is the fact that this movement, the Labor Zionist movement, has failed to attract today's Canadian Jewish youth. Now who will safeguard secular Jewish identity in Canada? If this Jewish movement fails, there will be no interest by parents in providing their children with a modern education in Yiddish and Hebrew. There will be no need for a Jewish Public Library, Yiddish theatre, nor for Yiddish literature or Jewish literature in English or Hebrew. Nor will there be a need for Jewish sports centres or even a Canadian Jewish Congress.

This problem should be discussed in the Jewish media, especially in *The Canadian Jewish News*. It is a problem that should be brought to the attention of Canadian Jewish youth. It is not only a problem for the elderly members of the Labor Zionist Alliance of today.

Max Sivak
Montreal

Hidden meanings in the Torah

Re: Barry Levy's biblical codes (*CJN*, Aug. 7, 14).

Maimonides explains in his Guide to the Perplexed: that every happening in the Bible cannot be taken literally, but was written so that children could comprehend it. However, when one reaches a stage when he is qualified to study the Torah in depth, including the Talmud and other pertinent writings, he is then qualified to delve into the hidden meaning of the Torah.

Truly, every letter and word in the Torah contains hidden esoteric meanings of future occurrences.

David Weinper
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

A.M. Klein was a giant in Canadian literature

By HARRY HEFT
Part 1

Enthusiasts of Jewish Canadian literature quietly observed the 25th anniversary of the death of A.M. Klein on Aug. 20.

For Klein's admirers, it may be difficult to determine the spirit in which we should recognize the anniversary of his passing. The circumstances of Klein's personal and artistic life are so spectacular, and at the same time so tragic, that one wonders whether the anniversary of his death should be seen as an opportunity to celebrate his many achievements or a time to lament his unfulfilled potential.

Klein was born in 1909 in Ratno, a small town in the Ukraine, and he was brought to Montreal by his family the following year (though he was later to claim that he had been born in Montreal). In Montreal, the now-famous Jewish ghetto that existed earlier in the century around St. Laurent Street defined Klein's cultural life, and it was this environment and landscape that he was to celebrate in much of his best poetry.

Klein chose to write most of his work in English and many of his central themes were derived from the Orthodox Jewish upbringing of his youth. Several critics have recognized him as the first writer to produce English-language writing that reflects an authentic sense of Jewish tradition. Klein's ability to integrate Jewish ideas into his mainstream work can now be considered largely responsible for the tradition of Jewish writing that took root in Canada in the decades following his death.

During his lifetime, Klein distinguished himself as a great Canadian poet and as one of the poets responsible for initiating the Modernist movement in Canadian writing. He was also a distinguished writer of fiction and literary criticism. The one novel he published during his lifetime, *The Second Scroll*, is among the most important works to have been written in celebration of the modern rebirth of the State of Israel, and his essays on James Joyce's classic novel *Ulysses* are considered among the pioneering works in the field of Joyce studies.

Klein was also an outspoken champion of Canadian and international Jewish causes; he wrote hundreds of articles in the *Canadian Jewish Eagle* against anti-Semitism and proved himself an effective, tireless fundraiser for the fledgling State of Israel. Among the other vocations Klein could have listed on his c.v. are lawyer, politician, professor of English literature at McGill University and speech-writer for Samuel Bronfman. Today, 25 years after his death, it is difficult to imagine a serious Canadian writer or a serious Jewish activist who has not in some way been influenced by and indebted to Klein.

Since his death, Klein, more than almost any other Canadian writer, has attracted widespread attention from both literary critics and more casual readers. No Canadian literature course would be complete without the inclusion of a healthy selection of Klein's works and an investigation of Klein's importance in the development of Canadian writing. Also, numerous volumes of his writings have been produced by the A.M. Klein Research and Publication Committee over the past two decades, including collections of Klein's complete poems, his short stories, his journalistic writings, his literary criticism and his more obscure notebooks. Numerous books and articles have appeared on Klein since his death and academic conferences and colloquia have been organized to discuss his writings.

A.M. Klein

While Klein was always recognized as an important writer in this country, it was only after his death that serious academic attention was paid to his work. It is ironic that this scholarly attention to Klein's work has benefited from strong public funding, while during his life, Klein himself never received the funding that he felt he needed to write the original works themselves. In the end, Klein became increasingly more disillusioned, feeling himself the victim of an uninterested public who had little use for poetry or poets.

When Klein died, he had completely disappeared from the public eye, the victim of an emotional collapse that had silenced him nearly two decades earlier. At the time that Klein fell silent around 1956, he was still in his mid-40s, and there is strong evidence to suggest that his best work might still have been ahead of him. Klein's prolonged period of silence, which followed an extremely public life, is among Canadian literature's greatest and most tragic enigmas. Over the past 25 years, the mystery of the lost contents of Klein's mind and imagination over this final period of his life has intrigued numerous poets, novelists, critics and biographers.

Among the strongest tributes to Klein's life and work that were written in recognition of his death was the poem *For A.M. Klein* by the celebrated Canadian poet Seymour Mayne. Mayne begins his poem with the line "So you finally made the N.Y. Times," capturing the bitter irony of the artist who yearns all his life for widespread (and particularly American) attention, only being able to obtain that attention by dying. In his poem, Mayne lists the many tragedies of Klein's life, including the fact that, unlike his namesake (the biblical Abraham), Klein never found a way to leave Canada permanently and "return to…Canaan flowing with the gilt honey." And, although Mayne addresses the madness that ultimately left Klein silent, "the gagged tongue/ limp and mute/ unable to call itself back," he also hints at the fact that the path Klein opened with his artistry and sacrifice made it possible for poets like Mayne and his contemporaries to find their own artistic voices.

Despite the excellence of the literary tributes that have been written to and for Klein by Mayne and others, one of the finest celebrations of Klein's achievements that I have experienced came from someone who had little literary experience and, as far as I know, had never published a word. Several years ago, when I was teaching Canadian literature at the University of Western Ontario, I arrived in class one afternoon to deliver a lecture on Klein's poetry. Before I began my lecture, a student I had never seen before approached me. She told me that she was not enrolled in the course and that she was not even an English student, but that, with my permission, she would like to listen to my lecture on Klein that day.

When I asked why, she explained that her friends were constantly discussing their readings of Klein's poetry, and that she felt left out. "I want to learn about Klein," she told me, "so that I can participate. So that I can finally understand what everyone is always talking about."

I was staggered. I knew that most countries had their celebrated unofficial national writers, but was it possible that Canadians would ever recognize one of our writers to that extent, or that Klein would emerge as that writer? Was it possible that Klein was becoming to a new generation of Canadians what Robert Burns is to Scotland or Cervantes is to Spain? I was suspicious, wondering if I were being set up as the victim of a cruel practical joke, but this student was sincere and she even participated enthusiastically in the class discussion, which was one of the most dynamic of the entire term. As the class ended and she left the room, I was suddenly left with an elevated sense of my role as a teacher, and of Klein's life achievements.

Given the extraordinary circumstances of Klein's career and the unfortunate circumstances of his demise, I am left wondering if it might not be more appropriate to celebrate his achievements than to focus on the lost potential. After all, there are much happier anniversaries on the horizon than that of his death. For instance, next year we will have the opportunity to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the publication of Klein's volumes of poetry, *The Rocking Chair*, which won him the Canadian Governor General's Award and which still survives as one of the finest books ever published in this country. And in 1999, we may celebrate the 50th anniversary of Klein's trip to Israel, which resulted in the publication of *The Second Scroll* in 1951 (the 50-year anniversary of which we can celebrate in 2001).

In the spirit of celebrating Klein's literary achievements, Part 2 of this essay will focus more closely on his poetry and fiction, in an effort to understand how Klein as a writer provided us with insights that no biographer could equal, insights into his creative self and his cultural environment.

Harold Heft recently returned from a visiting professorship at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and is the author of a new book On Your Mark, *published by Macmillan.*

Opinions

The market after the blast

I passed the sweet smelling green grapes, the plump orange nectarines. Then the juicy purple plums and ready-to-be eaten red watermelons. Fresh flowers – red, yellow, white, blue. The fly-infested slithery grey and white fish with a pungent smell. Bright colors of nail polish for as low as NIS 2 (approximately 80 cents).

By Viva Press in Jerusalem

The vendors bellowed out their prices, while the bargain-hunting shoppers pushed their way through Tel Aviv's shuk Hacarmel.

The Tuesday crowd was impressive for a middle of the week afternoon. For most, there was nothing unusual about shopping at the shuk. And the lively atmosphere made it seem that everything was as it should be.

Three days later, on Friday, I went to another market. But this time there was an air of uncertainty.

The fruit and vegetables were the same. The bargains were probably better. The vendors still shouted out their prices. But the people were missing.

Approximately 30 percent of Friday's capacity crowd missed out on a great day of bargain-hunting. Thirty percent of the regular Shabbat crowd went elsewhere for their weekend shopping. Thirty percent of Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda shoppers weren't there and there was a feeling of sadness in Machane Yehuda.

Some seven shops were closed on Rehov Machane Yehuda, the main street in the market, where one of the July 30 bombs had exploded. Out of Rehov Tapusch's 15 storefronts, only three or four were open for business. The feeling in this part of the market was of a solemn nature.

In contrast, the pushing and shoving – key to Machane Yehuda – was taking place further on in the market. So, although 30 percent of the shoppers were missing, 70 percent were still there haggling for the best prices. There was still a lot of life in this market.

On this particular Friday, I was not just there to buy my weekend groceries. I had come for another reason. Armed with a microphone and a tape recorder, I set off to record the sounds of Machane Yehuda.

I had borrowed the equipment from Kol Yisrael (Israel's radio station), which explains the reason why I was followed, or rather chased, through the alleys of the market. Eager people wanting to express their views – about the market or things in general – ran after me and my yellow microphone.

Some of the more forward types came face to face with me and told me flat out whatever was on their mind. I explained repeatedly that I was not from Kol Yisrael and that I was doing a radio piece for Canada – it would have been too long an explanation had I said Halifax.

I had expected that these people would shy away after they knew I had nothing to do with Israeli radio. The opposite happened. The fact that this radio taping was for Canada made people even more eager to share their thoughts and feelings with people in the Diaspora.

The attack in Machane Yehuda left the Israeli psyche scarred; people here are hurt and angry. Some blame Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat for not stopping terrorists. Others blame Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for not wanting peace. The reality is twofold: the Oslo agreement was signed by an Israeli party and a Palestinian party and must be followed through. This means Netanyahu can stall the signings; however, he has no choice but to deal with the process – whether or not he opposes it. Israel is a country surrounded by those who think its mere existence is problematic. That is, even if a peace agreement is signed, it doesn't mean that everyone will abide by it or like it.

If Israel continues with the peace process, then there will be more attacks from Jewish and Arab exremists opposed to the plan. Similarly, if the process is stopped, there will be more Palestinian-initiated attacks by Palestinians who want their own state.

Some say this catch-22 situation can be overcome by physical borders. But how can Israel put up fences when a large number of Arabs reside in Israel? Also, if Israel does put up real borders, thereby closing off access into Israel, then the Palestinian government will have control over the port of Gaza. This would lead to difficulties resulting from weapon imports from other Arab states.

While these theories are on Israelis' minds, most of those to whom I spoke referred to the hard days they've experienced since the bombs. Business has suffered. People are more afraid to go out. One cab driver told me he only takes passengers who call ahead because he is afraid he may pick up the "wrong" person.

While the fear is understandable, it is no way to live. One of the hummus vendors told me people should continue coming to the shuk and not be afraid. He estimates the crowd will be up to its usual standard within the next few weeks. He said we have to continue living our daily lives after terrorist attacks, to show that Israelis and Jews will not succumb to their actions. He then turned to help a customer.

At the next booth fresh green cucumbers were selling for NIS 2 a kilogram. I bought five for 90 agorot (about 40 cents), and called it a day.

The wake up tour for students

This past summer in Israel, I had many experiences that have given me the clarity to see the true power of our Jewish heritage, the dynamism of students and the impact that activism can have. If only there was something that could unify these elements, I thought, the world would undoubtedly be changed. Then, as if G-d himself had reached out his arm, my friends and I all received a kind of slap on the head that resulted in our conceiving of an idea, a dream called the Wake Up Tour.

By Justin Korda in Jerusalem

The tour, an activity completely organized by students, will seek to uncover and expose the joy and vibrancy that is simultaneous with Judaism. Through the inspiring and uplifting music of Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach and that of some of the greatest rock musicians in the Jewish world, the tour's caravan will travel throughout North America waking up and rocking university campuses until a level of pure bliss is achieved.

At each concert venue, activism will begin when students unite to benefit their local community. This will be accomplished by having participants sign volunteer sheets or donate money for causes such as improving the quality of life of Jewish people living right around them.

On an international level, the Wake Up Tour will exercise maximum efforts toward freeing the missing Israeli soldiers. In this respect, the tour would be accompanied by a "Freedom Bus" organized by the parents of missing Israeli soldier, Zachary Baumel. This group will point students in the direction that would be most effective in the attempt to gather information on the whereabouts of the soldiers.

The student world, which is often plagued by boredom and apathy, will have to "wake up" to plan this tour. The students' careful planning and successful execution of this tour will revolutionize the hierarchy of priorities for the average student today.

That is the dream. Now the weight of reality must begin to balance the scale. Now the leap from the comfortable world of dreams and visions into the world of action and reality must be made.

As I sit here at a computer in a small CyberCafé in New York City writing this article, my heart is speedily pumping and my palms are sweating because of the events that are going to unfold in the next couple of days. The most popular Jewish Rock band in Israel, Facing East (also known as The Moshav Band) has been flown here to do a trial concert. Over the last two years, this band has found a following among hundreds of North American students who have spent time in Israel. The audience at this "trial concert" will be made up of Jewish students from university campuses throughout North America. If this audience is mesmerized and inspired by the band and the music in the same way that hundreds of other students have been, the Wake Up Tour will no longer exist as an awesome dream but becomes a reality waiting to happen.

To those whose memory serves them well, I ask if you can remember the joy you felt when you heard that Soviet, Ethiopian and Syrian Jewry were on airplanes heading to Israel. Now try to fathom the overwhelming excitement you will experience upon hearing that the missing Israeli soldiers were freed, or that the level of poverty in Jewish communities across North America has declined – and that you had a role in making it happen.

Try to imagine singing and dancing in a mosh pit type of arena, with a few hundred companions raising your spirits to a level so high that you feel as if you are flying through the air with a smile that can't be wiped off your face. Now *wake up* from this imaginary journey and make it happen, for the more people who assist in planning this event, the greater its success will be.

In looking at this idea and this event there is a lesson to be learned. The fine line between dreams and realities only exists if it is not broken. And even if this line is broken, causing dreams to soon become realities, it does not mean that realities cannot be dreamlike.

The Wagner controversy

Amongst my summer readings is a magazine published in Jerusalem. It is entitled *Ariel*, with a sub-title *The Israel Review of Arts and Letters*. Each issue brings fascinating aspects of Israel's intellectual and artistic life. Even the *Jerusalem Post* and the *Jerusalem Report* rarely delve deeply into the cultural aspect of Israeli life.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

An article by Lili Eylon, entitled *The Wagner Controversy*, caught my eye. The subject matter is clear; many Germans, like many (if not most) Israelis, and many Jews living outside of Israel cannot "digest" Wagner. His undisguised anti-Semitism and Hitler's use of his operas and writings, made the famed composer a bête noire for many.

Wagner considered Jewish music bereft of all expression, characterized by coldness and indifference, triviality and nonsense. To him, the Jew had no true passion to impel him to artistic creation, and a Jewish composer was, in his eyes, a confused heap of the forms and styles of all ages and masters. Like the Nazis after him, Wagner spoke of the "harmful influence of Jewry on the morality of the nation," contrasting it with the beneficent spirit of the German psyche. (Anti-Semitism is irrational, and Wagner himself proved it when he wrote also some complimentary comments on Jews.)

But time has a way of healing old wounds, and a couple of years ago, Wagner's opera *The Flying Dutchman* was broadcast on Israel radio during prime time and thereby broke an old taboo. The public debate that followed was passionate, one side claiming that music and its creator cannot be separated, the other side insisting that such separation was the only rational approach to music which, taken by itself, had a message all of its own, unrelated to the opinions of its composer. When, in 1981, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra (under the baton of Zubin Mehta) offered a piece from Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde*, pandemonium broke out in the audience. A lot of people walked out, but the selection was played to its end.

Since then, surveys have been made in Israel about the issue, and those who want the German composer to be heard again cite other musical figures whose anti-Semitism was well-known, among them Frederic Chopin. Still, the opposition to Wagner is not unique – Richard Strauss, also a declared Nazi, running him a close second.

The prevailing opinion is that Wagner, and to a lesser degree Strauss, cannot find public acceptance as long as Holocaust survivors are still alive. Eylon puts it cogently:

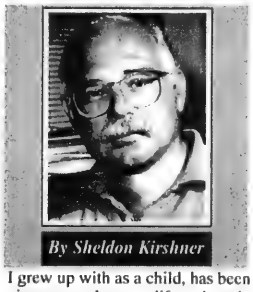
"The entire argument about playing Wagner in Israel does not, in reality, centre around the quality of his music…nor is the argument about how deep-seated was his anti-Semitism really relevant. While it cannot be maintained that Wagner was directly responsible for German national socialism, there is no doubt that he was a powerful symbol in the Nazi era, and his music held a singular importance in the Nazi psyche. Thus for Jewish survivors of the Nazi horrors, Wagner's music represents a vivid reminder of that regime."

Speaking for myself, I have difficulty listening to Wagner, and I don't apologize for it.

The Kirshner File

Yiddish gets a new lease on life

Yiddish, the vernacular language of European Jewry, is in decline, to state the obvious. But of late, Yiddish, which



By Sheldon Kirshner

I grew up with as a child, has been given a new lease on life, at least in Canada and the United States.

Old, flickering Yiddish films are screened at Jewish film festivals. *A Tickle in the Heart,* a delightful documentary about aging klezmer musicians, the irrepressible Epstein brothers, enjoyed a remarkably long run at Cineplex Odeon theatres. The Ashkenaz festival in Toronto, a joyous celebration of Yiddish in all its cultural manifestations, shows no signs of flagging.

Yiddish language and literature are now being taught at some of the finest North American universities and are an accepted part of the curriculum, as Ruth Wisse, a professor of Yiddish at Harvard University, has observed.

The translated novels of Nobel laureate Isaac Bashevis Singer, which extol the vanished world of the Yiddish-speaking shtetl, remain popular.

I'm not suggesting that Yiddish, which was dealt a near fatal blow by the Holocaust, has entered a new golden age. Nor am I saying that Yiddish, like Hebrew before it, will be revived as a national lingua franca. To be sure, Yiddish, beloved for its pungent, down-to-earth quality, is clearly in the doldrums.

As Wisse has written: "For all the talk of its revival, Yiddish actually has only a handful of trained scholars who are capable of translating, editing, teaching and interpreting its vast and varied accumulated heritage."

Nevertheless, the bells do not as yet toll for Yiddish. There are optimists who believe it is not, like the fabled dinosaur, doomed to extinction. Include Aaron Lansky, a McGill University graduate, in their ranks.

Lansky is president of the National Yiddish Book Centre in Amherst, Mass., an institution he founded in 1980. A year earlier, when he was a graduate student in Yiddish literature, he realized that something was amiss when he was unable to find the Yiddish books he required for his research.

As a result of his predicament, he established a central depository for Yiddish books. Someone had told him that only about 40,000 books were ever printed in Yiddish. But as he discovered, this was far from the truth. As he drove around the country in a rented van, amassing books from elderly enthusiasts, his collection multiplied. Within a decade, he had collected 900,000 volumes, all stored in a renovated paper factory near his home in New Bedford, Mass.

Today, the National Yiddish Book Centre houses 1.3 million books in its new facility in Amherst and in a warehouse in neighboring Holyoke. And they keep pouring in, at a rate of about 1,200 per week.

Lansky's Labor of Love

The centre, which regards itself as a clearinghouse for Yiddish literature, performs several functions. It preserves books which might otherwise have disappeared. It sells to libraries, universities and individuals. It offers fellowships in Yiddish culture to university students. It publishes a glossy quarterly, *The Book Peddler,* which carries articles about Yiddish language and literature.

And, in cooperation with National Public Radio and radio station KCRW in Santa Monica, Calif., it sponsored a 13-week series entitled *Jewish Short Stories From Eastern Europe and Beyond.*

Hosted by Leonard Nemoy, with original music composed by Hankus Netsky of the Klezmer Conservatory Band, the program featured 31 stories written by such immortals as Sholom Aleichem, I.B. Singer, Isaac Babel, I.L. Peretz and Philip Roth. They were read by 26 readers, from Walter Matthau and Alan Alda to Lauren Bacall and Claire Bloom.

Now the series is available on nine cassettes from the National Yiddish Book Center. (1-800-524-2727). Listening to these wonderful tales on tape, which range from the hilarious to the tragic, I was transfixed by the power of Yiddish and its body of literature.There may be hope for Yiddish after all.

A boy named Grisha

The fanatical Arab suicide bombers who snuffed out the lives of 14 Israelis in Jerusalem last month did not take an inventory of their victims' religion, ethnicity or political beliefs. Their sole objective was to kill and maim Israelis from all walks of life so as to destroy the faltering peace process they despise and fear.

Yet, in the numbing aftermath of the revolting bombings, the Orthodox rabbinate in Israel drew sharp and hurtful distinctions about the origins of one of the victims. By doing so, it forced many Jews, both in Israel and abroad, to hang their heads in shame.

I refer to the case of Grisha Pesahovic, a Jewish boy who was killed by the July 30 blast. A Russian immigrant who was merely 15, he had settled in Israel with his mother, whose marriage to a Jew (Grisha's father) had ended in divorce. Under the Law of Return, Grisha was Jewish. But halachically, he was not, since his mother was a Christian.

In this respect, Grisha was hardly unusual. According to the strict criteria of Jewish law, tens of thousands of Russian Jews who have arrived in Israel in the past decade are not considered to be Jews. But in all other respects, they consider themselves Jewish. They identify with Israel and its destiny.

Grisha also identified himself as a Jew. Had he not been mown down, he would have been inducted into the Israeli armed forces in three years' time. And, as a soldier, he would have put his life on the line for Israel. If Grisha had fallen in combat, he doubtless would have been given a hero's burial. But Grisha, a good student with a bright future, died under far different circumstances, and was thus dishonored in death.

As Grisha was not Jewish by the norms of halachah, the rabbinate decreed that his remains could not be interred in a Jewish cemetery. Grisha's distraught parents were relieved to find a Baha'i cemetery willing to accept him. But to their consternation, this arrangement collapsed in a welter of misunderstanding and acrimony.

Torn by grief, the family finally found a solution. Yuli Edelstein, the Russian-born minister of immigration whose mother and father are Jewish converts to Christianity, saw to it that Grisha was laid to rest in a Jewish cemetery, though in a separate section reserved for persons whose religious status is debatable.

Grisha and his parents should never have been subjected to this degrading treatment. Admitted to Israel as a Jew, Grisha should have been buried as a Jew without interference. This incident diminishes the moral authority of the rabbinate in my eyes and yet again illustrates the truism that Israel, on the cusp of its 50th anniversary of statehood, is a deeply fragmented society in dire need of reform.

Basel Congress

The Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora, situated on the sylvan campus of Tel Aviv University, has mounted a timely exhibition to coincide with the centenary of the first Zionist congress in Basel, Switzerland, which took place 100 years ago this week. It is called *Blue and White in Color: Visual Images of Zionism, 1897-1947* and deals with the symbols and the motifs — posters, greeting cards, stamps — of Zionist culture during that period. In conjunction with the exhibition, which runs until October, the museum has published an intriguing and colorful booklet.

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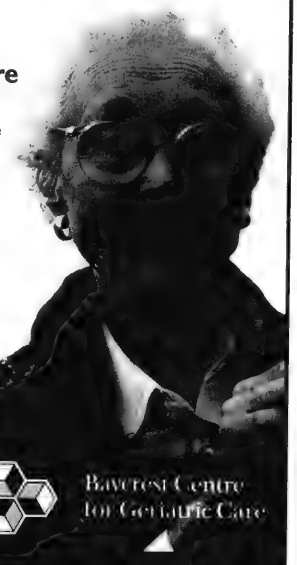
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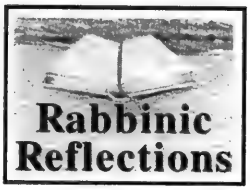


Rabbinic Reflections

By RABBI HOWARD M. FINKELSTEIN

Mitzvah of tzedakah

Those of us who have been to the Kotel during the week have had the experience of being harassed by the many beggars seeking a few dollars. What is our initial reaction to them? Do we ignore them? Do we become judgmental? Are we inclined to feel guilty and therefore give them money or do we just move away quickly from them?

We have no problem supporting UJA drives, and we take pride in actions of the Israeli government in providing homes for thousands of Ethiopian Jews and absorbing hundreds of thousands of Russian Jews. But somehow, the individual mendicant bothers us, and we choose to either ignore him or reluctantly give him a few shekels or whatever.

How does Judaism approach the impoverished? Obviously, we are all familiar with the mitzvah of tzedakah. However, the philosophical underpinnings of tzedakah may not be that familiar. Perhaps an elucidation of those concepts will help us to gain a better perspective and approach to those of us who are in need.

The Halachah describes different types of poverty-stricken individuals, one is given special prominence in our parshah of Re'eh. He is the evyon, the one who is *"ta'ev lechol davar,"* lacking in everything and desirous of everything. He is referred to no less than six times in our parshah.

At first glance, it appears from the biblical perspective, extreme poverty as symbolized by the evyon, or lack thereof, is dependent on the level of observance in the land of Israel. Rashi comments, "when you fulfil HaShem's will, others will have evyonim, but not you. However, when you do not fulfil His will, evyonim will exist among you."

Conversely, the Kli Yakar cites our sages who indicate that poverty comes in cycles, and appears to be an inevitable part of societal living confirming what the Torah says, "The evyon will not cease from the midst of your land."

In order to reconcile the opinion of Rashi with our sages, Rashi attributing poverty as Divinely ordained retribution, and our sages perceiving it to be part of life, one must apply the commentary of the Or Hachaim.

There is no doubt that a truly observant society could possibly see the eradication of poverty in its midst. However, the Or Hachaim relates that the poor are special in the eyes of HaShem, as they enable others to fulfil the mitzvah of tzedakah. One should not imagine that somebody would want to be that altruistic. But poverty is a reality.

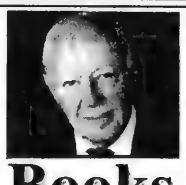
Indeed, the mitzvah of tzedakah enables one to become spiritually enriched. Reducing one's charitable outlay leads to one's spiritual impoverishment.

We cannot "close our heart and pull away our hands." (Deuteronomy 15:7), but "we must open our hands to the impoverished and destitute of our land."

Especially, today, in the light of recent government cutbacks in social and supportive services for those of our community in need, our mandate as baalei tzedakah becomes more pronounced. Our sages have formulated the formula of 10 percent of our income for tzedakah. Few of us meet that goal, unfortunately. But we are told by the rabbi, *"aser bishvil shftitasher,"* which loosely translates as, "Give a tenth in order to become wealthy." (Ta'anit 9A)

We all gain from the fulfilment of the mitzvah of tzedakah. Our approach to life is spiritually enhanced, and we ensure that our children will appreciate and evaluate our example as a people who are called by the Talmud, *"Rachmanim b'nei rachmanim,"* compassionate, concerned and committed to helping those in need. May HaShem bless us in these endeavors.

Rabbi Finkelstein is spiritual leader of Beth Shalom West in Ottawa.



Books

By Bernard Baskin

***Growing Up Jewish*, edited by Rosalie Sharp, Irving Abella & Edwin Goodman (McClelland Stewart, $40).**

Nostalgic essays entertain

It has been said that memory is the diary that we all carry about with us. In this anthology, 26 prominent Jewish Canadians have reached into their memory diaries to recollect and reminisce about days past: the formation of a rich, varied and vibrant culture in a new land; the cherished heritage of parents and grandparents; the barriers and hazards of anti-Semitism, including the multiple horrors of the Holocaust.

These brief, well written, affecting and informative essays pay homage to memory. They remind us that what is bitter to endure may be sweet to remember.

Bill Gold, an inveterate baseball player, writes about outstanding Jewish athletes of his time, among them Bobbie Rosenfeld, "undoubtedly the best Canadian woman athlete in the first half of the century. She played hockey, baseball, basketball and was also a runner at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics, where she won a silver in the 100m dash and a gold in the 4 x 100m relay."

Early Jewish doctors and the health care of Jewish immigrants is absorbingly related by Dr. Fred Weinberg. In the early years of the century, when Dr. A.I. Willinsky looked for post graduate training in Toronto, he was forced to go elsewhere. Eventually, "he became the chief of urological surgery at the Western Hospital on Bathurst Street. Despite an international reputation and attracting patients to the Western from all over the world, he never did get a university teaching appointment in Toronto."

Ben Kayfetz remembers watching the astonishing movement of herds of cattle being driven down Claremont Street to the abattoir. He informs us also how the famous Londoner Shul got its unusual name. "It was the practise at the turn of the century for immigrant ships to stop at an English port such as Liverpool for quarantine purposes. The stay lasted about two weeks, just long enough for the Litvak immigrants to acquire a taste of tweed tailoring, a pipe and the other paraphernalia of civilized British living." They tried to bring this newly acquired sophistication to their Toronto synagogue.

The late Ben Dunkelman, son of the founder of the successful Tip Top Tailors, was a colorful personality — winner of the Distinguished Service Order for his heroism in World War II and a valuable volunteer in Israel's 1948 War of Independence. "When the war was over, Ben-Gurion offered me a supreme military honor: the peacetime job of commanding the entire Israeli armored corps, with the very real possibility of eventually becoming Chief of Staff." Dunkelman, however, turned it down and suggested that he could be of more service by providing food and housing for the stream of immigrants who had entered the country and would continue to arrive.

The book's most unexpected episode must be Joe Berman's encounter with an Indian chief named Ginsberg. The chief turned out to be a Montreal dealer in furs who had obtained a document from the RCMP exempting an Indian tribe from a ban on trapping beavers. As a result, "the tribe elected me Honorary Chief for all negotiations with the government, the police and with outsiders coming to do trade. So that is how I came to be Ginsberg — The Indian Chief."

In a brief review, it is impossible to do justice to all of the pieces that make up this oversized volume, enhanced by a cornucopia of photographs of loved ones and relatives.

Nostalgia can be a seductive liar, but this eminently readable and entertaining volume rings true. The royalties from the book will go to support Ashkenaz, a Festival of New Yiddish culture.

Jewish Life

Look up your ancestors at the public library

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Rabbi Bernard Wladowsky was a man of diverse talents.

A rare Depression-era book, *Canadian Jewry: Prominent Jews of Canada*, provides details of his life, beginning with the information that he was born to Hirsh and Hesse Wladowsky in Smilo, near Kiev, in 1875.

"He revealed his ability as a singer at an early age, and sang in public when he was seven years old. At the age of 16 he organized the first choir in Kiev, and studied music in one of the government schools. Later he was cantor in synagogues in Kiev, Bachmut and in Sevastapol; was appointed Grand Cantor of Constantinople; and he then went to Bucharest for five years in the Coral Temple there.

"Then he migrated to New York and was cantor in the First Hungarian Synagogue in Harlem, and then in Chicago. Three years later he came to Canada, and for the past 19 years he occupied the position of Cantor in the University Avenue, the Men of England and the McCaul Street Synagogues.

"Rev. Wladowsky has gained a considerable reputation as a specialist in circumcision and has operated on about eighteen thousand children." The entry concludes by naming his wife and four children.

Written by Dr. Zvi Cohen and published in 1933, *Canadian Jewry: Prominent Jews of Canada* is an excellent but little-known biographical encyclopedia that contains about 800 detailed thumbnail biographies. Most entries feature a picture and information on place and year of birth, parentage, achievements, travel, spouse and children. In compiling the book, the author visited dozens of towns from coast to coast, including many where the Jewish populations have since dwindled or disappeared.

Familiar names

If your ancestors fled the pogroms of Eastern Europe between 1880 and the early 1920s, you might find them listed here – especially if they became accomplished, successful or philanthropic. Flipping through the pages, one sees familiar names like Breslin, Chernin, Dworkin, Dunkelman, Eisendrath, Grafstein, Korolnek, Kroll, Kugelmass and Willensky.

The Jew In Canada, Arthur D. Hart's hefty volume published in 1926, is another source of biographical details and photos of several hundred Jewish families from Glace Bay, N.S. to Victoria, B.C. Hart's empirical survey is a treasure trove of historical chronicle, descriptions of communal organizations, drawings of old synagogues, and other elements guaranteed to fascinate historians.

If your ancestors were here before World War I, they may be listed in Lawrence Tapper's *Biographical Dictionary of Canadian Jewry, 1909-1914* (Avotaynu, 1993). Tapper indexed thousands of birth, bar mitzvah, marriage, death and social notices from the *Jewish Times*, an English-language fortnightly newspaper that was published in Montreal.

All of these books are available at the Jewish Public Library in Montreal, the Latner Jewish Public Library in Toronto and select other libraries. If you consult the card catalogues or librarians at such institutions, you'll find numerous other little-known reference works that could provide useful genealogical information.

For instance, the above-mentioned Rabbi Wladowsky kept meticulous records in Yiddish of every circumcision performed. Accessible through the Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario region Jewish archives, the notebooks of the prolific mohel list names, addresses, fees paid and other information, and could potentially provide evidence of a birth in cases where no official birth record is available.

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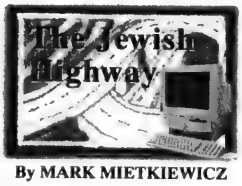

Swiss banking controversy

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Last week we looked at some of the key figures in the fight to reclaim dormant Swiss bank accounts. Today, reaction from the international press.

According to the *Jerusalem Post*, the "publication of the list of dormant Swiss bank accounts has raised the hopes of many pensioners and opened old wounds." For a look at the effect of the release of the names on potential heirs, see Cents and Sensibility at **[http://www.jpost.com/com/Archive/03.Aug.1997/Features/Article-0.html]**.

To see how the controversy is viewed in Switzerland, go to the *Journal de Genève*'s forum on Switzerland and Jewish Funds **[http://geneva-international.org/Forum/Dossier/Welcome.E.html]**. You'll find links to articles on such topics as What Goes Through a Swiss Banker's Mind When Questioned About Jewish Funds? and Portugal, Too, Must Examine Its Past. You can add your own opinion to the debate at **[http://geneva-international.org/Forum/Debat/Reactions.E.html]**.

I also recommend a fascinating exchange from the *Washington Post*. In Bankers, Not Collaborators, Walter Rockler argues that Switzerland cannot be blamed for collaboration with Nazi Germany. In addition, although Swiss bankers have behaved badly in returning the assets to victims' families, they acted "like bankers." Rockler was the Nuremberg war crimes trial prosecutor responsible for cases against German bankers **[http://search.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/WPlate/1997-07/22/029l-072297-idx.html]**.

In response, Michael Hausfeld is much more critical of the bankers. "Knowing participation in the disposal and concealment of Jewish and other assets systematically looted or the profits of slave labor, both part of a systematic program of extermination, is not the business of banking. It is an offense against humanity" **[http://search.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/WPlate/1997-08/05/019l-080597-idx.html]**.

For a look at how the Swiss are rethinking their role in the War, see *Time* magazine's A Painful History **[http://pathfinder.com/time/magazine/1997/dom/970224/world.a_painful.html]**.

Finally, there is the story of Christophe Meili, a man of conscience. In January, the security guard at the Union Bank of Switzerland discovered bank employees were shredding what appeared to be important Holocaust-era documents. After Meili handed those documents over to Jewish leaders, he was fired, received death threats and eventually fled to the United States **[http://pathfinder.com/AllPolitics/Latest/AP/1997Jul30/621.html]**.

Last month, President Bill Clinton signed legislation **[http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c105:S.768:]** granting Meili and his family permanent residency in the United States.

Although Meili's future has been resolved, the story of the bank accounts is by no means over. Swiss banks must report by Sept. 15 on all foreign and domestic accounts that have been dormant since 1945. And a second list of names will be published on Oct. 20. For families hoping to hear about the fate of their property, the wait continues.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Greater Toronto Area

Every aspect of one's life should be Jewish, says rabbi

By REVA KAISER
Student Intern

TORONTO — According to the teachings of Kabbalah and Chassidut, there are 13 specific Jewish experiences which correspond to activities every Jew should partake in, says Rabbi Yitchak Ginsburg, an author, lecturer and Kabbalist.

Rabbi Ginsburgh, head of Yeshivat Od Yoseph Chai in Shechem, Kollel Menuchah Rochel in Hebron and Gal Einei Publishing house in Jerusalem, spoke recently at both the Bloor JCC and B'nai Torah Congregation.

"Jewish life is an array of different experiences, and each side of life should be Jewish. Nothing should be totally secular," he said.

The highest category, known as the "crown" (keter), is composed of the superconscious spirits, and has three dimensions. The first one, "faith," is the essence of the covenant between the Jewish soul and its Divine source. This is the ultimate Jewish experience. It is the realization that whatever happens in life is because of God.

The second experience (the second dimension of the crown), the rabbi said, is "pleasure" (ta'anug), expressed by the observance of Shabbat and holidays, which is the essence of pleasure, because everything one does on these days is an experience of Jewish pleasure.

The ultimate expression of pleasure in Jewish life is song and dance, which is the manifestation of the third experience, "will" (ratzon), the third dimension of the crown. Will is the motivation to do something; pleasure on its own is not a motivation for anything.

Next, are the three intellectual levels. "Wisdom" (chachmah) is related to the study of Torah, which is God's wisdom. "Understanding" (binah) is meditation, the act of incorporating into your soul the wisdom learned. The third intellectual level is "knowledge" (da'at), the way to directly connect to God. Every mitzvah is an expression of God connecting to us. It is our duty to take the mundane experiences of life and make them holy through deeds," said Rabbi Ginsburgh.

The next level is the primary emotions of the heart. "Kindness" (chesed), is the essence of Jewishness and is the act of doing good deeds. "Might" (gevurah) is introspection. It's more than prayer, it's cheshbon hanefesh, which is self-introversion. A God-fearing Jew does this to analyze his relationship with God. The essence of "beauty" (tif'eret) is the performance of the mitzvot. The 613 mitzvot are the body of the Torah and are the implementation of wisdom. "Jewish life is a full, beautiful array of 613 things to do," he said.

The next category is composed of the three powers of the soul that manifest themselves in action, and thus bring Jewish life more into reality.

"Eternity" (netzach) is exemplified through education, the continuity of Judaism. "Honesty" (hod) is seen specifically in business dealings. A Jew must realize that the first question he'll be asked in the world to come is: Did you conduct business honestly? The "foundation" (yisod) of Jewish life corresponds to the physical union and the relationship between husband and wife, known as shalom bayit. It is their duty to make their marriage holy, which is a uniquely Jewish experience, Rabbi Ginsburgh said.

The final experience, "kingdom" (malchut), is expressed through prayer, which is the ultimate experience of Judaism. This is the ability to express oneself through speech.

"If you put all the acts together," said Rabbi Ginsburgh, "[you] are living a full and complete life."

Corrections

The article on Agi Mandel, chair of this year's UJA Women's Campaign, (*CJN*, Aug. 14), stated that 500 new donors made three-year pledges. The 500 new donors refers to Women's Campaign only. Overall, 3,000 new donors made three-year pledges. The CJN regrets the error.

The article "Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla gets new rabbi" (*CJN* Aug. 21) stated incorrectly that Rabbi Yoseph Oziel received smichah five years ago. Although he completed Yeshiva Gedola's post-secondary rabbinical program in 1992, it wasn't until this year, following a further four years of specialized study — two in Talmud and two in Halachah — that Rabbi Oziel actually received smichah.

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Greater Toronto Area

Harris helps create 'dedicated' team at Baycrest

Mitzi Harris

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — After 25 years at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, Mitzi Harris, employment services advisor, is still impressed with the centre's commitment to care.

"Everyone here is dedicated to helping the elderly and to serving them with dignity," she says.

Harris, who came to Baycrest as a part-time secretary in the audiology department, now works with the nursing staff. "I pre-screen before they are hired and set up meetings between union and management if there are labor problems. I also try to resolve any concerns the staff may have. They come to me if they are not satisfied after talking to the head nurse and to the union.

"I love working with the nurses. It's a tough job and, for the most part, they are caring and compassionate."

Harris says she can tell a lot about a prospective nurse "from a gut feeling. What I do is have an interviewee wait with a head nurse and observe how she interacts with the residents. She may come to us with a lot of experience, but what really counts is a certain attitude. If someone approaches her and she is open and receptive, then that means a lot to me. Our residents are here long term and they need someone with whom they can build a relationship — someone they can trust."

She misses working with the residents, however. "When I began working at Baycrest, I fitted clients and residents with hearing aids and batteries. I got to know a lot of them well and I miss their humor and outlook on life. There is a lot of wisdom in these halls. I still like to visit them in my day-to-day work."

Harris is proud, she says, to be associated with such a "well-kept, modern facility. The programs are good, the people care and the residents and clients are in good hands. We know we cannot please everyone all the time, but we sure try."

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would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the many people who comforted and sustained us in our time of sorrow. Your warmth and generosity following the death of our youngest daughter affirmed that her life was rich in friendship and love.

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Toys serious stuff, firm finds

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

From left, Spin Master Toys' marketing manager Evan Propst tries out a Chatter Ring with company co-founders Anton Rabie and Ronnen Harary. [Ron Csillag photo]

TORONTO — Anton Rabie and Ronnen Harary are living the dream of many of us who, as kids, ached to own a toy store. But they go one better. These two serious young Jewish men own a toy company, churning out widgets and playthings that bring in serious dollars.

One may be forgiven for thinking that the company Rabie and Harary founded, Spin Master Toys, located in a non-descript building in the Dufferin/Lawrence area, is a beehive of fun. Instead, the 16 fulltime employees hunker down over desks and worktables, trying to fathom the nearly impossible: why kids like some toys and not others.

"Toys are the second riskiest business today, after software," explains Rabie, who at the tender age of 26, oversees the business end of the growing company. "There's no loyalty among kids. You're only as good as your last product."

Which means Spin Master Toys must be doing quite well. One of its latest products, after a string of successes, is the Chatter Ring, a simple enough thing that is maddeningly difficult to master, unless you're 8 or so.

The ring is the latest in a long line of toy fads that include the current Tamogotchi craze, but it's decidedly low-tech and much cheaper. The 10-inch wide steel hoop has five wedding band-sized rings hanging from it. The point is to use simple kinetic energy to get the smaller rings to simultaneously vibrate, or "chatter" on the larger one by turning it. The sound tends to annoy adults, so naturally, kids love them.

Originally a tribal toy in New Zealand, where it sold over 250,000 units last summer, the Chatter Ring is a hot seller here. Spin Master has manufactured and distributed some 40,000 of them across North America, and as far as Hawaii. Hundreds have been handed out free at charity fundraisers.

Rabie, a business graduate from the University of Western Ontario, and Harary, a political science grad also from Western, are both South African-born go-getters. They met at Camp Northland in the early '80s, and while still at university, parlayed a simple idea into a going concern: Campus Faces was a full color 28-by 40-inch poster of photographs of students, surrounded by 30 eye-catching advertisements. It was distributed free to six Ontario universities and grossed $100,000 in one year.

From there, the partners set up a kiosk at the corner of Yonge and St. Clair and launched the Earth Buddy, which resulted in just about every kid growing grass "hair" from a cute little nylon-stuffed head. In six months, the product generated sales of $1.75 million, and the boys never looked back.

They established Spin Master Toys in 1994 and in short order, marketed a string of hits, including Radical Reptiles (foam dinosaurs on a stiff leash), Spin-ab-lo (made even more popular by the Cirque de Soleil) and the still-popular Devil Sticks. Current strong sellers are Zip Flyer Kites, which require no wind, and Grow-Things Dinosaurs, inexpensive dino eggs that "hatch" and grow to 10 times their size when immersed in water. The company has purchased 1.3 million eggs from the Orient and has shipped nearly all of them to every major retailer in the U.S. and Canada

In all, the firm has 10 "active" items on its roster, with most requiring some dexterity.

And in case you're banking on becoming a rich toy inventor, keep in mind what the company has found: for every idea that's accepted, 100 are rejected.

"It's not as straightforward as it may seem," understates Harary, also 26, who works with inventors and engineers.

But the real test comes once a week, when randomly-selected kids come to the company after school and let everyone know which toys are cool and which aren't.

"Figuring out the feasibility of a toy," says Rabie, poring over computer print-outs, "is tremendously challenging."

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Tuesday, Sept. 2, is deadline for Sept. 11 issue, and Monday, Sept. 8, is deadline for Sept. 18 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Aug. 31

SINGLES SOCIAL EVENING

Games Jewish Singles Play, a fun social evening for Jewish men and women, Group A ages 26-40 and Group B ages 41-69, (Bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Chutzpah, Scrabble, Rummicube) 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. $5. Early bird bingo 7:30-8 p.m. **Mollie** 733-3634.

Monday, Sept. 1

CHILDREN'S ART FESTIVAL

Children's Arts Festival in Mel Lastman Square, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., family entertainment, craft area, cartooning and comic book workshop, face art, acrobatics, stories and more. Admission free. 395-7350.

And What Else Is New

SHABBAT LUNCHEON

Beth Tzedec Congregation Shabbat Study Luncheon, Saturday, Sept. 6, at noon following services. **Prof. Saul P. Wachs**, Gratz College, Pennsylvania, speaks on Betting Your Life on a Mystery. Reservations (paid) by Wednesday, Sept. 3. 781-3511, ext. 13.

HEART TO HEART

Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science's Women and Science lecture Heart to Heart With **Dr. Tirone David**...New Frontiers in Heart Surgery, Monday, Sept. 8, 8 p.m., Four Seasons Hotel, 21 Avenue Rd. $25. Reservations a must. **Edie Bayer** 733-9220.

KOFFLER GALLERY

On view at the Koffler Gallery through to Oct. 12 is a solo exhibition of new work by Toronto artist **Carlo Cesta** entitled Flourish Inc. Artist's talk: Sunday, Sept. 14, 2 p.m.

The Loggia Gallery presents Carpets of Las Vegas, an exhibition of photographs by **Amy Wilson**. Show runs to Oct. 12.

VOLUNTEERS' WORKSHOP

Workshop for volunteers focuses on understanding the difficulties of working with someone with a mental illness. Volunteers will learn practical negotiating skills to utilize in their helping role, Monday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m., Senior Care, 530 Wilson Ave., 3rd floor. Sponsored by the Selma Eisen Volunteer Education Fund. Register by Sept. 5. 635-2900, ext. 419.

SIMCOE COUNTY

Hebrew school in Simcoe County every Sunday, 2-4 p.m. for ages 5 to bar/bat mitzvah, starting Sept. 7, at Barrie Y Immigration Centre. Hebrew, history, holidays, music and more! For information/registration leave message with Simcoe County Jewish Association 705-721-6126.

TALMUD-GEMARAH CLASS

Weekly Talmud-Gemarah class, Wednesdays at 9:10 a.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, resumes Sept. 3. The group continues the study of the Tractate Megillah. Class conducted in English is led by **Aaron Nussbaum.** 633-8097.

SINGLES COMEDY NIGHT

Jewish Singles Comedy Night with performances by well-known as well as up-and-coming Toronto talent, light snacks, cash bar, 8:30 p.m., Temple Sinai. Members $5, non-members $8. For pre-registration 487-4161. Recommended for ages 30-55.

THERAPEUTIC TOUCH

Therapeutic Touch courses are offered by the Division of Palliative Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital. One-day course is $75 with all proceeds going to Jewish Hospice Program. Classes Sunday, Sept. 14, Sept. 21, Oct. 19. Information/registration 586-4800, ext. 6776.

Therapeutic Touch practice groups are held the fourth Wednesday of every month, 6-8 p.m.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Adath Israel Congregation series of 10 conversational Yiddish classes at an intermediate level with in-

[Cont'd on page 19]

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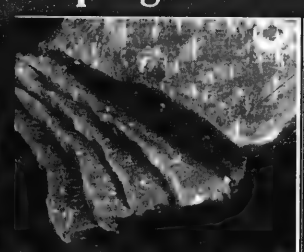
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What's New

[Cont'd from page 18]

structor **David Newman** begins Wednesday, Sept. 10, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Registration 6:30-7:30 p.m. Fee for series: adults $36, seniors (60 plus) $18. 635-5340 or **Louis Gula** 495-0919.

ASHKENARTZ!

ASHKENartZ! Marketplace at the Ashkenaz Festival, a juried show and sale of fine Judaica, Saturday night, Aug. 30, until midnight; Sunday, Aug. 31, noon to midnight; and Monday, Sept. 1, noon to 6 p.m. Meet the artists and shop for one-of-a-kind gifts, York Quay Centre at Harbourfront. 973-3000.

OTTAWA EXILES REUNION

Did you grow up in Ottawa? Do you now live in or near Toronto? You're invited to a "reunion" of Ottawa exiles Sunday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m. to noon. All ages welcome. **Lewis Molot** 736-2100, ext. 22613.

AUDITIONS

Auditions for **Neil Simon's** *The Odd Couple(s)*, original (male) version directed by **Randy Pryce**, female version by **Allan Price**, Aug. 28, 7-10 p.m. Call backs Sept. 3. Cast required: eight men, eight women, ages 35-50. Performance dates Nov. 5-15, City Playhouse, 1000 New Westminster. 733-0558.

MARITIMERS TAKE NOTE!

Cape Breton Jewish Club invites all Maritimers to a social evening and get together Saturday, Sept. 13, 8 p.m., Earl Bales Park Community Centre. Guest speaker **Dr. Lawrence I. Gaum,** author of *From Belarus to Cape Breton and Beyond*. Musical entertainment, **Dr. Irving Koven**, "The Pride of Grand Falls, New Brunswick." Reserve. 905-731-5110.

YIDDISH FOR CHILDREN

Free Yiddish classes for children, kindergarten and elementary grades, reading, writing, conversation, Jewish holidays, culture, customs and history, art and music, Sunday mornings at Associated Hebrew Day School, 250 Finch Ave. W. Registration Sunday, Sept. 7, 9:30 a.m. School starts Sunday, Sept. 14, 9:30 a.m. Sponsored by Committee for Yiddish of UJA Federation and North York and York Region Boards of Education. **Naomi,** 635-2883, ext. 700.

JEWISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Lachan, Toronto's Jewish Chamber Choir, has been appointed choir-in-residence of the Koffler Centre of the Arts at the Bathurst Jewish Centre. Lachan is conducted and directed by **Cantor Benjamin Maissner**. Its repertoire encompasses the full range of Jewish music, liturgical and secular, in Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino and English. A limited number of openings for audition, especially for experienced tenors, baritone and bass singers. **Debra Eklove** 229-1747.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Looking Ahead to discuss feelings of loneliness, independence, realistic expectations, begins Sept. 22; Parenting Your Teenager: Who is This Stranger in My House?, begins Sept. 16; Adult Children Losing a Parent begins Sept. 16. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

JEWISH FOLK CHOIR

Toronto Jewish Folk Choir performs at the Ashkenaz festival in the Brigantine Room, Harbourfront Centre, under the leadership of **Zalman Mlotek**, well-known figure in Jewish choral music in New York.

The choir, under the direction of **Esther Ghan Firestone** accompanied by **Lena Zemelman** starts the new season with an open rehearsal Wednesday, Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m., Morris Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. All welcome. **Enid Moscovitch** 778-8878 or **Marilyn Hersh** 492-7110.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

New Beginners Israeli folkdance class with **Teme Kernerman** starts Thursday, Sept. 11, 8-9 p.m. followed by Intermediate level 1 class for those with some experience. Intermediate/advanced/request dancing every Tuesday 8-10 p.m. All classes held at Leah Posluns Theatre Studio Theatre at Bathurst Jewish Centre. 636-1880, dance centre ext. 359 or Teme ext. 364.

HEBREW FOR PARENTS

It's never too late to learn Hebrew, especially when it's made fun and easy! **Yael Lev** is again offering unique Hebrew and heritage classes for parents with children in Jewish schools. Three levels of conversational Hebrew lessons (Ulpan method) as well as prayer book reading, offered daytime or evening. Classes start in September at Associated Hebrew Schools, Beth Tikvah and Kehillat Shaarei Torah Synagogues. Yael 225-6151.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Wanted: fun-loving volunteers who want to participate in a series of exciting fundraising events. Call **Renée** at Bloor JCC 924-6211.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama Sept. 17; Haliburton Sept. 22-23; day trip to Canada Cap Factory and Fortinos in Woodbridge Sept. 24, members $5, non-members $8; Casino Niagara Sept. 25; Washington and Atlantic City Oct. 26-31; shopping in Buffalo Nov. 5; Square One Shopping Centre Nov. 19, members $5, non-members $8. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Sept. 4 program is a video Israeli show with singer **Gabi Berlin.** For information, **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning – a trip to Niagara Casino; video of film *Mr. Holland's Opus* Nov. 3; opening musical luncheon with entertainers **Ivory and Silver** Nov. 10. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club is taking registration for Miami trip 1998 Wednesdays 10 a.m. at the Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

When marriage hurts: Working Together for Change is a group for women over 55 who have been or are in relationships that hurt. Learn how to understand your situation in a supporting and caring environment. Learn how to keep safe and get your needs met. New 10-week session starts Sept. 16. Offered by La'Briyut Wellness Centre, the Awareness Project for Abuse of the Elderly, and Jewish Family & Child Service. All enquiries in strictest confidence. **Sheila Zane** or **Sharon Zeiler**.

At Low Vision Support Group meeting Tuesday, Sept. 2, 1:30-3 p.m., optometrist **Dr. Lorne Kashin** presents The Latest in Low Vision Aids.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays (note change of day). Programs include movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-alongs, dances, bingo. Sept. 2 is an Israeli movie. **Anna**.

The movie *She Devil* is screened on Sunday, Aug. 31, 2:15 p.m.

Dance on Sunday, Aug. 31, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Open House Week Sept. 8-14: Pottery making, fitness classes, yoga, dance, performances by Suzuki School of Music, swimming, water polo and synchronized swimming demonstrations, Main Space School of Circus Arts; also, The Stars Celebrate Bloor, musical fundraising evening, Saturday, Sept. 13; and A Fitness Fair with booths, activities – bench press contest, free mini-massage, demonstrations, Sunday, Sept 14, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sign up now for first annual charity golf tournament Sept. 18, Lake Simcoe Golf and Country Club, 1 p.m. sharp tee-off, shotgun format. $99. **Tony** or **Renée**.

Watch for upcoming world gala premiere fundraiser with Riverdale Shul of **Simcha Jacobovici's** new film *Hollywoodism: The Jews, Their Movies and the American Dream* in November.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Four-week comprehensive investment course: the Stock Market, Mutual Funds, Financial Planning, and Financial Real Estate Planning, Tuesdays 7:30-9 p.m. beginning Sept. 2. Instructor, financial planner **Alon Zohar.** $40. **Lisa** ext. 240.

Fun Centre three-hour weekend program offers children the opportunity to have fun in the indoor children's activity room, swim, and play cooperative sports in the gymnasium. Qualified staff supervise and encourage participants to explore new adventures while meeting new friends, ext. 284.

Book now for Stress and Mess Free Birthday Parties for October, November and December. Birthday party themes available are crafts, sports, pool and Fun Centre. Parties include food, cake, instructors, loot bags, ext. 248.

BJC's 1997/98 Program Guide is now available. Pick it up at Information Centre.

SPIRITUAL MOTHER OF THE YEAR

Na'amat Canada-Toronto region honored Senator Anne Cools (centre) as its Spiritual Mother of the Year at the recent Growing Up With Na'amat appreciation evening. With Cools is Vivian Silverberg (left), program chair, and Paula Schipper, president, Na'amat Toronto. [Mollie Rothman photo]

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SOCIAL EVENING AND GET TOGETHER
SATURDAY, SEPT. 13, 8 P.M.
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GUEST SPEAKER: ***DR. LAWRENCE I. GAUM***
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Updating the Political Situation in Israel

Wednesday, September 10, at 8 p.m.

*Critics comments on Robert Adams' reviews at Montreal's Tudor Hall and Toronto's Hart House Theatre:

"As entertaining as it is insightful and thought-provoking ... absolutely outstanding." Montreal Gazette, June 6, 1996

"A real tour de force performance." Toronto Star, June 23, 1997

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Lisa at (416) 391-1836
***The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

****TIMEOUT!**** **Co-ed Volleyball** Registration Pub Nite, Sept. 7, 7:30-9:30pm, Ferrit & Ferkin, 720 Spadina Ave. See us there, or call: **(416) 255-2230**

***GAMES JEWISH SINGLES PLAY! Sunday, Aug. 31, 7:30 pm**, Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook, Ages 26-40, 41-69. ***BRIDGE, Rummicube, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, etc. Early Bird Bingo**, 7:30-8pm. Prizes, refreshments, $5.00 66 couples have already met! Free introductions. Mollie, 416-733-3634.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1425 registered. Averaging an engagement every 4 wks. 483-4151.

Mark & Ari invite you to...*Long Weekend Bash 2* (the night he came home), **Sunday, August 31/97**, 9:00 pm, Shark City, 117 Eglinton Ave. E. Door prizes, pool tables, 2 dance floors, 2 DJ's, patio, complimentary finger foods. Bigger than before! Advance $8.00, Door $10.00. TicketMaster: 416-870-8000 or **Mark & Ari Hotline: 416-733-1419**.

Shabbat at Club Wahanowin. Join Jewish Singles (25-35) from TO, Mtl. & the U.S. for a **fabulous weekend at Camp Wahanowin**, near Orillia, **Sept. 5th-7th**. Enjoy a meaningful, traditional Shabbat experience, Sat. nite entertainment & a Sun. filled with water-skiing, canoeing, swimming, BBQ & more! **Cost: $99. (Super special before Aug. 27th)**, $125. after. Call Celia: 416-785-1107. All food kosher.

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THE SINGLE GOURMET'S NEW JEWISH CONNEXION
Portion of the Proceeds to Jewish National Fund for Israel

Witz helps make public speaking fun

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Standing up and speaking in front of an audience makes most people's hearts race and their knees tremble.

Marion Witz, however, president of Witz and Associates and author of *Stand Up and Talk to 1,000 People* (McLeod Publishers), claims that not only can people learn to speak in public, they can really begin to enjoy it.

Witz, who is hired by companies to teach employees how to give presentations, also teaches privately and in groups. She claims that if people have a "step by step method to follow, public speaking becomes easy. My dream is for as many people as possible to learn how."

Panicking before giving a talk, says Witz, is normal. "Rather than focusing on what they want to do, speakers often focus on what they think they cannot do. They worry that they are not as good as the last speaker, that they will make a poor impression or that they'll forget to say the most important thing. These fears, however, can be conquered."

People who learn to conquer these fears do not go through a personality change, says Witz.

"They are just changing their abilities. Learning public speaking is a process like any other, such as learning to ride a bike or play golf. If you learn every step along the way, you will get your message across effectively."

Marion Witz

In her book, which took four months to write, Witz breaks down the public speaking process into five steps, including the desire factor, identifying the type of presentation, knowing the audience, preparing the script and delivering the presentation.

"One of the difficulties of preparing a presentation is knowing where to start. Until you know what it is you want to say, you will flounder around with ideas and become more nervous as you begin to feel lost...The desire factor becomes your starting point. When you ask yourself the questions, 'Why do I want to do this presentation and what do I want to achieve?' you have a beginning."

Witz considers the voice to be like an instrument. "The sound that comes out is dependent on the player and people can learn to play it well. I can teach most people to develop their voice in 10 hours of classes over five weeks. After these five weeks, students can develop a stronger, richer and more modulated voice. I stress, however, that I am an elocution teacher, not a speech pathologist. Some people do need a speech pathologist.

Classes must take place weekly, she says, because time is needed during the week for 20 minutes of daily breathing, relaxation and resonance exercises. Most of these can be done while in the car or while taking a shower.

IF YOUR AGING PARENTS ARE LIVING ALONE IN MONTREAL AND YOU CAN'T BE THERE

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Greater Toronto Area

Snidermans gather for reunion

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Four generations of one family fressed and frolicked at a recent family reunion, celebrating a century of Snidermans.

An estimated 200 people living in the United States and Canada can trace their origins to Huna and Leah Sniderman, a couple from a shtetl near Odessa, who married sometime in the 1860s.

Their surviving children, four sons born between 1869 and 1888, emigrated to Canada around 1915. Two sons, Israel and Jacob, settled in Toronto and were eventually joined by their parents. Their brothers, David and Louis put down roots in Detroit.

A group of the brothers' descendants gathered at a North York hotel for the recent reunion, arriving from as far as California, Texas, England and Japan. The festivities included singing, folk-dancing, recipe-swapping and plenty of schmoozing. A medical data bank was also set up.

The reunion, which drew 130 people, was organized by Torontonians David and Georgina Paikin, and their son Barney. David Paikin, the grandson of Israel, remembered visiting cousins in Detroit when he was a child, but the contact with the American branch of the family was limited in later years.

The impetus for organizing a big reunion came from Albert Sniderman of the American contingent of the family. In 1964 he took on the responsibility of becoming family genealogist by researching the family history and devising a numerical family tree. There were too many Snidermans with the same first name so he used code numbers to identify them, he said.

All the members of the Sniderman family were assigned a six-digit number which identified their place on the family tree.

In 1994 Albert suggested the family hold a reunion to bring the various members of the Sniderman family together. It took place in Detroit that year. David Paikin said it was such a success he offered to organize the 1997 reunion in Toronto.

With all the singing, dancing and merry-making going on, the second reunion appeared to equal the success of the first and that was confirmed by many of the guests. Barney Paikin said that he enjoyed getting reacquainted with his cousins. "It's great to see them and pick up from where we left off."

Sherry Rose Sniderman, who flew in from Texas, said it was always fun to meet other members of the family. "I find we have the same sense of humor. We really enjoy each other's company."

Former Torontonian Licia Crystal, currently a resident of London, England, came to Toronto with her two children especially for this event. "I want my children to meet their cousins and to know that their family is more than the nuclear family."

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Greater Toronto Area

Oriole race pits trustee, former MP, and activist

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In his attempt to follow in his mother's footsteps at Queen's Park, David Caplan, a two-term school trustee, faces former member of Parliament Barbara Greene and community activist James Kafieh in the Sept. 4 by-election in Oriole riding.

Elinor Caplan held Oriole for the Liberals for 12 years before giving it up to run successfully in the riding of Thornhill in last June's federal election.

The upcoming race is expected to be a tight one. In 1995, Caplan won Oriole by fewer than 1,000 votes.

The riding is bounded by Steeles Avenue and Highway 401, and by Victoria Park Road and Leslie Street. Nearly half of the 36,000 eligible voters are tenants and there's a diverse ethnic mix, with large Farsi and Chinese communities. Affluent homes are just blocks away from socially assisted housing. It's estimated 10 percent of the population is Jewish.

David Caplan

Barbara Greene

Caplan, 32, points to several achievements in his six years as a full-time trustee on the North York Board of Education and as vice-chair of the Metro Toronto School Board, most notably, having introduced the first zero tax increase in over 20 years.

The coming byelection "will be hard-fought," he says, "but we're confident Oriole will stay Liberal."

He says he's encountering palpable hostility toward the Mike Harris Tories and people are expressing fear that health care and education are eroding.

Voters are also upset, he says, with the way the provincial government has handled the megacity debate and with changes to landlord-tenant laws he feels will "effectively scrap" rent controls.

With two seniors' residences in the riding, Caplan also hears apprehension when it comes to de-listing of drugs from the Ontario health plan, hospital closings and drug dispensing fees.

"People are angry and disheartened that the government isn't listening," Caplan says.

Greene, his Tory opponent, says voters are generally supportive of the government's cost cutting.

Armed with a reputation for hard work and a record of solid achievements, Greene, 51, says she is running partly because she misses public life.

Greene was the Conservative MP for Don Valley North from 1988 to 1993 and chair of the powerful standing committee on health welfare and social affairs, and the status of women.

Greene has also chaired the Canada-Israel Parliamentary Friendship Group and was active in the struggle for Soviet Jewry.

In 1972, Greene was elected to North York council, where she stayed for 11 years as controller and later was appointed as deputy mayor.

Greene prefers the word restructuring to cuts and points out that some hospitals targeted for closure will become long-term, ambulatory or chronic care facilities.

Faced with $6 billion less in transfer payments from Ottawa over three years, the Harris Tories, she says, have actually increased spending in key sectors by $1 billion in the same period.

Oriole "can be a swing riding," says Greene. "It's a tight race. The Caplan name carries weight. But people are pleased that Premier Harris has kept his promises, especially when it comes to reducing the deficit."

James Kafieh

"Send a fighter to Queen's Park," admonishes campaign literature that shows Kafieh, the New Democratic Party hopeful, standing before a Canadian Armed Forces jet he piloted 16 years ago.

He agrees that health care and education are major concerns in the riding and has found that a lot of voters think Harris "has gone too far, too fast."

"A lot of people who voted for him won't do it again," says Kafieh, 38, adding that he's drawn support from both disenchanted Conservatives and Liberals.

Kafieh's a political newcomer, but he has chalked up a long list of grassroots involvement. During the height of the recession, he worked for JobsOntario and says the project created 800 new jobs.

As a former member of the Canadian Ethnocultural Council and one-time president of the Canadian Arab Federation, Kafieh says he is well-equipped to understand the plight of immigrants and minorities.

Kafieh favors an integrated system of community health care clinics and points to the Sheppard subway as a solid NDP accomplishment.

The Tories have "bulldozed through" legislation in several areas, while the Liberals are "a second Tory party. Only the NDP look after things ordinary people use every day, like transit, hospitals and schools," he says. "The vast majority of people benefit from NDP policies."

Also running in Oriole are Shelly Lipsey for the Green Party, and independents Bernadette Michael, Kirk Moss and Jeff Pancer.

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Rescue

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For Alexander Bursik, leaving Ukraine was, in a strange way, a tribute to his father, who died because modern medicine wasn't available to save his life. Alexander no longer wanted to stay in a country just catching up with quality health care available elsewhere. When he saw no future for himself in Ukraine, Alexander, assisted by the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency, headed to Israel with only a small suitcase in hand and a glitter of hope in his eyes. "I want my mother to join me here someday so we can live in a place where our dreams can be fulfilled. This will have made my father proud."

Dignifying Lives

"The poor among us. More than 20,000 Jews in the Greater Toronto Area live below the poverty line. They're the hidden 13% of our population. For them tzedakah means more than charity. It means our responsibility, as Jews, to each other, exemplified by UJA Federation."

Only a few years ago, Rochelle and her husband Zvi were doing well, with a comfortable home in a middle class Jewish neighbourhood. There was money to spare for restaurant meals, a night out and a yearly vacation. Then financial disaster struck. A pregnant Rochelle quit her secretarial job. Zvi's business slid into bankruptcy. The couple lost their home. That's when Jewish Family & Child Service stepped in through the UJA Federation funded supplementary financial assistance program, counselling and help in finding a subsidized apartment. Today, Zvi is studying computers and Rochelle is learning business administration. Although they're still living below the poverty line, Rochelle and Zvi, thanks to JF&CS and UJA Federation, have more than money. They have their dignity.

Forever.

Preserving Our Identity

"Safeguarding our Jewish heritage starts with us. Each and every one of us. Only when we know who we are can we pass on our sense of identity to our children and grandchildren.

When Tilly Shames started her first year at York University, Jewish involvement was the last thing on her mind. Her pursuit of an environmental studies degree was Tilly's most important priority. "I had no specific Jewish interest,"she says. "But I wanted to see what Jewish programming had to do with environmental studies — what the connection was, if there was one at all." So, Tilly found herself at a special Jewish Students Federation event, celebrating the holiday of Tu B'shvat. Now, thanks to JSF, a member of Jewish Campus Services, supported by UJA Federation, Tilly has developed a new attitude toward Judaism. "My perspective has completely changed. I see new avenues and roots to Judaism, beyond the traditional framework. That's what Jewish Campus Services provided for me and thousands of other students."

The 1998 Campaign Team

Agi Mandel
Women's Campaign Chair

Leo Goldhar
Campaign Chairman

Joseph Steiner
President UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

David Engel
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UJA FEDERATION

On Campus

York literary magazine a forum for student creativity

By SHIRA HONIG
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The sunlight streams through the large windows of the apartment, where Sidura Ludwig sits, talking animatedly about how the idea for *Dorot* first originated.

"I was at a Hillel Leadership Convention in 1995, and I was talking with a guy from San Francisco whose Hillel put out this Jewish student magazine, a literary magazine. And I was really struck by the idea because I'd always wanted to find a way to combine my interests in creative writing and Judaism. So when I came back, I approached the people I thought would be able to help me with it – and people got really excited."

As editor-in-chief of *Dorot*, the Jewish student literary magazine based at York University, Ludwig has watched, over the past year, as her hard work and the work of editors Janna Cohen, Dave Gordon and Moishe Weinberg, culminated in the first three issues.

She has seen it grow from a journal with a few submissions of poetry and prose to a more substantial version that includes photographs. What she likes best about it, she says, is the wide spectrum the publication can present to the Jewish student population.

"I think we're unique in that way. I've never seen a Jewish publication that's been able to include so many different opinions, all under one cover. And I'm really happy with that, because that's what I wanted to do from the beginning."

There is no question diversity is one of *Dorot's* strongest points. Its mandate is to publish Jewish-themed fiction and non-fiction, regardless of the author's own heritage. This allows the magazine to attract everyone, from those already intensely involved in Jewish campus groups to those who are not Jewish themselves.

And then there are contributors who aren't even submitting pieces from Toronto. "One [of the submissions] came from Maryland and two came from Toronto students studying in Israel. There's an eclectic mix in the newest edition," Gordon says.

> *'I think we're unique in a way'*

Perhaps the most important in this mix are those who are Jewish but who have never actively participated in their community before. "We get people submitting to us who have never been involved in the Jewish community at all," Ludwig says. "They've always felt that... they don't fit in. And all of a sudden, there's this magazine that wants to hear their voice, that cares for both the secular and religious Jew."

The outcome is a student publication with a variety of topics. Volume 3, for example, contains poetry questioning G-d's inconceivable ways, as well as short stories mourning the deaths of friends and relations. It also contains a piece entitled *Noah's Territory* by Alexis Nicols, a piece which, Gordon says, some people have found offensive "by virtue of the fact that it has overt sexual content."

Yet controversy, he says, is not something *Dorot* is going to shy away from, as long as a given piece has a Jewish theme and is unanimously deemed by its editors to be of high quality.

Three pieces in particular that I believe stand out for their innovation and strong writing are *Untitled* by Barbi Price, *Tongue-Tied* by Debra Anderson and *Familiar Faux Pas* by Carolyn McLean Schwartz, one of *Dorot's* newest editors.

Ludwig, whose own poem in this volume entitled *in healing mud* is rich with vivid images, points out that not everyone who submits is a creative writing student as she is.

"You know, we have some really talented students out there, [and] it's difficult to get published. So we're able to give them a voice for their voice," she says.

Lenny Cohen, another new *Dorot* editor and creative writing student who is also impressed with the magazine's high standards says he is traditionalist. What does he mean by traditional? "That it's stylistically well done. A lot of [the writing in *Dorot*] is quite clever — that's something I like to see generally."

One story which fits this criterion is entitled *You Only Die Once* by Alberto Maggi. *You Only Die Once*, in *Dorot's* second volume, painstakingly describes the delicate balance between finding a kindred spirit and losing your own identity in the process. Though the narrator is a Jew named Michael Gould, the tale is a universal one, woven with beautiful, intimate detail and realistic dialogue.

Both Cohen, who is filling the spot left by Weinberg's departure in May, and Ludwig agree that the quality of *Dorot*'s writing can be further improved as its readership, and hence the number of submissions, increase. Ludwig plans to continue distributing the magazine to students at York as well as at Ryerson and the University of Toronto in the hope that in a few months, there will be a larger response from the downtown schools.

Cohen and Ludwig are both excited about the prospect of having more writing to choose from.

Because it is a non-profit publication, funded in part by Jewish Campus Services and the Zuckerman Charitable Foundation, *Dorot* is a free publication that has many people behind it, including Zac Kaye, director of Jewish Campus Services and Beta Reproductions, which reproduces the photographs appearing in *Dorot*'s pages.

Shira Honig is a graduate of York University and a creative writing student at George Brown College.

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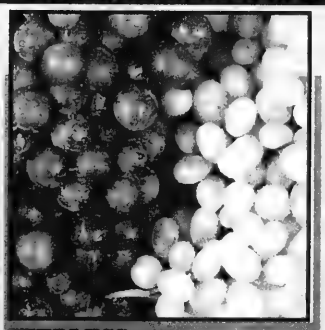
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UIA rescue & renewal

Mission to Baku stirs emotions

When a group of Canadians recently traveled thousands of miles to the former Soviet Union to meet the Jews of Baku, Azerbaijan, what they saw profoundly affected them.

The special mission was organized by United Israel Appeal of Canada, which through local Federation campaigns, funds the rescue of Jews living in unstable parts of the world, primarily the former Soviet Union. Since 1989, the UIA funded Jewish Agency has brought 800,000 Jewish men, women and children to Israel to begin new lives.

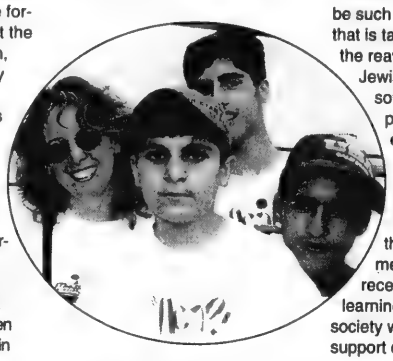
Participants from across Canada visited Jewish Agency summer camps, Hebrew classes for children and adults planning to make aliya and youth clubs with year long cultural programs. The group also journeyed to the remote village of Kuba where 5,000 Jews continue to live much the same way their ancestors did hundreds of years ago.

"This is the most dramatic way to show members of our community how UIA dollars are being spent," said UIA Canada President Harvey Wolfe. "This is my 4th trip to the FSU," added Wolfe, "and I continue to be inspired by the remarkable accomplishments and sacrifice of the Jewish Agency emissaries."

"Seeing children singing Hebrew songs and performing Israeli dances at the summer camp outside Baku made me realize my contribution is being well spent," observed Bonnie Loewith from Hamilton. "It made me feel like a part of Jewish history in the making."

"The spirit of the children is unbelievable," noted Montreal's Rosalyn Wolfe. "For many it is their first positive encounter with Judaism and Israel – and the first step toward aliya."

"I didn't expect to see what I saw," recounted Mendy Sharf of Toronto. "But it became clearer than ever that we must get as many people out while we have the opportunity. Tomorrow might be too late."



"I am so proud that we, Canadian Jews, are able to be such an integral part of all that is taking place, including the reawakening of Jewishness in the hearts, souls and minds of the people of the FSU," explained Montreal's Stanley Plotnick, President of Federation CJA.

On the second leg of the mission, the group met with hundreds of recent olim from the FSU learning to adapt to Israeli society with the guidance and support of Jewish Agency absorption centres.

"Our participants had the chance to see both sides of the remarkable process from the very beginning to the ultimate goal of arriving in Israel," explained Steve Ain, Executive Vice-President of UIA, Canada. "It made the whole story of aliya a reality."

Jewish Agency moves mountain Jews

For the mountain Jews living in the former Soviet republic of Azerbaijan, life is difficult and full of uncertainty. Thanks to the heroic efforts of the Jewish Agency for Israel, funded by United Israel Appeal through UJA/CJA campaigns, they are not struggling alone.

Since 1989, the Jewish Agency has helped more than 27,000 Jews make aliya to Israel from the Muslim republic, but the 26,000 who still remain are, at best, barely earning a living.

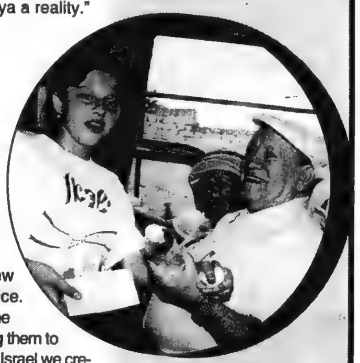
"It's a terrible situation," explains Baruch Gur, the architect of Operation Exodus which brought 800,000 Jews from the FSU and other unstable regions to Israel and UIA's emissary to Toronto. "These people can't find steady work and those who do start small businesses are finding paying customers scarce." The average monthly salary is a mere $30.

Political uncertainty is also a factor leading to the Jewish emgiration. "In the last six years Azerbaijan has had two revolutions, civil war, a major war with Armenia and four presidents," notes Gur. "While the present government is allowing Jews to leave, who knows what will happen next year, or next month for that matter?"

Jewish life is sustained, in large part, through the work of Jewish Agency emissaries and staff. Although there are three synagogues in Baku and two in the remote village of Kuba where some 5,000 Jews live, Jewish Agency summer camps, Hebrew classes and youth groups are where Jewish culture thrives in Azerbaijan today.

"Our main goal," explains David Nir, the man in charge of Jewish Agency operations in Baku, is to get the children out. "There is no future for them here," he said in an interview from his Baku office.

"By engaging the youth and exposing them to Jewish culture and Israel we create a lasting connection that draws many to make aliya."



The *Naaleh 16* program, which offers 16 years olds three years of study in Israel, is currently the most successful aliya program. Since its start, in 1994, more than 97% of the 5,000 teenagers who participated in *Naaleh 16* have stayed permanently in Israel. More than 35% of their parents have joined them.

"The quality of these young people is remarkable," notes Steve Ain, Executive Vice-President of UIA Canada. "They represent the crème de la crème of Jewish youth – they are indeed the best and the brightest."

Each month between 200 and 250 Jews make aliya from Azerbaijan, either as families or as individuals through Jewish Agency programs.

UIA rescue & renewal, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored by UIA of Canada.

Yiddish Corner

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פֿון ש. סימכאָוויטש

ס'איז נאָר וואָס אַרויסגעקומען אַ נייַע, פֿאַרגרעסערטע אויפלאַגע פֿון הרדופֿס טראַנסליטעראַטיאָן ענגליש-ייִדיש, ייִדיש-ענגלישן וועֶרטערבוך, וואָס איז פֿריער דערשינען אין 1991. יענע אויסגאַבע, אין וויכע טאָומלען אין אַן געוויכטלעכער בוך-גרויס, איז אויפגענומען געוואָרן בעסער די דורך ייִדיש לערער אין לערנער אין אַמעריקע אין קאַנאַדע, אַ דאַנק דעם אייַנפֿיר אַ פּולע טראַנסליטעראַציע פֿון אַלע ייִדיש-וועֶרטער. דער-אָ צוגאַנג האָט פֿאַרליכטערט דעם אָנהויבער אַרויסצוזעהן ריכטיק דאָס וואָרט אין, אַזוי אַרום באַהערשן בעסער די שפּראַך. הרדופֿס וועֶרטערבוך איז סיי אין מעטאָד אין סיי אין פֿריי געוואָרן מער צוגענגלעך פֿאַר סטודענט אין ייִדיש-לערנער, ווי די אַנדערע פֿאַראַנענע וועֶרטערביכער, וואָס לייגן אויס מיט ענגלישע אותיות בלויז די העברעאישע קאָמפּאָנענטן אין ייִדיש.

די נייַע אויסגאַבע אָנטהאַלט 740 זייטן מיט קלאָר אויסגעזעצטע וועֶרטער אין פֿאָרמאַט אַ יסודות'דיקן ייִדיש-וואָקאַבולאַר באַזירט אויף די לעקסיקאָגראַפֿישע ארבעטן פֿון הארקאַווי, אוריאל ווייַנרייך, מחום סטוטשקאָוו און מרדכי צאַנק. דער אויסלייג איז אַ מאַדערנער, לויט די תקנות פֿון ייִוואָ. בי יעדן סובסטאַנטיוו איז אָנגעגעבן דער מין, די מערצאָל פֿאָרמען און די ליסטע פֿון קיצורים איז אַ מיינאַלע.

פֿאַר די וואָס קאָנען וויניק ייִדיש איז אין דער נייַער אויסגאַבע איינגעפּירט געוואָרן נאָך אַ פֿאַרליכטערונג מיט דעם, וואָס דער ייִדיש-ענגלישער אָפּטייל איז אייגנ'סדר'ט געוואָרן לויטן ענגלישן אלף-בית. יעדעס ייִדיש וואָרט איז אַזוי אָרום אָנגעגעבן פֿאַנעטיש אין ענגלישער שריפֿט, באַנאַנד מיטן טייטש, ווי אויך מיט ייִדישע אותיות.

דאָס נייַע בוך איז אַרויסגעגעבן געוואָרן דורך אַ באַקאַנטער בוכהאַנדלונג אין באָסטאָן און וועט, האָפֿנטלעך, גערן אויפֿגענומען ווערן דורך ייִדיש לערער אין לערנער אין אַלע ענגלישׂ-רעדנדיקע לענדער. איך טראַכטע קאָן מען דאָס בוך קויפֿן אין „נגב" אדער „איראַעל" בוך-געשעפטן, אַדער באָשטעלן דירעקט פֿון אַרויס-געבער אין באָסטאָן דורך טעלעפֿאָנירן: 1-800-323-7723.

דוד מענדל הרדוף שטאַמט פֿון שידלאָווצע, פּוילן. ער האָט עמיגרירט פֿאַר דער מלחמה קיין ענגלאַנד, שטודירט אין לאָנדאָן אין וואויטע זיבן 1948 אין טראַנטע, וואו ער איז געווען אַ העברעאישער לערער אין אויך אַ מוכר-ספֿרים. ער איז דער מחבר פֿון אַ רייַ העברעאישע לעקסיקאָנען וועגן אפֿשטאָם פֿון נעמען אין תנ"ך אין די וערק פֿון שמואל יוסף עגנון, ווי אויך פֿון אַ צאָל ביבלישע ספֿרים מיט פֿרוש רש"י אין מיט נקודות. דוד מענדל הרדוף איז פֿאַרליבט אין ייִדיש לשון, וואָס איז געווען די שפּראַך פֿון מיליאָנען קדושים אין מזרח אייראָפּע, אין ער וויידמעט זיך אין משך פֿון די לעצטע יאָרן צום אויפהאַלטן אין פֿארשפֿרייטן די קענטעניש פֿון ייִדיש צווישן די יונגע דורות.

nishkoshe	bearable: so-so נישקשה.	nitsochen, (nitscholnes)	victo צחון (נות)
nisht	not נישט	noch	still after
nishtoina	eisel		accor
gezogt	נישטויגן געזאגט		נאך
nishteren,	rummage נישטערן	noch a mol	again א מאל
nishterung,	rummaging search נישטערונג	noch des	after ך דעם
nishtik	worthless נישטיק	nochen	after נאכן
nishto	absent: there	nochfolgen,	follo

א מוסטער פֿון אַ זייטל פֿון וועֶרטער-בוך

אַן עורשׂ'ם אַ זון

א קאָרדינאַל האָט זיך געוועדעט צו א רב אַז אים געפֿרעגט: אויב יידן גלויבן אַזוי שטאַרק אין גאָט, הלמאי זאָלן זיי נישט גלויבן אין גאָט'ס זון? אין דער וועלט פֿידט זיך, אַז א זון פֿון א גביר האָט קרעדיט א דאַנק דעם מאָטער...

דערויף האָט אים דער רב געענטפֿערט: אמת, א זון פֿון א גביר גיט מען קרעדיט ווייל מען וויסט, אַז דער גביר וועט אַמאָל שטאַרבן אין ער וועט איבערגעמען די ירושה. ווי קען מען אַבער געבן קרעדיט אַזא איינעם, וואָס דער פֿאָטער זיינער וועט קיינמאָל נישט שטאַרבן?...

From coast to coast

Crown stays charges in hate murder case

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Winnipeg police and Manitoba Crown prosecutors are still batting zero when it comes to prosecuting hate-related crimes.

Second-degree murder charges against four alleged racist skinheads collapsed earlier this month because a key witness who claimed to have been with the accused on the evening of June 30, 1991, when Gordon Kuhtey was beaten to death, was actually living in Vancouver at the time.

Matt McKay, 26, James Lisik, 23, Robert Welsh, 25, and Garry Kuffner, 28, were arrested in March 1996, and charged with Kuhtey's murder after a skinhead talked about it at a drinking party in British Columbia.

All four men were alleged to have been connected to the racist and violent Northern Hammerskins and other neo-Nazi groups.

They were alleged to have set out that evening to beat up a gay man, and picked on Kuhtey because he was walking alone near the Manitoba Legislature, in an area reputed to be frequented by gay men.

Last week, the Crown stayed charges against Kuffner and Welsh. A week earlier, charges against Lisik and McKay were also stayed.

Although police claimed to have confessions from Kuffner and Welsh, the judge ruled that the confessions alone were not enough to sustain a case that was riddled with inconsistencies, in addition to the key witness's lack of credibility.

Both Winnipeg Police Chief David Cassels and Crown prosecutors have vowed to conduct reviews of their departments to try to determine what went wrong.

Saul Simmonds, Lisik's lawyer and the president of the Manitoba Criminal Lawyers Association, suggests the case collapsed because of the Crown's rush to judgment, rather than holding a preliminary inquiry first.

"Direct indictments have been happening with increasing frequency in Manitoba and they should not be," Simmonds says. "A preliminary inquiry tests the credibility of witnesses early on and can pinpoint weaknesses in a prosecution. A case that may look good on paper may turn out badly in the courtroom and vice versa.

"Even in cases with racial overtones, in a democratic system, there are lines you can't cross just because people are reacting to the offense. The investigation has to follow a proper path. Leads have to be followed even if they point to a suspect's innocence."

Simmonds maintains that the police had enough information to know that the principal witness's claims were inaccurate.

His client spent time in custody awaiting trial, and will be applying to the province for compensation.

Anti-Quebec Internet site slammed by Congress

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Both the Quebec government and Jewish community organizations last week denounced the presence of an Internet site discovered in Vancouver comparing Quebec to Nazi Germany.

But a Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q) official said culture minister Louise Beaudoin, who is advocating the enforcement of hate propaganda laws, should also have them apply to figures like Raymond Villeneuve, a radical separatist who last year warned of retaliation against the Jewish community for working against sovereignty.

"If you want to pursue propagators of hate, you can start with Villeneuve, not an anonymous individual in Vancouver," said CJC-Q executive director Jack Jedwab.

Jedwab was responding to comments Beaudoin made to reporters last Wednesday describing the Internet site – entitled Quebec, North America's Neo-Fascist State – as an insult to Quebec nationalists and Jews.

The Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Sol Littman in Toronto issued a statement calling the Quebec-Nazi analogy, "stupid, vicious, and show[ing] a total lack of understanding of the nature of Quebec."

Beaudoin said she agreed with the centre's view, "that it is an insult to the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust and it is also an insult to Quebec nationalists."

Similarly, Jedwab said, "we obviously reject those analogies."

The site, originally traced to Vancouver, closed down after the media reported on it but reopened again on a Web page originating in California.

Besides drawing parallels between Quebec and Nazi Germany, the site also compares Premier Lucien Bouchard to Adolf Hitler and says Quebec only welcomes immigrants who are white and don't speak English.

The anonymous author of the site refers to himself only as, "The Ministry of Truth."

According to CJC-Q community relations policy associate Marc Anderson, a solution to hate on the Internet might lie in a report on the Internet might lie in a report on the *Information Highway, Culture and Democracy* issued by Beaudoin's own ministry in May.

Anderson said the report appeared to endorse an approach advocated in a CJC-Q brief last September that said Canadian law vis-a-vis- hate propaganda should apply not only to individual "providers," but to "servers."

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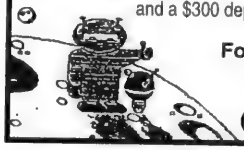
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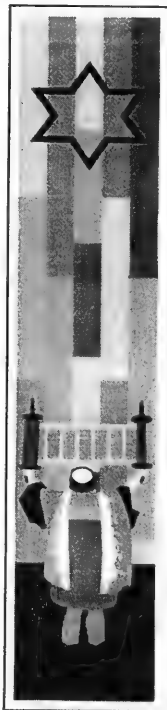
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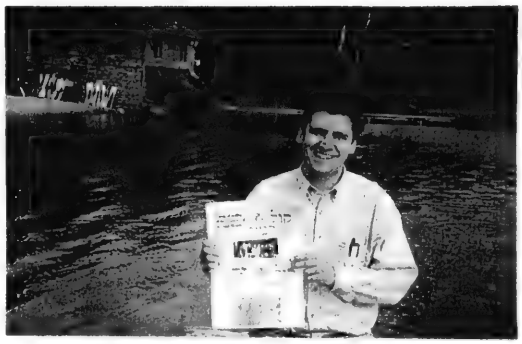
Journalist adds 'wow!' to Camp Ramah experience

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter


Robert Sarner, editor of Kol Ramah.

UTTERSON, ONT. — *Kol Ramah*, an eight-page tabloid-size newspaper with a generous sprinkling of color pictures, is a far cry from the modest newsletter issued by Camp Ramah last year.

Robert Sarner, 43, a Toronto-born journalist who has lived in Israel for almost seven years, returned here as a shaliach this year to create and edit the paper.

The shlichut was part of a package deal. Sarner's wife Galya, a Jerusalem-born special education teacher, heard from a colleague about the Jewish Agency program that sends shlichim to over 100 Zionist summer camps in North America. The shlichim are placed according to their skills and the camps' needs.

Of Ramah's 150 staff members, 18 are Israeli shlichim, apparently the largest delegation at any Canadian summer camp.

The Sarners came to the 38-year-old Conservative camp *en famille* – Robert, Galya, and their three children, age 9, 7 and 4. Galya was the Hebrew program coordinator and Robert ran the newspaper *chug* (hobby hub). Copies of *Kol Ramah* came out every other Friday this summer.

Camp director Rabbi Mitch Cohen wasn't looking to have a newspaper at the camp, he said, but he liked the idea of trying something new. He had received positive feedback about the Sarners from the person who had interviewed them in Israel. "I thought it would be worth taking a chance."

Every summer, the rabbi likes to introduce "at least two new things that kids will say 'Wow!' to." The other innovation this year was a 30-foot-high climbing wall.

Rabbi Cohen didn't know exactly what to expect from the newspaper. "I thought it would be an expanded version of our newsletter. When I first saw it, I was absolutely blown away."

Regular features include an advice column, a "notice board" and letters to the editor. Among the subjects of recent articles were camp food, romance among the staffers (three engaged couples), and Ramah's Tikvah program for teens and young adults with cognitive disabilities.

"To my knowledge, a real newspaper had never been done at a camp," said Sarner. "This is like a little town for two months. As such, it should be able to support a newspaper."

Although parents, camp visitors and about 550 campers over the course of the summer received the paper, Sarner "did not want it to be a glorified marketing vehicle. I did want to keep a journalistic feel to it. I also wanted to have some fun, and at times to show that Ramah is not a perfect environment."

He credited the camp director for being supportive of his ideas. "I don't take that for granted."

Kol Ramah has generated "so much positive feedback from the kids at camp and also from the parents," said Rabbi Cohen. "Our goal was marketing, fun and education, and I think we've more than exceeded our goals."

Discussions are under way about the possibility of publishing the paper over the winter, with Sarner editing online from Israel.

In his other life, Sarner is a reporter and anchor on Israeli national television's only daily English-language newscast. Most of his professional background, however, is in print journalism. In 1981, he founded *Paris Passion*, then the only English-language city magazine in the French capital, and edited it for almost a decade before making aliyah.

More recently, he worked undercover with New York detective Steve Rambam and a journalist colleague investigating suspected Nazi war criminals in Canada. The result was a two-part series in the *Jerusalem Post*, a newspaper for which he once worked as editor of its weekly magazine.

Teaching the basics of reporting in the newspaper chug has been a new experience for him. "I love kids. These are tremendous kids, very motivated...It's been great fun."

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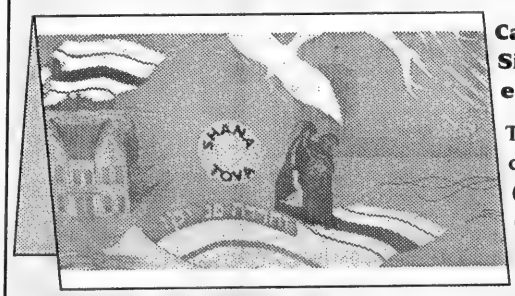
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From coast to coast

Windsor man seeks to restore cemetery in Ukraine

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Windsor man is appealing to Jews who survived the ghetto in the eastern Polish city of Stanislavov to help save the local Jewish cemetery.

According to Adam Friedland, whose friend in Israel heads the Organization of Former Inhabitants of Stanislavov and Region, thousands of Jews were slaughtered at the cemetery during the town's occupation by the Nazis, beginning in 1941.

As well, thousands more had been buried there before the war.

In all, it's estimated that 120,000 Jews are interred in the cemetery, many in mass graves.

The city is now called Ivanov-Frankovsk and is in western Ukraine. The government of Ukraine recently designated the cemetery a historic site but did not donate any money toward its restoration.

During the German occupation, some 200 Jewish headstones were removed from the cemetery and used to pave a square in the town. Today, the headstones are trod on every day, and the committee in Israel wants them moved back to the cemetery.

According to Friedland, the graveyard is in a terrible state of repair, with overgrown grass and weeds everywhere. Goats and other animals regularly graze there.

There are no Jews left in the town to care for the cemetery, Friedland adds.

He says Israel has contributed about $18,000 toward the restoration, and a further $50,000 has come from a private donor. But at least $80,000 is needed, he says.

Apart from grading and weeding, plans call for a concrete fence to surround the cemetery, and a memorial to the Jews murdered there.

Over 10,000 Jews were slaughtered at the cemetery in a single *aktion*, in October, 1941. The murder of the remainder of the community, which had dwindled to roughly 8,000 — was carried out at the cemetery in 1943.

It's estimated that 1,500 Jews from Stanislavov survived the Holocaust.

The committee in Israel is composed of several prominent people, including a retired judge and an army general. Anyone interested is urged to contact: Pinchas Goldenzeil, Irgun Yotzey Stanislavov, 14, Shd. Hayeled, Ramat-Gan, 52444, Israel.

Tragic scene: Goats relax amid run-down Jewish graves in the cemetery in the Ukrainian city of Ivano-Frankovsk, formerly Stanislavov in Poland.

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Features

Basement activity turns into gold-plated industry

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — The business that began in Marc Gordon's basement in 1990 with a startoff cost of $2,500 has turned into 14-karat gold-plated industry.

Gordon, 27, owner of GoldPro Canada, manufacturer of gold plating equipment, chemicals and supplies, sells primarily to the automobile industry for gold-plating emblems on cars.

With representatives in 14 countries including Australia, New Zealand, Austria, Germany, Saudi Arabia and Malta (which covers Italy and Greece), GoldPro has increased its sales from $5,000 in 1990 to $200,000 locally and half a million dollars worldwide today. In Ontario the country is represented by Co-Auto Co-Operative Inc., a buying organization made up of automobile dealerships from across the province.

Gordon, a graduate of business administration from Seneca College, says he got into the automotive parts business "by accident" at age 16, when, as a racer of dune buggies, he began importing the shock absorbers, wheels and engine parts he couldn't get here.

"I approached the U.S. companies to distribute their products out of need. I had no intention of going into business. People, though, were interested in the parts and by the time I graduated high school, I found myself in classes during the day and making deliveries at night."

By 1988, however, competition became too stiff, says Gordon. "I concentrated on my studies and worked for a few companies until I came across these gold-plating machines at a trade show. I began importing them and as volume grew, started to manufacture the machines myself. Many of my distributors found me through my listing on a Canadian government database, available to exporters."

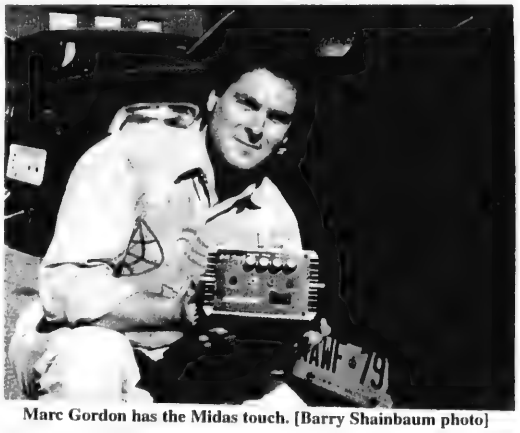
As the company's only full-time employee, Gordon says all his sales people are independent agents or distributors.

"The equipment is made by a subcontractor in Rexdale and then shipped to car dealers or home renovators who may use the equipment for gold-plating faucets. We're even beginning to gold-plate jewelry."

Automobile dealers, he says, purchase a GoldPro system and "then offer [the gold package] to customers as an upgrade on their new car. Unlike many upgrade features, dealers do not need specific models for different cars. A gold-plating system can plate any automobile in a short time."

GoldPro gold solutions, he says, have received ISO 9001 certification and its other chemicals have received ISO 9000 certification.

"This means that the manufacturing and distributing process meets a set of standards set forth by the International Standards Organization of Geneva, Switzerland. All gold solutions contain a minimum of 21 grams net of 24-karat gold per litre. Colored golds, which contain a minimum of 12 grams of 24-karat gold per litre, produce such colors as red, bright yellow (which resembles polished brass) and midnight pearl, resembling black chrome."



Marc Gordon has the Midas touch. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Child care business offers solutions

By REVA KAISER
Student Intern

TORONTO — Claudette Roth had spent 20 years working in the child care field when she decided to take her wealth of knowledge and expertise and apply them to an innovative business of her own.

Child Care Solutions is a company that assists parents in choosing the best type of care for their children. Registered in March 1997, it is one of only two such services in Toronto, she says.

Roth works with parents to find the best care for their children. It is a one-person operation, so there are no intermediaries. She works directly with the parents and does all research on the possible care options.

She looks at each family's unique needs. It's not always the best decision to use a day care or nanny based on recommendation, because people interact differently with others, she says. Just because one set of parents is happy, it doesn't mean that another will also be, Roth adds.

"I am an advocate for the parents, not an agency with a pool of nannies... First I try to understand what the parent needs and then I go and find it."

At the initial interview, parents complete a questionnaire asking such details as work location (relative to home); work hours; budget allotted for care; specific needs for the child or parent and any other relative factor.

Roth will then do all of the leg work — from placing ads to conducting interviews (for nannies) and compiling the short list.

When investigating day care centres, Roth will cut the list of contenders down to three, and then visit each one with the parent to see the facilities and observe the interactions between staff and children. She has her own checklist to ensure that the day cares are of top quality.

Roth charges $60 an hour for her services, but provides three package deals.

The Home Care Provider, which is child care in an individual's home, costs $200 and includes three evaluations and a written report.

The Nanny/ Babysitter package, which costs $225, includes three evaluations, a written report and an ad to recruit applicants.

The Child Care Centre package costs $225 and includes three centre evaluations and a written report.

Roth contends that the fees are reasonable, considering the amount of work involved, as well as the valuable input from an experienced child care worker.

Part of Child Cares Solutions' policy is to maintain contact with the parents after they have chosen the most ideal form of child care, and ensure that there is a continual follow-up.

Aside from her 20 years of working experience, Roth is personally familiar with children's requirements and different child care options. She is the mother of two grown children, one of whom she put into day care at the age of three.

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Israeli soldier admits to killing British tourist

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israelis have reacted with shock to the news that an Israeli soldier, not a terrorist, was behind the recent murder of a British tourist.

Israeli police arrested Maj. Daniel Okev, a reserve army officer who admitted to the Aug. 13 murder of Jeffrey Hunter, 22, and the wounding of his girlfriend, Charlotte Gibb.

Although he admitted to picking up the tourists near Eilat and later shooting them, Okev could not offer a motive.

"Maybe I need a doctor," Okev said during a detention hearing last Friday. "Maybe I have a split personality."

A breakthrough in the investigation came when a police officer at a roadblock set up after the murder recalled seeing Okev in a car similar to the one witnesses said they had seen parked in a deserted area that turned out to be the murder scene.

The police officer said that Okev had identified himself as a reserve army officer when he was stopped at the roadblock.

With permission from the district attorney, investigators secretly took Okev's car for examinations that turned up Hunter's fingerprints.

When police came to arrest Okev at his home in Even Yehuda, near Netanya, he surrendered, handing over his gun and saying, "I know why you're here."

Okev, 45, is a father of two.

He left the army several years ago and had been working for a trucking company.

During a re-enactment of the shooting, Okev told police how he had picked up the two tourists near Eilat and began driving north.

He said that after driving for a while, he pulled the car over and they got out to smoke and drink some water.

Okev said the conversation was pleasant and that there had been no argument.

He said that when they returned to the car, he got in first, pulling his pistol out from under the seat where he kept it.

"All I remember after that is that they were then lying on the ground," Okev said. "I don't know how many times I fired."

Okev left the scene and drove back to Eilat, where he was stopped at the roadblock and allowed to go on. Hunter and Gibb were found by a passing car.

Okev's attorney, David Yiftah, argued that his client was temporarily insane at the time of the shooting and should not be held responsible.

"I don't think we are dealing with a conventional crime carried out by a hardened criminal," he said. "We are dealing here with an army officer, a decent citizen, a loyal family man. As we know, Daniel Okev had no motive for committing murder and does not recall shooting the victims," Yiftah told Israel Radio.

Police rejected the argument, and Okev was placed in custody for 15 days.

The family of the murder victim has been sharply critical of the treatment they received from both Israeli and British authorities.

Norman Hunter, Jeffrey's father, told the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* that the authorities in Israel and Britain had offered no help – logistical, financial or otherwise – in transferring the body back home.

He said he learned of the arrest of a suspect by chance, when he went to visit his slain son's wounded girlfriend in a hospital in Cambridge, England.

Police gather evidence around the body of slain British tourist Jeffrey Hunter, 22, found dead Aug. 13. A reserve army officer has been arrested in the case. [RNS/Reuters Photo]

Israel searching for missing soldier

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The IDF has been conducting searches in the Golan Heights for an Israeli soldier reported missing last week.

Police said the soldier, Guy Hever, 20, left his base in the north last week in his uniform and carrying his army-issued rifle.

His family said Hever was unhappy at the base and had left suddenly.

Police said they were investigating all possible explanations, including a possible terrorist kidnapping, murder or suicide.

Another Israeli soldier, Sharon Edri, disappeared in central Israel last year after leaving a base on his way home.

In April, Israeli security forces, acting on information obtained in part from Palestinian police, found Edri's body buried in the West Bank village of Tsurif, near Hebron.

IDF officials said at the time that Edri was killed by members of a cell of the Hamas military wing that had been responsible for murdering 10 other Israelis and wounding 49 in attacks since the beginning of 1996.

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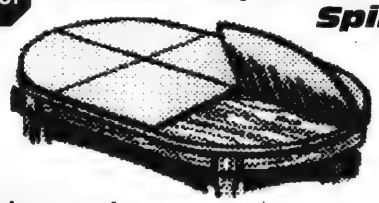

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The Week in Israel

Aug. 18

• A member of the Israeli Knesset said the government should pay the costs if any Yemenite family wants to open a grave to verify the death of a child. Some graves were found empty during an investigation into the allegation that infants were stolen in the '40s and '50s and given to European families who arrived in Israel childless after the war.

Aug. 19

• Tests conducted by the Israeli Environment Ministry on samples from the Yarkon River into which Australian Maccabiah members fell did not show any signs of radioactivity, although the water was found to be poisoned by industrial waste.

• Israeli archeologists discovered a mass grave in the Galilee dating from a Jewish revolt against the Romans in 67 BCE. The discovery appears to confirm reports of the Jewish historian Flavius Josephus.

Aug. 20

• The Syrian army has deployed tanks in forward positions near the Golan Heights, *Jane's Defense Weekly* reported. The report follows a claim by Israel's American ambassador, Eliyahu Ben-Elissar, that Syria is preparing for war.

• Israel released $12 million, one-third of the tax revenues it has withheld from the Palestinian Authority (PA) since the bombing in Jerusalem. This came after the PA assisted in the investigation of the attack and the conviction of three Palestinians who murdered a Jerusalem taxi driver.

Aug. 21

• Palestinians began enforcing a boycott of Israeli goods, turning back trucks from the West Bank. Merchants could not sell Israeli goods beyond what they had on their shelves.

Aug. 22

• Labor party chair Ehud Barak fired more than half the staff at party headquarters, citing a NIS 80 million debt.

• Israeli media reported on fighting in southern Lebanon between the IDF, SLA, and Hezbollah, after an IDF soldier was wounded and a Lebanese man killed.

With files from the JTA.

Iran remains hostile

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mohammed Khatami, the new president of Iran, won the approval of parliament last week for his cabinet.

Mideast Analysis

Khatami is considered a moderate with respect to domestic and foreign policy. But when it comes to Israel, he is as venomous as any mainstream Islamic politician in Tehran. The prospect of a rapprochement between Iran and Israel, therefore, is as remote as ever.

Shortly after Khatami's election in May, Foreign Minister David Levy urged Iran to reassess its hostile attitude to Israel. Iran neither accepts Israel's existence nor supports the peace process in the Middle East. But at his first press conference, Khatami, a cleric, branded Israel as a "racist" state which has imposed its "illegitimate hegemony" on the Palestinians.

When he was installed as president earlier this month, Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs called on Iran "to open up a new page in its relations with all of its neighbors..." Within days, Iran responded by tightening restrictions on the distribution of Iranian films abroad. The curbs were introduced after two Iranian movies found their way to a recent festival in Jerusalem. The screenings were denounced as a "plot hatched by Europe and the illegal state of Israel."

Iran has been consistently antagonistic toward Israel since the 1979 Islamic revolution. Before that, Israel had a discreet relationship with Iran, ruled by a pro-Western monarchy which paid lip service to the Palestinian cause. But with the rise of a new order in Tehran, Iran severed diplomatic relations with Israel and then promptly invited the PLO to seize Israel's embassy.

In the view of scholars, the Arab-Israeli conflict provides Iran with an opportunity to bolster its Islamic credentials and to exercise regional leadership.

Though geographically far from the Arab-Israeli arena, Iran has made its presence felt by its vehement opposition to the peace process and by its support of Hezbollah in Lebanon.

In October 1991, the Iranian government organized a meeting, attended by Palestinian rejectionists, to coincide with the Madrid peace conference. When Israel and the PLO signed the Declaration of Principles in September 1993, Iran convened another anti-peace conference and promised "limitless support" to opponents of "this shameful accord."

Iran, which reportedly holds Israeli aviator Ron Arad, backs Hamas and Islamic Jihad and regards suicide bombings as acts of martyrdom designed to secure the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

Given Tehran's record, Yitzhak Rabin demonized Iran as the eminence grise of Islamic fundamentalism, while Shimon Peres and Yasser Arafat accused Iran of being behind the spate of terrorism in Israel in the winter of 1996. (Lately, however, Arafat has improved his relations with Iran).

Since the 1980s, Iran has been Hezbollah's chief arms provider. In the wake of Israel's massive 16-day bombardment of Lebanon in April 1996, Iran replenished Hezbollah's supply of Katyushas via an airlift through Damascus. With these rockets, Hezbollah hit the Galilee last week.

Of late, Iran has fortified its links with Syria. Last December, Khatami's predecessor, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, sent a message to President Hafez al-Assad promising military aid in case of war between Israel and Syria. More recently, Assad made his first visit to Tehran in 18 years, and he and Khatami denounced Israel's growing military ties with Turkey.

Iran itself has embarked on a quest to strengthen its armed forces, which were mauled in the war with Iraq from 1980 to 1988. According to a recent study published by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, *Iranian Military Power,* Iran is trying to build up its conventional forces and to develop or acquire nuclear weapons.

Several months ago, Iran staged its largest-ever military exercises, dubbed Road to Jerusalem, and tested a long-range missile capable of striking Israel. For good reason, Israel regards Iran warily.

CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme celebrating *100 years of Zionism.* They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News,* 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." We may also select other photographs for publication as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Tension high in Lebanon after continued fighting

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The deteriorating situation in southern Lebanon was marked by fierce fighting over the weekend between Israeli forces and Hezbollah gunmen.

The IDF said at least two Hezbollah fighters were killed last Saturday when Israeli forces repelled an unsuccessful attempt to attack an Israeli army outpost close to the northern border.

According to reports, the Israeli forces spotted the fighters as they tried to approach the outpost

The IDF troops gave chase and opened fire; killing the Hezbollah gunmen. There were no Israeli casualties.

An Israeli soldier inspects a home after it was hit by a Hezbollah-fired rocket last week. Dozens of rockets from Lebanon slammed into northern Israel, as fighting intensfied. [RNS/Reuters Photo]

During the pursuit, Hezbollah directed mortar fire at the Israeli troops in an effort to give the retreating Hezbollah unit cover.

Saturday's fighting, the latest during a week of tit for tat escalations, reportedly took place after a Hezbollah rocket attack on an Israeli position in the southern Lebanon security zone.

Although there was no fighting reported last Sunday, Israeli military officials warned that Hezbollah might try to retaliate for the losses of the previous day with long-range fire at Israeli positions in the security zone and with possible rocket attacks on northern Israel.

Last week, Hezbollah launched its heaviest Katyusha rocket attack on northern Israel since April 1996, when a U.S.-brokered ceasefire brought an end to more than two weeks of cross-border fighting.

No Israelis were killed in the Aug. 19 attack, which Hezbollah launched to avenge the shelling a day earlier of the Lebanese port city of Sidon by Israel's ally, the South Lebanon Army (SLA). At least six people were reported killed in that attack.

Meanwhile, the five-nation committee monitoring the ceasefire issued a statement regarding the SLA's shelling of Sidon and the Hezbollah Katyusha attacks on northern Israel.

The committee called on both Israel and Lebanon to work to prevent attacks on civilians.

For the first time, the committee said it was essential for the Lebanese government to keep groups from carrying out attacks on Israel.

While the committee did not accept Lebanon's request to blame Israel for the SLA shelling of Sidon, it said the IDF must prevent the SLA from carrying out such attacks.

The United States sent messages to Syria, Israel and Lebanon over the weekend requesting that the sides work to calm tensions in the region.

Palestinians stone soldiers

By JON IMMANUEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Some 300 Palestinians took part in a march on an IDF post near Rachel's Tomb outside of Bethlehem last Saturday to protest the continued closure of the town.

IDF troops responded with tear gas and rubber bullets when some of the several dozen youths who arrived at the tomb threw stones at them.

Many of the youths wore kaffiyehs to hide their faces. Some of the protesters burned an Israeli flag. A similar protest by Fatah, including kaffiyeh-wearing youths carrying automatic weapons, was held in the Palestinian-controlled section of Hebron to protest Israeli policies.

Palestinian police wearing gas masks looked on but did not intervene. No injuries were reported.

Israel has continued the internal closure on Bethlehem and its suburbs, after lifting the closure from all other West Bank towns more than a week ago. This is a result of reports that the explosives used in the Machane Yehuda bombing may have come from a bomb factory discovered in Beit Sahur, which is near Bethlehem, and that the second most wanted Islamic terror planner, Moheddin Sherif, was hiding in the town.

The Bethlehem march was joined by senior local officials, who complained that the continued closure was destroying tourism and business.

"They will lift the closure or we will burn the ground underneath their feet," one masked youth told Reuters.

An IDF spokesperson said a "few dozen" Palestinian demonstrators moved on Rachel's Tomb and hurled stones at security forces and worshippers there. The soldiers and Border Police fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse them and the army said they had no reports of any casualties.

(With files from Arieh O'Sullivan.)

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German insurers consider compensation

By DEIDRE BERGER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

FRANKFURT — A national German insurance association has announced that it may establish a general compensation fund for Holocaust survivors and their heirs.

A spokesperson for the association, Gesamtverband der Deutschen Versicherungswirtschaft, told a German radio network that a decision will be made after member companies investigate the extent of open claims.

Two class action suits against 16 European insurance companies have been filed in New York courts on behalf of more than 20,000 people who claim the firms never paid out on policies that were opened by European Jews before World War II.

The claimants are seeking $16 billion in restitution from the insurers.

After the war, Holocaust survivors and their heirs were unable to collect on insurance policies taken out by relatives who died during the war, in part due to a lack of documentation.

In the past, insurance companies often asserted the policies lost legal validity because of the lack of premiums paid by the policy holders during the war.

They also claimed that restitution payments made by Germany to the governments of countries formerly occupied by the Nazis covered individual compensation claims.

The largest of the insurance companies, the Munich-based Allianz Group, set up an international hotline earlier this year to collect information about unpaid policies.

The company has received hundreds of calls, but says it has only located 14 unpaid policies so far with the information given by callers.

Allianz has also commissioned the Arthur Anderson auditing firm to go through all files dating back to the pre-war era to locate unpaid policies, and has appointed a history professor to write a history of the company's activities during the Third Reich.

Recently, two Holocaust survivors who live in New York protested in Munich at the headquarters of Allianz and the German branch of the Italian insurance company, Assicurazioni Generali, to demand a speedy resolution of their claims.

Lileikis may face trial

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

VILNIUS, Lithuania — An accused Nazi war criminal who was stripped of his U.S. citizenship before returning to Lithuania may finally stand trial here later this year.

Legal proceedings against Aleksandras Lileikis were postponed last month after medical experts determined that he was not fit to stand trial. Under Lithuanian law, suspects cannot be brought to trial if medical experts rule that they are too ill.

Emmanuel Zingeris, the only Jewish member of the 141-seat parliament, recently launched a campaign to change that law. His amendment will be introduced next month after the parliament returns from recess.

Lileikis, 90, is accused of having handed Jews over to death squads in Vilnius during World War II when he was head of the Nazi-sponsored Lithuanian security police, known as the Saugumas, from 1941 to 1944.

Some 55,000 of Vilnius' 60,000 Jews perished during the war.

Leaders of the Lithuanian Jewish community say that the tragedy of Vilnius' Jewry, one of Europe's most vibrant Jewish communities, remains practically unknown in Lithuania.

"The Lileikis case has an important educational meaning for this country's history and future," Zingeris said.

Lileikis, who immigrated to the United States in 1955, was stripped of his U.S. citizenship in May. He returned to Lithuania a month later, proclaiming that he was innocent.

He was to have been indicted for genocide shortly after his return. But no charges have been filed.

The Lithuanian prosecutor general's statement last month that the case will go to court "as soon as Lileikis recovers" has outraged Nazi hunters abroad.

They maintain that the Lithuanian government has been moving too slowly in prosecuting Lileikis and other alleged war criminals.

According to Efraim Zuroff, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's office in Israel, Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas' pledge, made during a 1995 visit to Israel, to prosecute alleged war criminals stands as a hollow declaration.

There are currently at least five Lithuanians living in their homeland who have been stripped of their American citizenship, and American prosecutors are building cases against several more.

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No Reform in religious council, minister says

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Incoming Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer has made it clear that like his predecessor, Eli Suissa, he too would refuse to sign an appointment of a Reform Jew to be a member of a religious council, even if ordered to do so by the High Court.

Hammer, who is also education minister, took over the ministry as part of a rotation agreement between his own National Religious Party (NRP) and Shas. The actual running of the ministry has been entrusted to two deputy ministers, MKs Arye Gamliel of Shas and Yigal Bibi of the NRP.

Hammer was referring to a recent High Court ruling which declared that Dr. Joyce Brenner, a member of the Reform movement, must become a member of the Netanya Religious Council. The High Court ordered the religious affairs minister to sign the announcement to that effect in *Reshumot*, the official gazette.

The ruling had followed three earlier rulings all intended to ensure that Brenner be made a member of the council, and all of which the ministry had managed to circumvent.

Both Suissa and Gamliel, who is responsible for the religious councils, had refused to sign the announcement and eventually Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu did so as acting religious affairs minister. There had been speculation that Hammer, whose NRP is viewed as religiously more liberal than Shas, might be more amenable to signing similar announcements regarding the appointment of Reform and Conservative Jews to the religious councils of Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Kiryat Tivon, where similar cases have been pending.

"The problem of the Reform is not that of a specific religious affairs minister," Hammer said. "The religious councils are connected to the chief rabbinate of the various cities. I definitely can't sign."

Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Centre, said that the choice is not between having or not having Reform members on the religious councils, but between a democratic, law-abiding state and one in which the emasculation of court judgments becomes the norm.

"Not only will there be Reform members on religious councils, but all of Israeli society will be as the majority wants, a democratic state in which the majority rules," Regev said.

Yeshivah funding probe urged

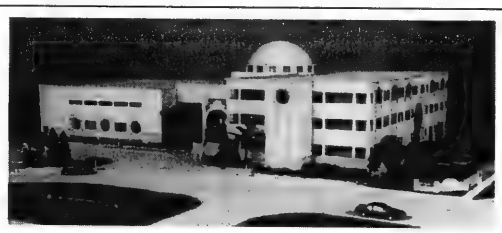
By LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Labor and Meretz parties have demanded an investigation into allegations that some yeshivah students doubled their state stipends, and that haredi schools added fictitious names to their enrolment lists to enhance their government funding.

The parties were reacting to a report on Channel 1, in which reporter Ayala Hasson said she had obtained lists of 80 cases of double funding — students who were enrolled at more than one yeshivah — and 130 cases of fictitious names appearing as registered students.

Without giving a source, Hasson said she had computerized and handwritten lists documenting the cases. She cited an example of the same names and identity numbers appearing as being registered at both the Kamenitz and Yad Yoav yeshivot in Jerusalem.

Meretz leader MK Yossi Sarid and Labor Party whip MK Ra'anan Cohen demanded a probe by state comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat. Cohen also called for introducing legislation that would increase supervision of money allocated to yeshivot.



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Groups divided over boycott of Lithuanian events

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — American Jewish groups are divided over whether to boycott the Lithuanian commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the death of the Vilna Gaon.

Several Jewish groups will participate in the commemoration events, which take place from Sept. 9 to 12, while others have withdrawn, said Efraim Zuroff, head of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Jerusalem office. Zuroff has called for a boycott, arguing that the Lithuanian government has backtracked on promises to bring Nazi war criminals to justice and to reverse the rehabilitation of war criminals.

Meanwhile, Lithuanian member of Parliament Rimantas Smetons of the Nationalist party has called for Zuroff's prosecution for slandering the Lithuanian people. At the same time, Culture Minister Saulius Saltenis labeled Zuroff's statements urging a boycott "entirely incomprehensible."

The controversy stems from Zuroff's charge that Lithuania has restored the property rights to and financially compensated 90 Lithuanian war criminals who killed Jews. Furthermore, it has not prosecuted a single war criminal despite assurances by Lithuanian president Algirdas Brazauskas to the Israeli Knesset they would be brought to justice.

Zuroff said, "They're spitting on us and we're supposed to say it's raining."

He suggested the Lithuanian government is cooperating with the Lithuanian Jewish community to sponsor the commemoration honoring the great rabbinic sage "as an easy way of appearing philosemitic."

Zuroff, whose family hails from Lithuania, said the commemoration "is supposed to get them into NATO and the European community and prompt investment by rich Jews."

Despite his pleas, several U.S. Jewish groups are expected to participate in the commemorations. Zuroff said B'nai Brith International, the American Jewish Committee and perhaps the World Jewish Congress will be represented at the event. A number of Orthodox rabbinic groups, including the Rabbinical Council, have pulled out as has the Library of Congress, Judaica section, and the Association of Lithuanian Jews, the worldwide representative body of the Lithuanian Jewish community.

Robin Schwartz-Kreger, a spokesperson for B'nai Brith International (BBI), said the organization has had private conversations with the Lithuanian government on the question of war criminals. BBI is sensitive to Zuroff's concerns, but after consulting with its members in Lithuania, it decided to participate in the commemorations.

"We feel a boycott will hurt the Lithuanian Jews," Schwartz-Kreger said. "This [event] is a source of great pride to them. They'd be upset if we didn't participate."

Meanwhile, Saltenis fired a broadside at Zuroff, saying that "attempts...to employ the notion of collective blame and reiterate Jewish massacre charges against the state of Lithuania and link this with the events devoted to Vilnius Gaon's anniversary can be treated merely as an ill-will effort to spoil good ties between Lithuania and the Jewish nation."

Zuroff responded by saying, "Any attempt to link our call for a boycott to the concept of collective guilt or to describe it as a wholesale indictment of Lithuania or Lithuanians is pure demagoguery. Our opposition to the events...constitutes a legitimate response to the total failure of the Lithuanian government to keep the promises it made to prosecute Nazi murderers and cancel the rehabilitations...The most fitting memorial for the gaon, as well as the more than 200,000 Lithuanian Jews murdered during the Holocaust, is for the Lithuanian government to have the political courage to prosecute those who were responsible for the terrible crimes."

China promises Israel no nuclear assistance to Iran

[Cont'd from page 1]

Naruhito and his wife, Princess Masako, after which he had scheduled a series of meetings with the country's economic and business leaders.

Travelling with a 17-member delegation of business leaders, Netanyahu's main objective is to expand the Japanese market's access to Israeli exports.

He also hopes to exert political influence on Japan's government by explaining his attitude to the peace process, and he hopes to convey these ideas to the general public through a series of interviews with major Japanese television networks and newspapers.

Netanyahu's schedule includes sessions with his Japanese counterpart Ryutaro Hashimoto, the governing Liberal Democratic party, and with the foreign press corps.

Israel is one of the few countries in the world to maintain a favorable balance of trade with Japan. Last year's exports totalled $1.104 billion and imports $1.087 billion.

Japan's purchases of cut diamonds have been a major factor in the economic relationship, but Israeli electronics, telecommunications, software and medical equipment have also been among the main exports to Japan.

Nearly half of Japan's exports to Israel consists of automobiles, and the rest is made up of machinery and electronic equipment.

The Israeli Embassy's report evaluating the Japanese market states that the market can be penetrated only with "specialized products that are of high quality and competitively priced."

The embassy also contends that "the great differences in mentality between the two peoples require more time in reaching local consumers than in other countries.

"Despite this, Israel has developed widespread connections with the Japanese community [which is composed of giant trading companies, industrial firms, banks and investment firms]," the report says.

In recent years, Japan has become the world's second most important market after the United States, according to the embassy evaluation, which was prepared for Netanyahu's visit.

Netanyahu evidently considered the prospects of expanding trade so promising that he waived an opportunity to conduct a formal and official visit next year, in accordance with the Japanese government's strictly budgeted program for such occasions, in favor of a working visit in which his economic and political goals could be pursued without the delays that result from local protocol and bureaucratic norms.

Because of his sacrifice of ceremony in favor of pragmatism, the customary audience with the emperor and empress was rendered impossible. They are away from Tokyo on vacation.

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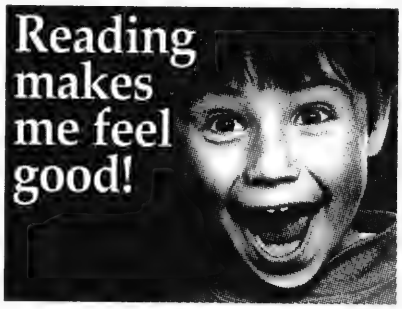

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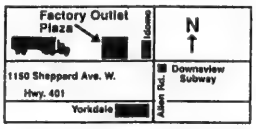

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Sr. Level 6 National Group

Rhythmic Gymanstics is a sport that combines dance and gymnastic skills in graceful routines that are set to music using apparatus such as balls, hoops, ropes and ribbons. Classes are run at central locations Monday through Saturday. Toronto Aspirals Rhythmic Gymnastics programs are perfect for girls who want to have fun while improving their poise, fitness and dexterity in a supportive environment. For more information and registration, please call **(416) 487-9153** or **(416) 483-8239.**

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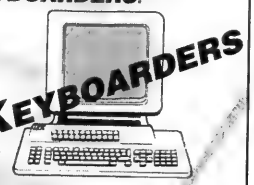

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Registrations for recreational and competitive classes are now being accepted at the Discovery Centre, 205 Champagne Dr., #5 (Finch & Dufferin). For more information please call: (416) 638-3033.

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Organization helps to combat abuse of children

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Invest in Kids Foundation is a national organization working on behalf of Canadian children to ensure that they are raised free from harm and abuse, and have the opportunity to grow into competent and resilient adults.

Canadian children are at a greater risk today than ever before for psycho-social problems, says Dr. Paul Steinhauer, a child psychiatrist at the Hospital for Sick Children, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Toronto, and a member of the national Board of Professional Advisors of Invest in Kids Foundation.

Statistics are alarming. Forty percent of children come to school unfit to learn because of these problems. In Ontario, some 135,000 children witness violence at home annually, thus beginning a detrimental cycle. Many of these children become seriously aggressive themselves. Twenty-three percent of children are now considered seriously aggressive, and studies have found that more than 70 percent of these six-year-olds will grow up to become seriously aggressive adults.

"Obviously, there are serious human costs to allowing the abuse cycle to continue," says Judith Loeb Cohen, chair of Invest in Kids.

"But prevention of child abuse also makes financial sense – invest in kids today so they do not become a more costly burden on society in the future."

Founded in 1994, Invest in Kids Foundation was created to promote the health, development and well-being of children.

Karen Goldenberg, the recently appointed president of the foundation, says Invest in Kids focuses on children from birth to five years of age, "the most critical period in the development of the child and their parents."

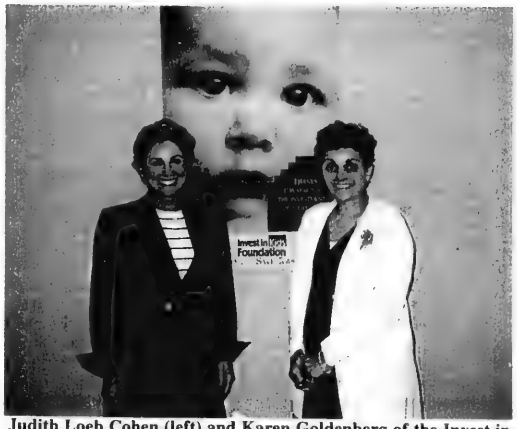
The foundation raises funds to support and replicate proven early intervention and prevention programs in high risk areas across Canada and supports broad-based educational initiates in the area of child development.

Recently, the Ontario government provided a $10 million grant to the foundation.

Goldenberg explained that the grant will help the organization develop a province-wide program of professional training for frontline workers, ongoing research by those who work directly with infants, young children and their families, and public education and awareness programs.

The foundation's board of professional advisors has some of Canada's most prominent experts in the field of child health and development, including Dr. Freda Martin, executive director of Hincks Centre for Children's Mental Health, and Dr. Fraser Mustard, founder and past president of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.

Projects funded by Invest in Kids Foundation include Growing Together, which provides prevention and early intervention services for infants and young children who are most at risk and their families; the publication of a comprehensive book on healthy child development; an Internet Web site; and infant day care education advocacy journal for frontline child and health care workers; and an infant mental health promotion project for the Hospital for Sick Children.



Judith Loeb Cohen (left) and Karen Goldenberg of the Invest in Kids Foundation.

"If the politicians say we can't afford to spend money on children today, just wait until they see the bill tomorrow," warns Steinhauer. "Prevention is always cheaper than treatment."

Support groups assist bipolar sufferers' families

TORONTO — The Department of Social Work and the Mood Disorders Clinic at The Clarke Institute of Psychiatry are offering support groups for partners and relatives of adults with depression or bipolar (manic-depression) disorders.

Families coping with a person who is diagnosed with depression or bipolar disorder face unique challenges and situations. Partners, parents and siblings struggle with providing emotional and practical support to their loved ones, in addition to dealing with their own daily stress.

The eight-week public support and education groups are open to any family member of a person diagnosed with depression or bipolar disorder.

Groups, which will run several tines a year, range in size from 10 to 15 participants and alternate between bipolar disorder and depression. Sessions are 90 minutes long.

The next session begins in October. For more information call 416-979-4747.

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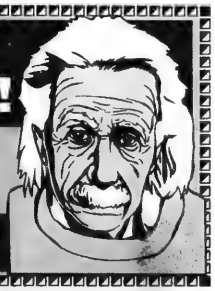

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Health

To Your Health

Slowing down antibiotic resistance

By JOHANNA SHEERIN

Antibiotics, discovered in the 1920s, are only effective against illnesses caused by bacteria. They were widely used to stop the spread of bacterial infections for the first time during World War II.

Diseases once considered deadly, such as pneumonia and tuberculosis, and more common ailments such as ear infections and sore throats all seemed to disappear with a dose of antibiotics. Soon North Americans expected the instant fix that antibiotics promised, and doctors readily gave their patients prescriptions.

Misuse of antibiotics over the years, however, has led to some bacteria becoming resistant. Recently, a Gallup poll revealed that while 50 percent of Canadians claim they are aware of the growing problem of resistance, 83 percent do not understand what resistance is or how it should influence their use of antibiotics.

If we are going to stop, or at the very least, slow down resistance to antibiotics, we need to reduce the annual intake of antibiotics in the population-at-large.

Patients and physicians need to develop new attitudes about antibiotics. Physicians need to re-evaluate when to prescribe antibiotics for patient use, and they need to be firm when their patients insist on antibiotics for an illness that won't be helped by antibiotics.

Patients must realize that they won't always walk away from their doctor's office with a prescription. They should understand that their physician is acting in their best interest by not prescribing antibiotics for an illness unless it is caused by a bacteria.

With school just around the corner, there is no doubt that your children will pick up germs leading to colds and flu.

Dr. Donald Low, microbiologist-in-chief, Mount Sinai Hospital/ Princess Margaret Hospital, joint department of microbiology says these steps can be taken to help minimize the misuse of antibiotics:

- Work in partnership with your family doctor. Ask if you or your child has a viral infection or a bacterial infection.
- If given a prescription for antibiotics, follow the directions closely. Many antibiotic treatments are only effective if the entire dosage is taken as prescribed — even when you are feeling better.
- Never give antibiotics — or drugs of any kind — to anyone else. Antibiotics are powerful drugs with side effects which vary from person to person. Some people have allergies which can be life threatening.
- Make sure your immunization record is up-to-date. Immunization is critical in the fight against viral and bacterial infections such as measles, polio, mumps, diphtheria and tetanus.
- Seniors, children and adolescents should receive certain immunizations, so check with your doctor.
- If you are treated in a hospital outside of Canada, particularly in the United States, let your doctor know. Antibiotic-resistant bacteria are endemic in most major American health institutions and are easily brought back home and spread by an unsuspecting traveller.

To Your Health is a regular monthly column prepared by a partnership of Mount Sinai Hospital and Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I am on a diet to lose weight, and I am eating baked potatoes in place of french fries. How healthy are they and which type is the most flavorful?

A. Yukon Gold potatoes, which have almost a buttery taste, are often pegged as the best choice for flavor. Just like other potatoes, they are full of potassium, Vitamin B-6, Vitamin C and fibre.

Q. I enjoy watermelon in the summer. What is its calorie content?

A. Watermelon is a champion in the nutrient and low calorie department. One cup has a mere 51 fat free calories. As well, it contains one-quarter of your daily requirements of vitamin C and a splash of B-6, magnesium, thiamin and potassium.

Q. When baking, how can I reduce fat in the recipe?

A. You can substitute some ingredients for fat, but do not replace all the fat at once. Try substituting some, and if it still has the taste and texture of the original recipe then reduce some more the next time.

In place of cream try evaporated skim milk. Butter or margarine can be replaced with equal parts of applesauce and buttermilk, and butter or oil in chocolate desserts can be replaced by pureed prunes.

Q. What fruits and vegetables have iron?

A. Prune juice, dried dates, cooked prunes, cooked spinach, dried apricots and cooked broccoli are among the better plant sources of iron.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition question send them to The CJN.

Exercise for real women

NEW YORK — Exercise. The word alone conjures images of fashion models and perfect aerobic bodies performing complicated workout routines to loud rap and disco. But most of us are neither models nor gymnasts.

The solution: Hadassah introduces an exercise video for real women. Because Hadassah knows that real women are all ages, all heights, all body weights and all fitness levels.

Get Movin' with Hadassah, led by a physiologist, features women in their 20s, 40s and 60s in warm-up, cardio, weight training and stretching routines. These women are not models or superstars. Each works according to her own ability, so viewers can follow along at their own pace.

Women of every shape and in every age group feel comfortable with this routine. The payoff: Beauty as a result of developing inner-confidence, energy, strength and feeling good — inside and out.

And never before has an exercise video geared its music to the Jewish audience. *Get Movin'* features traditional Jewish and Israeli folk music from the Real Complete Jewish Party Music Collection and modern interpretations of Jewish folk songs from the Israeli band Rebbe Soul.

Enhancing this fun and comprehensive workout, a companion book offers guidelines for a safe and healthy workout, disease-prevention tips and information about healthy living.

Exercise is not about looking young or looking beautiful, it's about caring for yourself. So forget about superstar legs. Think optimal health, think energy, think fun. *Get Movin' With Hadassah* makes it easy. Although created for its 300,000 members, this video is now available to the general public. For information about this and other Hadassah health programs, call 212-303-8094.

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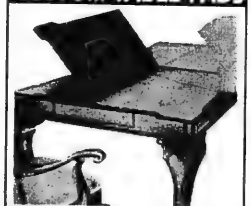
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Some of the Judaic art on display at ASHKENartZ! (above and below).

One-of-a-kind Jewish arts and crafts show at ASHKENartZ!

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — The visual arts are well represented at Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture.

A large tent at York Quay will house the ASHKENartZ! Marketplace, a juried show and sale of Judaic art to be held Labor Day weekend. In addition, Dancing with the Leviathian, an exhibition of 38 North American Jewish artists exploring issues of cultural identity, is on at the Lonsdale Gallery, 33 Lonsdale Rd., as well as at York Quay and at the Community Galleries at Harbourfront. Ashkenaz has also commissioned four works at different sites.

Billed as "the most important juried Judaica show and sale ever assembled in Canada," ASHKENartZ! Marketplace opens the evening of Aug. 30. It is a-one-of-a-kind Jewish show featuring 30 exhibitors of Judaic arts and crafts, jewelry, books and music from Israel, Canada and the United States.

Michael Shapiro, coordinator of ASHKENartZ!, said he was interested in running a Judaica gallery similar to the one formerly operated by Dorion Liebgott, the curator of the museum at Beth Tzedec Synagogue.

Shapiro, who has considerable exposure to Judaica because of his experience in marketing custom ketubot, said he was looking for the right opportunity to expand his involvement in Judaic arts. He approached Ashkenaz organizers about mounting a show after hearing it was something they wanted to do, he said.

"In speaking with them, it was clear that we were a great fit. Ashkenaz was a perfect venue."

The vendors selected for ASHKENartZ! offer a wide range of art, from works in wood and ceramics to prints and paintings, he said. "They are all Jewishly rooted. It's a celebration of Jewish creativity in the context of the Ashkenaz festival."

Shapiro said there will be many items in the $20 to $50 range, as well as unique items priced at hundreds of dollars. He described the artists as ranging from emerging to established. Vendors include Michele Dodick, Edna Sandler Judaica, Bracha Designs and Tara Publications, which specializes in Jewish music.

Visitors will also be able to paint their own ceramic chanukiot and mezuzot at the booth of Marvelous Mess, a paint-your-own ceramics company.

"The exciting thing is that ASHKENartZ is happening," Shapiro said. "It's only on for three days. It won't be happening again until 1999."

Dancing with the Leviathian, on display at the Lonsdale Gallery until Sept. 7, and at the Harbourfront galleries until Oct. 13, showcases works in a wide variety of media, including paintings, photographs, sculptures and textiles.

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Israeli film blends bizarre fantasy, stark reality

BY JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

Saint Clara is a film that successfully blends a bizarre fantasy world with stark realism.

Call it an Israeli *Clockwork Orange*.

The film takes place in and around Golda Meir, a junior high school in a fictitious industrial-immigrant town in Israel in 1999. Factories are constantly belching smoke and the evenings are always grey and damp.

Clara is a 13-year-old student who can see the future. Best friends Eddie and Rosy are two anarchist pill-popping classmates of hers who want to start a revolution.

Rosy (Johnny Peterson) has a violent mean streak in him and when he wonders around town swinging a baseball bat you can't help but compare him to *A Clockwork Orange's* Alex.

Rosy and Eddie (played by Israeli teen rock star Halil Elohev) coerce Clara to use her powers to determine what questions will be on a math test. They use the same power of persuasion to force Galit, the class brain, to write down all the answers and share them with the rest of the class prior to the test.

When math teacher Mounitz discovers that everybody in the class scored perfect on the test he and principal Tissona start an investigation that would make the CIA proud. Grilling each of the students individually, their methods and finger-pointing turn the students against each other including best friends Eddie and Rosy.

Saint Clara (Lucy Dubinchik) views the future in Israeli film

It doesn't help the two friends either that they both fall in love with Clara, a strikingly beautiful Russian immigrant, delightfully played by 14-year-old Lucy Dubinchik. And it doesn't help Clara's cause that her supernatural powers will cease the moment she falls in love.

The cast of characters, particularly the adults, are an eccentric lot, similar to those in the post-apocalyptic French film *Delicatessen*. Principal Tissona (Yigal Naor) has an unexplained fixation with anything French and convinces himself he slept with chanteuse Edith Piaf during her prime. Teacher Mounitz (Moshe Damidov) claims he beat chess master Bobby Fisher. Clara's family, survivors of a nuclear meltdown in the Crimea, spend their days watching nuclear holocaust programs on T.V.

You realize quickly it's the adults that live in a self-delusional fantasy world and not the teenagers.

Filmmakers Ari Folman and Ori Sivan did a wonderful job adapting the film from the novel by Czech dissident Pavel Kohout. They must also be commended for bringing out excellent acting from the cast of teenage, mostly inexperienced actors.

Saint Clara played numerous film festivals around the world and swept the film awards of Israel including Best Picture in 1996.

The film is currently playing, in Hebrew with subtitles, at the Carlton Cinema, Toronto.

NFB documentary illuminates Mordecai Richler's life

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

The Apprenticeship of Mordecai Richler is one of those cinematic portraits which covers all the bases. It illuminates Richler's life as a wickedly satirical novelist, sheds light on his craft and addresses his Jewishness.

This National Film Board of Canada documentary, to be aired on the Bravo! channel on Aug. 28 at 8 a.m., is a well-rounded picture of a fearlessly iconoclastic writer who seeks respect rather than acceptance.

Alan Handel's 57-minute film, though made in 1986, does not feel dated. Based on archival footage, clips from the movies of his books (*The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* and *Joshua Then and Now*) and contemporary interviews, it's as fresh as a morning breeze, and witty besides.

The enfant terrible of Canadian literature, Richler was born in Montreal in 1931, the son of observant East European Jews. It was not a happy household and Richler's parents were divorced when he was 13. He professes to have had tender feelings for his father, despite the lack of communication between them.

A graduate of the 1948 class of Baron Byng High School, Richler was a single-minded person. He rebelled against his family's Orthodox religious beliefs, and while his bourgeois peers aspired to be professionals or businessmen, he saw his future in writing.

With visions of F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway dancing in his head, he left Montreal when he was 19, bound for Paris. He didn't stay long, proceeding to Spain before settling down in London, England, where he remained for 20 years.

His goal was to write an "important" book, but his first published novel, *The Acrobats* (1954), was far too derivative even for his tastes.

According to one of his oldest friends, Richler is remarkably disciplined. Not waiting for inspiration, he plunks himself down in front of a typewriter at exactly the same time each day and clacks out a torrent of words.

Writing, Richler observes, is a struggle. Nothing is more difficult. He is in competition with himself, and what sustains him is the quest to write a perfectly realized novel.

He considers himself a Jewish and a Canadian writer. But above all else, he wants to be known as a serious writer.

Richler has been criticized for his scathingly sarcastic portrayals of Montreal's Jewish community. But he is at peace with himself, claiming that his objective is to be an "honest witness."

Renowned for his flamboyant cast of characters, Richler, in person, is rather reticent, tight-lipped and awkward, particularly during television appearances. Yet he loosens up in the company of friends and drinking acquaintances. And he is absolutely devoted to his second wife, Florence, his "intellectual partner," who describes him as "strong, loyal and loving."

Ruth Wisse, an academic who has studied his work, contends that Richler has a "great deal of difficulty" with his Jewishness. Richler, while respectful of her scholastic credentials, counters that his novels are a "proclamation" of his Jewishness and that he is not "uncomfortable" with his Jewish heritage.

As a Richlerian retort, it's not entirely convincing.

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Great Small Works' *The Memoirs of Glückel of Hameln* New York City
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Theatre Asylum's *My Mother's Courage* Toronto
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Ashkenaz Dance Trilogy *Zumnei, Bella, Discipledom*
August 31 8pm & Sept. 1 3pm $25/$18
Zumnei choreographed by Allen Kaeja (Toronto), performed by NorrDans (Sweden).
"Truly great dance art" – Nya Norrland
Bella from Toronto's Danny Grossman Dance Company "A small gem" (Globe and Mail)
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Dancing with the Leviathan Art Exhibit, Lonsdale Gallery, 333 Lonsdale Rd. August 14-September 7
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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

PARCHMENT AUTHOR UP FOR JOURNEY PRIZE

Ottawa writer **Gabriella Goliger**, whose story *Maladies Of The Inner Ear* appeared in the 1996-97 issue of *Parchment: the journal of contemporary Canadian Jewish writing*, has been named as one of 12 finalists for this year's Journey Prize, worth $10,000.

Goliger's story will be included in the annual Journey Prize anthology of short stories. McClelland & Stewart, the Toronto-based publishing house that administers the prize, calls the perennial short-story collection "Canada's most popular fiction anthology." Author **James Michener** established the Journey Prize 10 years ago with the Canadian royalties from his 1988 novel *Journey*.

This is the second time Goliger has been included in the Journey Prize Anthology. Her story *Song of Ascent* was part of the collection in 1995. In addition to the $10,000 for the winning entry, another $2,000 supplied by McClelland & Stewart is bestowed upon the journal in which the winning entry first appeared.

The publisher intends to announce a short list of three finalists on Oct. 4 and announce the winner Oct. 22 at the opening of the Harbourfront International Festival of Authors in Toronto.

* * *

Ashkenaz Literary Line-up: Like the oil lamps of the ancient Maccabeans, the Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture (Aug. 25 to Sept. 1) shines for eight days after first being lit. Here are the festival's main literary events. Admission is free.

• One of the last great Yiddish writers, **Chava Rosenfarb** of Montreal gives a reading Aug. 31 at 7 p.m. in the Urban Square Tent. Sponsored by the Friends of Yiddish and the Workmen's Circle.

• Finf-Un-Tsen: Canadian Jewish Writers is a literary cabaret program featuring award-winning writers. On Aug. 31, 3 p.m. in the Urban Square Tent, hear **Ronna Bloom, Adeena Karasick, Norman Ravvin, Libby Scheier, Jason Sherman, Rhea Tregebov, Eddy Yanofsky**.

On Sept. 1, 2:30 p.m. in the Urban Square Tent, hear **Matt Cohen, Ruth Mandel, Janis Rapoport, Veronica Ross, Emil Sher, Simcha Simchovitch**.

Admission is also free to these lectures and forums:

• The Artist As Jew, the Jew As Artist. Four contemporary artists discuss their work in the Dancing with the Leviathan art exhibition, Aug. 27, 7 p.m., Water's Edge Cafe.

• Adventures in Yiddish. Author-humorist **Michael Wex** offers a lighthearted look at the Yiddish language. Aug. 28, 8 p.m. in the Water's Edge Cafe and Aug. 31, 4:30 p.m., Studio Theatre.

• **Gypsies, Greeks and Klezmer Music:** The Creation of the "Southern" Klezmer Repertoire in 19th-Century Moldavia. With **Zev Feldman**. Aug. 31, 3:30 p.m., Studio Theatre.

• Out of the Ashes. Various artists discuss how artists can bring an illuminating voice to Holocaust issues. Sept 1, 1 p.m., Urban Square Tent.

These two storytelling events are also free:

• **Sheldon Oberman** tells tales, Aug. 31 at 4:30 p.m. and Sept. 1 at noon in the Urban Square Tent.

• **Leslie Robbins**, tells *The Whistling Carp* and other tales. Aug. 31, 6 p.m., Community Gallery.

* * *

Filmmakers on Film: The CBC Museum is privately showing a series of tributes to filmmakers such as **Atom Egoyan, John Huston, Leni Riefenstahl** and **Walt Disney** in the Graham Spry Theatre of the CBC Building, 250 Front St. W., Toronto. Each show is scheduled for multiple screenings in September, and admission is free.

The series includes a documentary on **Norman Jewison**, from *Adrienne Clarkson Presents* in 1991, and **Charles Wasserman's** 30-minute interview with Riefenstahl from 1965. Each item is scheduled for multiple screenings. For times, phone the CBC Museum at 416-205-5574 or CBC Tours, 416-205-8605.

* * *

Family Saga: Vancouver author **Cherie Smith** combines biography, memoir and autobiography to trace four generations of her own immigrant family in *Mendel's Children: A Family Chronicle*, due from the University of Calgary Press in September.

The story begins in the shtetls of Poland and Latvia in the 1890s and follows the family of great-grandfather Mendel, a dairyman who sires five sons and four daughters. From such deeply mythologized beginnings worthy of **Shalom Aleichem**, the story moves with various family members to Western Canada – Winnipeg and Vancouver.

"Cherie Smith does not pretend to teach history, but no historian or general reader will doubt the authenticity of her portrayal of life in small Canadian towns,"said Haim Avni, an Israeli historian.

Epsteins add a third show

Due to popular demand, The Epstein Brothers "Kings of Klezmer" will do a third show at the Askhkenaz Festival on Aug.30, du Maurier Centre, 10:30 p.m.

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Lawyer-turned-entertainer now on The Broccoli Tour

By CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — "Law was my waitress job," says former lawyer turned singer/comedienne Tsufit, who performed recently at the Festival by the Lake in Tillsonburg, Ont.

"It's not that I didn't like being a lawyer, but I was always going to be a performer."

Whereas most struggling performers supplement their meagre incomes by serving burgers, Tsufit (Hebrew for hummingbird) was serving subpoenas as a litigation lawyer for nine years before she began performing full time.

Approximately a year and a half later, Tsufit has captivated audiences with her unique sense of humor at Yuk Yuk's, Mel Lastman Square Amphitheatre, the Elora Fringe Festival and most recently, the Barry Zukerman Amphitheatre in North York. As well, a recording of the concert she performed last summer at the Free Times Cafe has been released under the title of *Broccoli's On Sale at Dominion,* which is also the name of her upcoming series of concerts.

"I'm amazed at how quickly it's working because I know a lot of people spend years trying to make it, but I think the reason it's working is that it's not really one year. It's really the 20 years of background that I didn't even realize I was laying," she explains.

Born in Israel, Tsufit travelled in the United States with her family before settling in Kingston, Ont., when she was five years old.

Throughout the years working in law and raising a family, Tsufit has been performing, singing, doing comedy and writing her own original material.

The Broccoli Tour features a mixture of cleverly written songs, hilarious stand-up bits and touching ballads accompanied by acoustic guitar.

The title song parodies a Jewish mother's long distance telephone advice with startling accuracy. "My mother always calls me and tells me, 'Broccoli's on sale at Dominion so go buy some. Steam it, don't boil it because you'll lose all the vitamins,'" says Tsufit, mimicking the stereotypical Jewish mother's nasal voice.

The song *Bagel Blues*, written for the Ontario Renaissance Festival, looks at how difficult it must have been to find a decent bagel in 16th-century England.

Tsufit's stand-up comedy routines include Birthday Cheques, about putting the grandparents on a direct payment plan for the kids' birthday presents, and The Sport of Shopping, which describes a visit to the mall as a highly competitive Jewish sport.

Tempering The Broccoli Tour's intensely funny comedy routines and satirical songs are Hebrew melodies which reveal not only Tsufit's more serious side, but also her vocal talents.

"My favorite stuff to sing is Hebrew chassidic music," she says.

But whether Tsufit is performing stand-up comedy, singing the hilarious composition, *Bagel Blues,* or strumming the melody of a Hebrew song on her acoustic guitar, her humorous perspective on life offers something for everyone.

"I see what I do as *Seinfeld* set to music, because it's really everyday stuff that I focus on."

Perhaps Tsufit doesn't realize she can't buy broccoli at a dress store.

Tsufit will perform at the Free Times Cafe on Sept. 10. 320 College St., Toronto, (416-967-1078).

Ontario firm shortlisted in cross-Israel highway project

By JAMES PASTERNAK
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A consortium led by a Mississauga, Ont. firm has beaten out some of the world's largest toll highway developers to reach the finals against one other consortium to construct the Cross-Israel Highway.

"We are very pleased to make the final round in what has been a tough competition among some of the leading toll highway builders in the world," Canadian Highways International Corporation (CHIC) president John Beck announced last Thursday.

Costing $1 billion it will be the largest transportation project in Israel's history, stretching 86-kilometres across almost the entire length of the country.

CHIC will use the expertise it developed during the construction of Highway 407 in Ontario to create Israel's first toll road.

"We have a balanced team with the experience in toll road development through public-private partnerships, construction, tolling technology and highway operations to provide the right mix for this project," Beck said.

CHIC was one of the participants on Canada's trade mission to Israel in February 1997, less than two months after the signing of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.

Beck, who was on that trip, told *The CJN* earlier this year that the trade mission gave the CHIC team important access to Israeli decision makers that would not normally have been possible.

Beck said the Israelis had heard about CHIC's work on Highway 407 while conducting a study on private sector toll roads and asked for a bid on the Cross-Israel Highway. At the height of the bidding, the Canadian-led consortium had 40 staff working in Israel.

Earlier this year, CHIC spokesperson Mitch Patten said that the emphasis of the proposal is on extensive Israeli corporate participation.

"What we are bringing is expertise," said Patten.

The CHIC consortium has been asked to elaborate on certain aspects of their original proposal, which is an encouraging sign.

CHIC's partners in the bid are Africa Israel Investment Ltd., Société Général d'Entreprises of France and Hughes Aircraft Systems International (the development company for the electronic tolling system).

The building of the Cross-Israel Highway is expected to relieve some of the congestion on Israeli highways. Israel is ranked among the most congested western countries, with over 80 vehicles per kilometre of road.

It also has one of the highest annual vehicle growth rates in the world (six to seven percent). Also important is the government's wish to promote easy commuting from smaller centres to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. The Israeli government is expected to select a preferred bidder in November.

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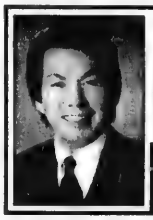

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Accts. Payable clerk req'd for El Al Israel Airlines. Must be exper. in all phases of recording, processing, correlating & paying invoices, as well as reconciling supplier statements. Background in airline acct'g. will be an advantage. Location: Bloor and Bay. Please fax résumé to: 416-967-4284.

Youth leader & assistants wanted for Shabbat & holiday services for Beth Jacob V'anshe Dridz Synagogue. Fax résumé to: 416-638-9203.

WANTED: Prof. Sales Mgr. and sales rep. for business newspaper. Fax résumé to: 416-667-1686.

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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

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Resp. clean young woman will clean your house. Please call Krystyna at 416-248-0243.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Live-in nanny req'd for 2 kids; 7 & 9, + hswrk, needs driv lic, Lawr./Yonge area. 486-3093.

We need a Jewish grad. student, live-in, pref. a driv. lic./car, someone who could be at home (Windsor) during most evgs. & wknds. 481-3949 (Toronto ph#).

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264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BROWN. Aaron and Lisa née Franschman and big sister Ilana announce the wonderful gift of baby **Emily,** born August 7th, 1997, weighing 7 lbs., 7 ozs. She is welcomed with much love by grandparents Dorothy Brown and Neil Brown and Sheila Franschman, along with great-grandmothers, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Koffman-Galansky. Norman and Donna are very pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Dr. Allyson Koffman** to **Mr. Gavin Galansky,** son of **Ivan Galansky** & **Janine Downing,** of Capetown, S.A. Delighted brothers are Jess Koffman and Graeme Galansky. Proud grandparents are Dave and Nayna Kowall and Gus and Gywneth Wisenberg. Wedding plans are Sept. '98. **Mazel Tov!**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

A caring environmentalist? Observant & tolerant with a commitment to traditional values? Male, European, multi-lingual, sr., tall, vegetarian, int'l traveller with published articles, warmly welcomes those with similar interests. CJN Box 6961

Attr, tall, athletic, prof. male, 38, seeks female for serious relationship. 633-3863.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

I am a 48 yr. old JM, fit, multilingual, 158 lbs., 5'10". I have integrity & honesty, and wish to meet a female for a serious relationship. CJN Box 6950.

Indep. widow, early 60's, wishes to meet intelligent, gentle man, with interests in culture, travel, etc. CJN Box 6953.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:
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Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

Supportive gentleman in his 60's, who thinks he is in his 50's, would be pleased to meet a unique lady in her 50's, who thinks that she is still in her 40's. A close, warm, loving relationship is desired. CJN Box 6960.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

315 CARS FOR SALE

Cadillac de Ville, 120,000km, 1991,loaded, $12.5K, 441-1883

330 OBITUARIES

BRANDL, Mary - on Aug. 11, 1997, late of 25 Fisherville Rd.
MUMPEL, Leah - on Aug.11, 1997.
SCHWABACHER, Loni - on Aug. 11, 1997, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
PEZA, Louli - on Aug. 12, 1997, late of 755 Steeles Ave. W.
RAPP, Mary - on Aug. 12, 1997.
JACOBS, Helen - on Aug. 14, 1997, late of 131 Torresdale Ave.
LISS, Archie - on Aug. 14, 1997, late of 35 Mount Royal Ave.
SHEIZAG, Arcadiush - on Aug.14, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
VIGOD, Samuel David - on Aug. 16, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

FORSTER, Sandra - on Aug. 7, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
NISSENTHALL, Arlene - on Aug. 8, 1997, late of 29 Holm Cres.
SCHWARTZ, Frances - on Aug. 8, 1997, late of 110 Park Rd. N., #107.
GOODMAN, Allan - on Aug. 9, 1997, late of 33 Protea Gdns.
THOMSON, Bert - on Aug. 10, 1997, late of 3636 Bathurst St., #1003.
GREENSPOON, Beverley - on Aug. 14, 1997, late of 47 Colonnade Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PINCHAS FRIMERMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, 1:00 p.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Slipia Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PAUL PINCHAS KURC ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 7th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn
Piotitomash Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DORA KUMER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
(986 Wilson Avenue)
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CLARA COOPER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stashover Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Ilsa Greenblatt Shore ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 7th at 11:00 a.m.
Lambton Hills Cemetery
Royal York Rd., between Eglinton & Dundas
Hebrew Men of England Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RENEE GRUNFELD ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 7 at 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HENRY KANAREK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 7th at 9:45 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Cemetery
Husiatner Klaus (#3) Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Features

Testament to Alberta Jewry

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

Eda Diamond and bridesmaids. C.1927.

TORONTO — An amazing compilation of photographs of bearded patriarchs and other early Jewish pioneers has been published under the title of *Land of Promise, 1889-1945*, by the Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta.

The 270-page coffee table book has more than 400 photographs that tell a fascinating story of the Jewish settlers who fled pogroms in Europe. There are pictures of their descendants at family celebrations. These people were forerunners of the thriving Jewish communities of Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat.

In a painstaking editing job, volunteers have supplied names to all the people in the photographs so it becomes a veritable treasure trove.

To name only a few of the families who who were among the pioneers, there are photographs of the Belzbergs, Belkins, Joffes, Shumiatchers, Diamonds, Bercusons, Sereths and Grobermans.

One of the volume's intriguing aspects is its depiction of Jewish life in the small Alberta villages, some of them strung along the railway line, of Czar, Daysland, Big Valley, Bow Valley, Canmore, Morrin, Irricana, Olds, Little Chicago, Trochu and Munson.

There are scenes of weddings, Purim celebrations, stags, early farm shots, including threshings, bar mitzvahs, frontier shop fronts, picnics, synagogue interiors and exteriors, piles of furs and hides, cattle and other farm animals and the interiors of Jewish-owned stores, whose owners have now moved away.

Harry Woolfe , a member of the Royal North West Mounted Police, is shown on his horse Nipper in 1916.

There is a photo of Mordechai and Rachel Leah Hanson. At age 60, Hanson, who homesteaded in the north, died of a heart attack while hauling barrels of water from a slough to fight a prairie fire.

The quality of reproduction is excellent. The book is a trip down memory lane for anyone interested in Canadian Jewish history.

For more information write to the Jewish Community Council in Calgary, 1607 90th Ave. SW, Calgary, T2V 4V7, phone 403- 253-8600.

The Bercov, Malkin and Joffe Family members in Suragh, Russia. C. 1910

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
SYLVIA SAND (KNOPMAN) ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, 2:00 p.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
B'nai Moishe Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Books look at golf from two different angles

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Lorne Rubenstein

TORONTO — Rhodesian-born Nick Price can lay claim to many golfing distinctions. He's won several majors, taken the Canadian Open and is one of the most recognizable golfers on the pro circuit. A real golfer's golfer, it turns out he's also a duffer's golfer.

Before vaulting into the rarified stratosphere of golfing's elite, Price paid his dues, recording plenty of mediocre seasons while relying on a klutzy swing only a mother could love. It cost him in those early tour years in the 1980s, when in key situations, he'd find himself in the rough as often as in the middle of the fairway. But through hard work and perseverance and by getting to understand his swing, he turned his game around.

A believer in the importance of technique and repetition, Price has put down in black and white the fundamentals that go into developing consistency on the golf course. His book, *The Swing; Mastering the Principles of the Game* (Random House), is co-written with Lorne Rubenstein, the *Globe & Mail*'s golf reporter.

The book is a soup to nuts examination of the technical elements that make for a good golf swing, including everything from the grip and set-up to backswing and downswing.

Price, who struggled with an erratic swing for years, is a firm believer that your game will never come around until you develop consistency and good technical habits. Moreover, it's never too late to drop bad habits and develop into a good — if not tournament-winning — golfer.

Rubenstein, who's known Price since he first started on the PGA tour, says Price "wanted to write a book that told a golfer he or she could improve over time."

Patience, practising the fundamentals and taking a long-term view are Price's keys to improving one's game, Rubenstein said. You have to build up muscle memory so that hitting well becomes almost instinctive on the course. And you have to understand why you hit a great shot or missed an easy one.

"If you don't know why you hit well, you can't repeat it," Rubenstein said.

Price, who's as courteous and personable as his reputation, committed himself to improving his game over time and he believes any golfer can do the same, Rubenstein said. "The book is not written for people who believe they can improve over night."

A somewhat different approach to the game of golf was penned by local golf aficionado Jonathan Fine. Titled *Golf is a Very Simple Game: The Golf Teachings of the Late Senor Francisco Lopez*, (Stand Tall International), the book focuses on the mental aspects of the game.

Lopez, who served as a pro at the Oakdale Golf Club, "instilled in me a passion for golf," said Fine, who practises law when he isn't whacking balls.

Fine and Lopez became friends over the years but eventually lost touch. One day, almost out of the blue, Fine received a call from Lopez. His former golf mentor told Fine he had only about two weeks to live. Lopez wanted Fine to record his approach to golf.

It was to "stand tall, proud like a matador," Fine said.

Fine believes that by adopting Lopez' mental approach to the game, he shaved six strokes off his handicap and was able to win a club championship.

"The more experience you have, the more you can draw from the book," he says.

Golfers must not let poor shots distract them. They must think ahead to the next shot, relax and play fluidly, Fine said.

Lopez stressed the power of positive thinking and the book is true to that vision, Fine said.

Tournament dedicated to lawyer

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Heavy skies did not deter participants on the first day of the recent seventh annual Baycrest Open golf tournament.

More than 300 golfers turned up over the two-day event to partake in this popular fundraiser for the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

The tournament, organized by Baycrest's Leadership Development group, which is comprised of professionals and community-minded people between the ages of 25 and 40, took place recently at the Glen Eagle Golf Club in Bolton.

The tournament was dedicated to the memory of 37-year-old lawyer David Wolfish, a key Baycrest Open Committee member, who died earlier this year.

"David was an active committee member who devoted his time and energy year after year to both the organizational and fundraising aspects of the tournament," said Baycrest Open committee co-chair Paul Lindzon.

The tournament was originally conceived as an event for younger players. "There were very few charity golf tournaments. This one was the first to target people who fit the age range of the Leadership Development group," said Neil Goldenberg, the founding co-chair of the event. Today, participants span a cross-section of ages and include many father-and-son teams.

The Baycrest Open has grown to become one of the largest and most successful charity golf tournaments in North America. It generally raises an average of $80,000 a year for Baycrest and has become a model for other golf fundraisers in Toronto, Goldenberg noted.

Golfers play a best-ball-scramble format, the most common game for charity tournaments. Teams of four tee-off and see which person has made the best hit. Then they all move their balls to that position and take their next shot from there.

On the first day, teams were only able to play nine holes because of the rain, but on the second day, golfers got in a complete game. Top scorers finished at 13 under par. Festivities afterward included a live auction and a banquet.

Tournament co-founder Neil Goldenberg lines up a putt.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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More medalists

TORONTO — Here are two additional medalists who weren't mentioned in our Maccabiah Games wrapup last week: Marlene Tuchmayer won a bronze as part of the women's ten-pin bowling team; Brandon Gray won a gold as part of the men's hockey team.

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

דבק שקדים או ציאניד, מאת: רקפת זהר, זמורה ביתן, 1995.

עם התגבשותה של החברה הישראלית והמעבר משלב הילדות לשלב בשל ובוגר יותר, אנו ערים לתופעת ניפוץ מיתוסים הקשורים בציונות, בתקופת היישוב והקמת המדינה. הרוב מסתפקים בקטנות; למשל, הטענה שסגולתו של משה דיין כמנהיג, מצריכה שיכתוב היסטורי. ויש המרחיקים נדוד, ומוצאים לנכון לפשפש למשל באמינות תכני ההימנון הלאומי של מדינת ישראל. במסגרת פעלתנות זו נשאלות גם כמה שאלות ביקורתיות לגבי נורמות התנהגותיות שסגדו להן בעבר, בקיבוצים.

ספרה (השני) של רקפת זהר, דבק שקדים או ציאניד מזכיר במקצת את ספרו הקלאסי של וילאם גולדינג, בעל זבוב, אף שאין זה סיפור על חברות ילדים על אי בודד, אלא מסופר בחברת נערים ונערות בקיבוץ שהוזנחו על-ידי המבוגרים. אין כאן מצב אנארכי, אכזרי, אלא מצב תאורי של חברת נוער קיבוצי בהידרדרות מוסרית. והמבוגרים, בלהט יישום אידאלים חלוציים, לא התפנו די צורכם לצרכי ילדיהם ובעיקר בנותיהם.

סבלן של הבנות המתואר בדבק שקדים או ציאניד לא היה מנת חלקן של ילדות בקיבוצים בלבד. רבות מהילדות של דור מייסדי המדינה היו בוודאי אהובות ביותר על הוריהן, אך בלתי מטופלות די הצורך במישור התפתחות האישיות בכלל והנוהג המיני בפרט.

רקפת זהר מספרת על גיבורה בשם ענת. הוריה מכנים אותה חפי, מלשון חפרפרת. ענת חיה בקיבוץ. היא בעלת כישורים ויכולת אלא שכל מהלכיה ומעשיה הם תולדה של הצנעה באישיותה. הבינוניות שולטת בחייה, הן ביחסיה עם הוריה, אחיה, החבר והן בתחומי המקצוע.

ענת עובדת כמזכירה במפעל, אף שהיא מתאימה הרבה יותר למשרת ניהול. היא חיה עם אלי, שאותו אין היא אוהבת במיוחד, אך נוח לה ביחסים נטולי אתגרים. אלי אינו מבין מדוע ענת אינה מתנהגת כקיבוצניקית מן המנין. והיא אינה יודעת כיצד להעניק לו הסבר. "איך אני אסביר לו על חוקיה הבלתי כתובים של הקבוצה החינוכית. על הטריטוריה הזעירה הנשמרת מכל משמר גם בצפיפות הגדולה ביותר. על הבלון השקוף העוטף אותנו בכל עת כאסטרונאוטים בחליפת חלל."

בהדרגה אנו הקוראים מבינים שלא ביקורתיות היתר של הוריה ולא צלו התחרותי של אחיה מעניקים הסבר לתדמית העצמית הרופפת של ענת. ההסבר נעוץ בימי ילדות שטעמם ציאניד ולא דבק שקדים מתוק, בארועים לא נעימים שהתנסתה בהם כאחת מבנות חבורת ילדים בקיבוץ עמם חיה מגיל ארבע- עשרה עד שמונה-עשרה.

ענת איננה רוצה להיזכר במאומה אך לפתע היא נאלצת להתנער מאפרוריות חייה וזאת בעקבות מקרה של אונס קבוצתי שהתרחש באחד מהקיבוצים. נדמה שכולם, בעיתונות, ברדיו, במשפחה ובקרב ידידים מדברים על האונס. ואצל ענת, בעקבות החשיפה למקרה המזעזע, כל מה שהודחק אצלה מילדותה, צף ועולה ומשוחזר לפרטיו.

הפסיכולוג בסיפור, שרואיין בחדשות בעקבות מעשה האונס טוען ש"אין לצפות שמול חברה כה צפופה ולוחצת תצליח הנערה לעמוד על שלה. הרי היא אינה יכולה שלא לחוש בציפיה המשותפת של כל הסובבים אותה, שהענין ייעלם איכשהו מעצמו...".

גם ענת ידעה את הציפיה שהענין ייעלם איכשהו. לא עוד. לקראת סיום הסיפור, ענת תתמודד עם מה שהיה ומכאן עם מה שהיא תהיה.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
WE SELL Inglis FOR LESS

ONION & TOMATO KUGEL

1 bag egg noodles or no yolk noodles
4 eggs
5 plum tomatoes, sliced
1 large onion, sliced
1 cup unsweetened applesauce
1 cup vegetable oil
salt
pepper
oregano
basil

Cook noodles according to package directions, drain and rinse in cold water. Combine all other ingredients, adjusting amounts of applesauce and oil to achieve level of moistness that you desire. Add flavourings to taste. Put into lightly greased 9"x13" pan, bake uncovered at 400°F for about 1 hour until top is golden brown.

About families

Dear Susan,

I have been separated for two months following the dissolution of a marriage of 20 years. My husband and I have worked hard to orchestrate a smooth separation. As we prepare for the High Holy Days, we are anxious to provide our children, ages 15 and nine, with as pleasant an experience as possible. Do you have any helpful hints?

Dear Reader,

Your husband and you should be congratulated for endeavoring to effect a smooth separation. Your children can only benefit from your careful management of the profound change in their world.

I would encourage you to pay close attention to the details of everyday life, and the effect your separation will have on your children insofar as those details are concerned. You both seem acutely concerned with your children's feelings and interests. This implies that you have empathy for your children and that you are sensitive to their needs and desires. You are right in concerning yourself with the coming High Holy Days, as this is the first major event that you will face since you and your husband have separated.

You and your husband may consider discussing a possible plan. Since your children are older, you may want to solicit their input as to what they would like to do. You should acknowledge that this is the first Jewish New Year you are celebrating post separation, and as such they will likely be subject to a variety of feelings. Once they express their feelings, you may want to explore various options.

Children need continuity at any age. They may wish to continue to celebrate in the fashion they always have or they may wish to create a new mode of celebration. The children will benefit from your placing their needs above your own. You will be modeling an option that says that parents can get along even if they are no longer together.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

MOVING?

Attach label here for change or inquiry. If you are receiving duplicate copies of The CJN, please send both labels to us. Please notify us 3 weeks in advance.

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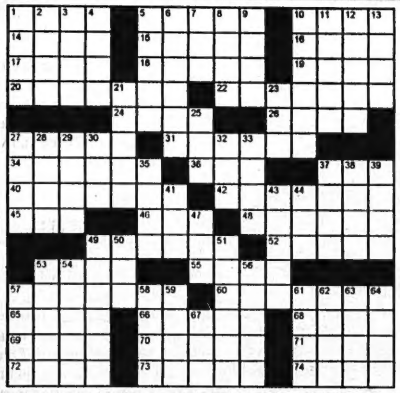
CROSSWORD PUZZLE



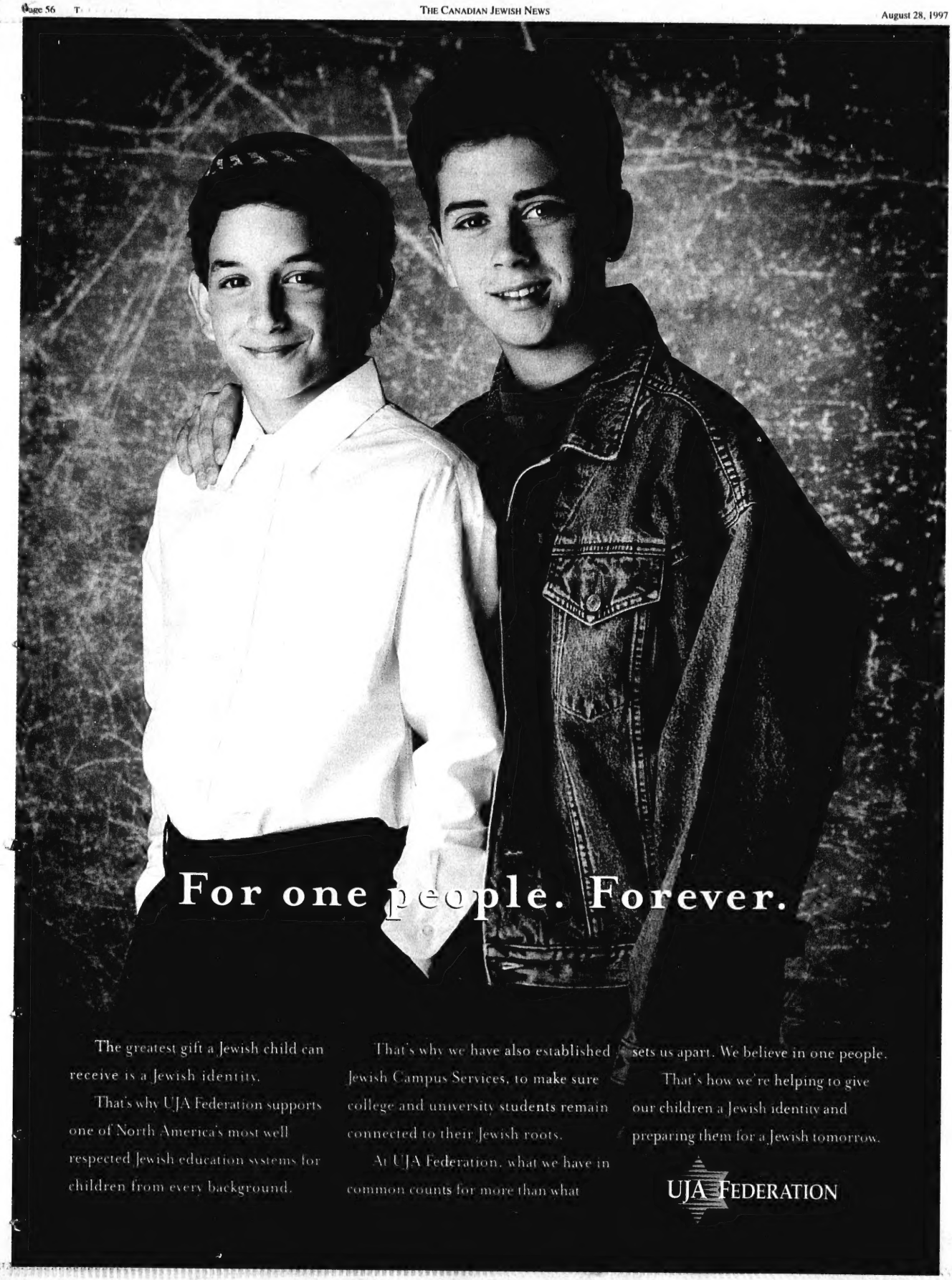
Across

1. Moses' "horn"?
5. Say the Viddui
10. Identical
14. Father (Heb)
15. Asp offering
16. Methuselah
17. Gilead medicine
18. Freud's analysis
19. Called to biblically
20. Chief of Levites
22. Tyrant over Bar Kochba
24. Niels Bohr research
26. Camera man
27. Eilat reef
31. Wise and Hertz
34. Modigliani
36. Reason for shiva
37. Act the gonif
40. Levites
42. Say the Kaddish
45. Secured the Afikoman
46. Gelilah act
48. Tsahal troops
49. 1949 Israeli agreement
52. Former Israeli minister
53. Teva offering
55. Sacrifices often
57. Chanukah candle
60. Mems or Lameds
65. Sandal maker
66. Make a tallis?
68. Wiesel
69. Noah's rainbow
70. Enjoyed the Seder
71. Sharansky to friends?
72. Cooking utensils
73. Magen Davids
74. Those people

Down

1. Moses in the bullrushes
2. Israeli mountain
3. Competent
4. Cass Elliott
5. Israeli city
6. Spielberg specialty
7. Shema ender
8. Father of Ham
9. "The New Colossus", poetess
10. Cacti
11. "Never__" Kahane book
12. Prophesizing elder
13. Utopia
21. Jewelry family
23. 551
25. Meshugge
27. Hebrew letter
28. King of Israel
29. Entebbe rescue
30. Furit drink
32. Baby's cover
33. Fleishidic cut
35. Preminger
37. Maccabiah game?
38. Challah maker's equipment
39. Miss America Myerson
41. Emcee Caesar
43. Prepare Seder bone
44. Al Rosen stat
47. Screech
49. Herod and Hadrian
50. Tsitsit site
51. Finial metal
53. Prayer starts, "Hear O"
54. Nod to Cain
56. Mitzvot or Good ___
57. Halt
58. Source for Seder shanks
59. Tuches
61. Abraham's home
62. King of Israel
63. Circumcision
64. Appear
67. Third Judah king

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.



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That's why we have also established Jewish Campus Services, to make sure college and university students remain connected to their Jewish roots.

At UJA Federation, what we have in common counts for more than what sets us apart. We believe in one people.

That's how we're helping to give our children a Jewish identity and preparing them for a Jewish tomorrow.

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PLEASE REWIND